

WARDEN MESSAGE

Notice: End of Puno Travel Prohibition

Posted: July 5, 2011

This message updates U.S. citizens traveling or living in Lima on a situation first referred to in a Warden Message issued on May 27, 2011. After 48 days of demonstrations and civil unrest in Puno, a sense of normalcy has resumed. Therefore, the travel prohibition for official U.S. Embassy personnel and personal travel by U.S. personnel to the Department of Puno has been rescinded.

As of the moment, the numerous strikes, roadblocks, violence, and damage to personal property and government installations have ceased and the security situation has stabilized. Normal operations at Inca Manco Capac International Airport in the city of Juliaca have been reestablished.

U.S. citizens in Peru should keep in mind that there are numerous latent social conflicts in the Department of Puno and demonstrations, strikes, road closures, and other forms of civil disobedience can occur with little to no warning.

Demonstrations in Peru are often peaceful, but can quickly escalate into violent confrontations. American citizens are advised to avoid large crowds and demonstrations and are strongly encouraged to maintain a high level of vigilance, maintain awareness of local events and their surroundings, and take the appropriate steps to bolster their personal security. It is illegal in Peru for foreigners to participate in demonstrations. U.S. citizens who have been caught up in political demonstrations in Peru have been detained and expelled.

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 through Friday, excluding U.S. and Peruvian holidays, 8:00am to 2:00pm. 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 (8:00am to

5:00pm) 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, including registration, from 8:00am to 11:30am on weekdays, excluding U.S. and Peruvian holidays.