

**U.S. Mission Ecuador**  
**Security Message for U.S. Citizens**  
**Tungurahua Volcano Alert Level Raised to Orange**  
**November 18, 2015**

The U.S. Embassy in Quito informs U.S. citizens throughout Ecuador that on November 17, 2015, the Ecuadorian Government raised the Tungurahua Volcano alert level to orange due to an increase in volcanic activity, primarily elevated levels of ash emission. According to the Ecuadorian Government, an orange alert means one must prepare for an adverse volcanic event. Tungurahua is located near the popular tourist destination of Baños, in Tungurahua Province, central Ecuador, about 180 kilometers south of Quito.

We strongly advise U.S. citizens residing in or planning travel to areas affected by Tungurahua to familiarize themselves with government evacuation plans in the event of a major eruption or further upgrade in the volcano activity alert level. Additionally, you should review your personal safety plans and ensure you have adequate emergency supplies, including face masks, food, and water.

The increase in volcanic activity has the potential to affect air travel in Ecuador, including flights into/out of the major airports in Guayaquil and Quito. We advise travelers to confirm flight status with their airlines before attempting to travel and to think about alternate travel plans.

For additional information on the Tungurahua Volcano alert level and activity, see the websites for the [Ecuadorian Secretariat of Risk Management](#) (Secretaría de Gestión de Riesgos) and the [Geophysical Institute](#) (Instituto Geofísico). For information on natural disaster preparedness, including general volcano safety, see the [U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention website](#).

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We strongly recommend that U.S. citizens traveling to or residing in Ecuador enroll in the Department of State's **Smart Traveler Enrollment Program**. STEP enrollment gives you the latest security updates, and makes it easier for the U.S. embassy or nearest U.S. consulate to contact you in an emergency. If you do not have Internet access, enroll directly with the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate.

Regularly monitor the **State Department's website**, where you can find current Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and the Worldwide Caution. Read **the Country Specific Information for Ecuador**. For additional information, please refer to our **“Traveler’s Checklist”** page. Updated information on travel and security in Ecuador may also be obtained from the Department of State by calling 1-888-407-4747 within the United States or by calling 1-202-501-4444 outside the United States.

**Contact information:**

U.S. Embassy Quito  
Avigiras E12-170 y Eloy Alfaro.  
Phone (593-2) 398-5000

**ACSQuito@state.gov**

**<http://ecuador.usembassy.gov/>**

U.S. Consulate General Guayaquil  
Avenida Jose Rodriguez Bonin and Calle Santa Ana, San Eduardo  
Phone (593-4) 371-7000

**ACSGuayaquil@state.gov**

**<http://guayaquil.usconsulate.gov/>**

Dialing instructions within Ecuador:

- Within the same city and from a land line use the last seven digits.
- For calls from a mobile phone and for intercity telephone calls add the city code preceded by a 0.

Dialing instructions from the United States:

- Add the 011 prefix for an international long distance line.

For after-hours emergencies, call the phone numbers listed above for assistance.