

**U.S. Embassy Bahrain**  
**Demonstration Notice 47 – August 13, 2013**

**On Wednesday, August 14, 2013, the Embassy anticipates possible heightened and widespread anti-government of Bahrain activity by opposition groups. The majority of this activity will likely take place in the restricted areas and may involve violent clashes with security forces. Protest and demonstration activity may also occur in non-restricted areas, roadways, and on major infrastructures such as the Saudi causeway and highways.**

**Opposition groups have called for demonstrations and protests in the vicinity of the U.S. Embassy on this date. As a precautionary measure, the U.S. Embassy will be closed on August the 14<sup>th</sup>.**

**From the evening of August 13<sup>th</sup> through the 14<sup>th</sup> we recommend that you avoid all non-essential travel.**

Violent opposition groups have increased their civil disobedience acts during the past three weeks. These acts largely remain in the restricted areas. However, there have been acts that have taken place in non-restricted village areas, feeder road networks, and on major road infrastructures such as the causeway and highways. The Budaiya Highway has seen increased activity these last three weeks during daylight hours. Be aware of your surroundings at all times. The indiscriminate use of homemade weapons such as IEDs, projectile devices, and Molotov cocktails remains a concern. The police forces remain the primary target.

Spontaneous demonstrations take place in Bahrain from time to time in response to world events or local developments. United States citizens should keep current with media coverage of local events and be aware of their surroundings at all times. If you encounter a large public gathering or demonstration, depart the vicinity immediately.

It is important to note that there have been no direct attacks on U.S. citizens in Bahrain to date. That said, spontaneous and at times violent anti-government demonstrations occur in some neighborhoods, particularly at night and on weekends. These demonstrations have included blockades of major highways with burning debris and establishment of unofficial checkpoints. Participants have thrown rocks and Molotov cocktails and used various other homemade weapons, including isolated use of improvised explosive devices. The Ministry of Interior maintains official checkpoints in some areas and routinely uses tear gas and stun grenades along with birdshot and other crowd control measures against demonstrators. Violent clashes between security forces and demonstrators can make travel in and around Bahrain dangerous without advance warning.

**Please see below for a map. Areas shaded in red are off-limits to U.S. Citizen Embassy employees and their family members at all times. U.S. Citizen Embassy employees and their family members are permitted to travel in the areas shaded in yellow during daylight hours only.**

We remind U.S. citizens that even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and possibly escalate into violence. U.S. citizens are therefore urged to avoid the areas of demonstrations if possible, and to exercise caution if within the vicinity of any demonstrations.

For the latest security information, U.S. citizens living and traveling abroad should regularly monitor the Department of State's Bureau of Consular Affairs Internet website at <http://travel.state.gov>, where the current Worldwide Caution, Country Specific Information for Bahrain, Travel Warnings and Travel Alerts can be found. Up-to-date information on security can also be obtained by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or, for callers outside the United States and Canada, a regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).

The U.S. Embassy in Manama can be reached at (973) 1724-2700; the afterhours emergency number is (973) 1724-2957; the fax number is (973) 1725-6242. The [Embassy's web site](http://bahrain.usembassy.gov), <http://bahrain.usembassy.gov>, includes travel information and the Worldwide Caution and Demonstration Notices. All U.S. citizens are encouraged to enroll in the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program. The Consular Section can be reached at [ManamaConsular@state.gov](mailto:ManamaConsular@state.gov).

RESTRICTED AREAS

### BAHRAIN: OFF-LIMITS AREAS

