



U.S. Mission, Kazakhstan



This message is distributed to you via the Warden Message system of the U.S. Mission in Kazakhstan. Wardens, please distribute this message to all Americans in your warden zone.

**Message for U.S. Citizens:
Warning Regarding Increased Risk of Avalanches
in the Mountainous Areas Near Almaty
8 February 2013**

On January 17, 2013 Kazakhstan's Ministry of Emergency Situations advised that due to current weather conditions, there is an increased risk of avalanches in the mountains around Almaty.

Given the Ministry's warning of avalanches, if you have plans to visit the mountains around Almaty, U.S. Mission Kazakhstan strongly recommends that you avoid areas not designated specifically for skiing and other winter sports.

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U.S. citizens are reminded to review their personal security plans and remain alert to their surroundings at all times while in Kazakhstan. For the latest security information, U.S. citizens traveling abroad should regularly monitor the [Department of State's Internet website](#) where the [Worldwide Caution](#), [Country Specific Information for Kazakhstan](#), [Travel Warnings](#), and [Travel Alerts](#), can be found. Follow us on [Twitter](#) and the Bureau of Consular Affairs page on [Facebook](#), and download our free [Smart Traveler iPhone App](#) and the [Android market](#) to have travel information at your fingertips.

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 of the United States and Canada, on 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).

U.S. citizens are advised to maintain valid travel documents and enroll with the Department of State or the U.S. Embassy Kazakhstan through the State Department's [**Smart Traveler Enrollment Program**](#) website. If you enroll we can keep you up to date with important safety and security announcements and can also help your family and friends get in touch with you in an emergency. U.S. citizens without Internet access may enroll directly with the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate.