

Warden Message
U.S. Embassy Encourages Evacuation of Communities and Area Surrounding
Tungurahua Volcano

June 4, 2010

The volcanic activity at Tungurahua volcano continues to increase, marked by heavy explosions and large plumes of ash. To date, there are no reports of American citizens affected by the volcanic activity, but the situation remains highly unpredictable and volatile.

Given the continued activity and unpredictability of the situation, U.S. citizens should defer all travel and lodging in the Baños area and the area of the volcano for the foreseeable future. Further, the Embassy encourages any American citizens living in the Baños area and the area of the volcano to consider evacuation until the activity subsides.

Local authorities are now planning on raising the alert from yellow to yellow-orange. If travel to the area is unavoidable, please use good judgment and take all appropriate safety measures as volcanic conditions can change rapidly.

Also, please be advised that local authorities and the Instituto Geofísico have been conducting an evacuation simulation in the area of the volcano. American citizens are advised that authorities are working through potential scenarios and that a major eruption is highly possible.

Because Ecuador is in a region of frequent volcanoes and earthquakes, Americans are advised to keep extra food and water in their homes, and consider purchasing dust masks and heavy gloves to protect hands during ash clean-up.

The U.S. Embassy continues to monitor the situation and will keep you apprised of new information. Please note, volcano summaries will not be provided over the weekend unless there is a significant change in activity or change in impact on airports or American citizens.

For more information on current activity, visit the website of the Instituto Geofísico which monitors volcanoes and earthquakes at: <http://www.igepon.edu.ec/>.

Americans living or traveling in Ecuador are encouraged to register with the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate through the State Department's travel registration website <https://travelregistration.state.gov> , and to obtain updated information on travel and security within Ecuador.

Americans without Internet access may register directly with the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate. By registering, American citizens make it easier for the Embassy or Consulate to contact them in case of emergency. Please see the following links for local Warden Message information in Quito and Guayaquil, respectively: <http://ecuador.usembassy.gov/> and <http://guayaquil.usconsulate.gov/>.

U.S. citizens should consult the [Country Specific Information](#) for Ecuador and the latest Travel Alerts and Warnings and Worldwide Caution at the Department's web site at <http://travel.state.gov>. 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.

The U.S. Embassy in Quito is located at Avigiras E12-170 y Eloy Alfaro. The hours and telephone number for American Citizen Service enquiries is (011) 593-2-398-5000. Within the same city use the last seven digits. Add the city code for intercity telephone calls. Public call-in hours are Monday through Thursday 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. and Friday 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Appointments for passports, Consular Reports of Birth Abroad (CRBAs) or Notaries can be scheduled through the Embassy Web site: <http://ecuador.usembassy.gov>. Appointment times for passports and Consular Reports of Birth Abroad (CRBAs) and are between 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday, excluding U.S. and Ecuadorian holidays. Appointment times for Notary services are Monday and Thursday from 1:30 to 3:30 pm.

Appointments times for Immigrant Visas are Tuesday and Thursday from 3:00 to 4:00 pm and should be scheduled through the Call Center at 1-800-010-145.

No appointment is required for adoptions and re-entry permits. Walk-ins are welcome Monday through Thursday between 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.

Walk-ins for Federal Benefits are accepted Tuesday and Wednesday between 1:30 and 3:30 p.m. Walk-ins for reports of death, to pick up passports or CRBAs or for emergencies are accepted Monday through Thursday between 1:30 and 3:30 p.m.

The U.S. Consulate General in Guayaquil is located at the corner of Avenida 9 de Octubre and Garcia Moreno (near the Hotel Oro Verde); telephone (011-593-4) 232-3570 during business hours (8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.) or 232-1152 for after-hours emergencies; fax (011-593-4) 232-0904. See the Consulate General web site at <http://guayaquil.usconsulate.gov/>.