

Nazca Lines

Posted: March 26, 2010

The Embassy is aware of seven different airplane accidents since December 2007 over the world-famous Nazca Lines, located in the southern Peruvian city of Nazca. Two of these accidents resulted in 12 deaths, including one pilot, most recently on February 25, 2010. Travelers are urged to take the following information into account when making arrangements to view the Nazca lines from the air. All the accidents appear to have involved single engine planes that were hired locally. Peruvian authorities have taken steps to address safety issues, including, implementing new regulations. Two civil aviation inspectors are assigned to the Maria Reiche Airport in Nazca, and will monitor compliance with these regulations. As of March 15, 2010, all air companies offering over flights of the Nazca Lines, either from Nazca or from the city of Ica, must have a co-pilot on board, and their planes must have manufacturer approved controls for the co-pilot to use. As of April 5, any aircraft the air companies introduce into service must be no more than 15 years old and must also be able to accommodate at least 8 passengers and two crew members. As of August 1, no aircraft in service in Nazca may be more than 30 years old. The planes are prohibited from banking more than 30 degrees to view the Lines. Authorities also have reduced the number of flights in the air at any time by eliminating the lowest flying altitude authorized. The Peruvian Ministry of Transportation and Communication publishes aviation accident reports at the following link.

You can stay in touch and get Embassy updates by checking the Embassy Lima [website](#). You can also get global updates at the U.S. Department of State's, [Bureau of Consular Affairs](#) website where you can find the current Worldwide Caution, Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and Country Specific Information. If you don't have internet access, the Department of State has a call center for updates: (1-888) 407-4747 toll-free in the U.S. and Canada or outside the U.S. and Canada on a regular toll line at (1-202) 501-4444.

The U.S. Consular Agency in Cusco, Peru, can be found at Avenida Pardo 845, Cusco. The office can be reached by phone at (51-84) 231-474, and is open Monday thru Friday, excluding [U.S. and Peruvian holidays](#), 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. For any emergencies involving American citizens, please contact the American Citizens Services (ACS) Unit of the U.S. Embassy's Consular Section, located in Monterrico, a suburb of Lima, at Avenida La Encalada, Block Seventeen; telephone (51-1) 618-2000 during business hours from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. or for after-hours emergencies; fax (51-1) 618-2397, or 618-2724 (American Citizen Services Unit); Internet website at <http://lima.usembassy.gov/>. The Consular Section is open for American Citizens Services, from 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. weekdays, excluding [U.S. and Peruvian holidays](#).

End of Warden Message