

Travelers concerned about terrorism

By Beth J. Harpaz, AP

Turkey. France. Belgium. Now London. As yet another destination is hit by terror, travelers are sighing with dismay and thinking carefully about personal safety, even while saying the latest attack won't keep them home.

"I don't want to be afraid, but I also have this extra layer of being on heightened alert," said Nikki Stephens, 26, of Dallas, who's planning her first trip to London next month. She's been thinking about precautions like always knowing where exits are and walking on the inside of roads, away from cars. That said, she added, "We can't quit our lives and run from terror. I am going to London and plan on having a wonderful time."

A report issued Tuesday by the World Travel & Tourism Council showed that tourism dropped in destinations hit by terrorism in 2016, decreasing 4 percent in Belgium, 7 percent in France and 22 percent in Turkey. At the same time, WTTC said, tourism is growing in Portugal, Spain and Eastern Europe as travelers seek destinations they perceive as safer.

Read the whole story