

Warden Message – U.S. Embassy, Quito, Ecuador

Status of Tungurahua Volcano

May 10, 2011

The U.S. Embassy in Quito advises U.S. citizens living or traveling in Ecuador that the volcano Tungurahua, located near the tourist community of Baños in central Ecuador, remains in a state of heightened activity. To date, there are no reports of U.S. citizens affected by the volcanic activity, but a number of homes and small towns nearest to the volcano remain in evacuation status. Because of the heightened risk, the Embassy encourages U.S. citizens to consider limiting travel to the area until the activity diminishes.

According to the Ecuadorian Geophysical Institute, the external activity of Tungurahua volcano has begun to diminish somewhat, while the internal activity continues to increase.

If you travel to the area around Tungurahua and the town of Baños, familiarize yourself with evacuation plans, monitor news outlets, use good judgment, and take all appropriate safety measures as volcanic conditions can change rapidly.

Because Ecuador is in a region of frequent volcanoes and earthquakes, you should keep extra food and water in your home, 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.

For more information on current activity, visit the website of the [Instituto Geofísico](#) which monitors volcanoes and earthquakes.

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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. For after-hours emergencies, contact the Embassy at (011 593-2) 398-5200. 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](#).