

**Warden Message – U.S. Embassy, Quito, Ecuador**  
**Travel Restrictions in Place for Sunday across Ecuador**

November 26, 2010

The U.S. Embassy in Quito reminds U.S. citizens living or traveling in Ecuador that domestic air, land and sea transportation will be suspended in urban areas and most travel in Ecuador will be prohibited this Sunday November 28. The Government of Ecuador, through the National Institute of Statistics and Census (INEC), is holding a census, and has issued an “Immobility Law” that prohibits travel in all urban areas of Ecuador from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Important information to keep in mind for Sunday:

- If you do need to travel that day, you will have to do so before 7:00 a.m. or after 5:00 p.m.
- Whether in your home or hotel, all people in urban areas are asked by the Government of Ecuador to take part in the census.
- On Sunday, no businesses will be open in urban areas, including tourist destinations, restaurants, grocery stores or pharmacies.
- International flights will fly as scheduled, but all domestic flights have been cancelled.
- Those flying during the day are being asked to be at the airport before 7:00 a.m. and stay at the airport until their flight leaves. Those arriving that day are asked to remain at the airport until after 5:00 p.m.
- Some airlines, hotels and tourist companies will have shuttles back and forth to airports and hotels. Please check with the company you are working with to see if this service will be available to you.
- To obtain a taxi to the airport during the day, American citizens can call the taxi company cleared to travel that day, Cooperativa de Taxis Aeropuerto, at 02-330-2200 or 02-330-0219.
- All cruise ships will be held in port during the census and passengers will be asked to take part in the census.
- As stores and restaurants will be closed, U.S. citizens should prepare in advance for basic needs, such as food and water, however food service will operate in the airport and in some hotels.
- No alcohol will be sold in urban areas the entire weekend.
- Hospitals and emergency services will be available. In case of an emergency, tourists can call 101 for police or 911 for a medical emergency.

The Government of Ecuador has also released an English version of the [list of rules for tourists regarding census day](#).

In case of emergency, American citizens may always contact the U.S. Embassy 24 hours a day at (593) 9-398-5200.

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Americans living or traveling in Ecuador are encouraged to enroll with the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate in order to obtain updated information on travel and security within Ecuador through the [Department of State's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program](#).

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 website](#). 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 telephone number for American Citizen Service (ACS) inquiries 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 ACS are available through our [website](#).

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.

Anyone can follow the activities of the U.S. Embassy in Ecuador through the [Embassy website](#), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [YouTube](#).