

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

UPDATE - Nationwide Police Strike Closes Ecuador Airports, Highways

September 30, 2010

UPDATE – The strike by police units and some military in Ecuador continues at this time.

The airports in Guayaquil and other major cities remain closed as of the evening of September 30; however, reports indicate that the airport in Quito will reopen later this evening. Be advised, American flag carriers confirm that U.S.-bound flights remain cancelled tonight, September 30.

Major highways may be closed going in and out of Quito, Guayaquil and other major cities. Throughout the day, there have been blockages of major roads and tire fires being set by police. In some towns along the coast, there are reports of looting and other lawlessness. In Ecuador, all schools are scheduled to be closed tomorrow, October 1.

In Quito, American citizens should be advised that, because Hospital Metropolitano is located next to the North Quito Police Headquarters, they should use other area hospitals if feasible.

American citizens are asked to continue to stay in their homes or current locations, if safe. American citizens with immediate travel plans will be forced to put them on hold until the situation improves. Hotel rooms are still available in Quito, but as more flights are cancelled, they are likely to fill up quickly. Very few hotel rooms are available in Guayaquil.

The U.S. Embassy in Quito will be open tomorrow, October 1. The U.S. Consulate in Guayaquil will assess its status on October 1.

The U.S. Embassy recommends continuing to monitor Ecuadorian news outlets for updates on the strike. We will also continue to provide new information as it becomes available.

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

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 web site](#), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [YouTube](#).