

United States Embassy Dakar, Senegal
Security Message for U.S. Citizens
Possible Upcoming Demonstrations and Travel Disruptions in Dakar

November 13, 2014

The U.S. Embassy in Dakar has learned of two possible upcoming demonstrations in Dakar.

The announced planned demonstrations are:

- November 14: A group of opposition party members plan to meet and welcome former President Abdoulaye Wade at Leopold Sedar Senghor International Airport and march to his residence in Dakar. If this happens expect significant traffic delays in proximity to the airport. The timing of his arrival has not been confirmed.
- November 21: The PDS has scheduled a protest for November 21 that will take place on Boulevard General De Gaulle (aka Allees du Centenaire). The PDS have stated they expect approximately 1,000,000 people to attend this demonstration.

U.S. citizens are encouraged to stay informed and to practice good situational awareness when moving around in Senegal. Be aware that demonstrations intended to be peaceful can quickly escalate into violence. Avoid crowds, political gatherings, and street demonstrations, even if they appear to be peaceful. Exercise caution when in the vicinity of demonstrations, monitor media coverage of local events, and be aware of your surroundings at all times.

In addition, Senegal is hosting this year's "Sommet de la Francophonie," which will take place November 28-30. Dozens of heads of state and other representatives from the French-speaking world are expected to travel to Dakar to attend the official summit meetings, to be held in Diamniadio (at the end of the toll road), as well as other meetings around Dakar.

As a result of this influx of travelers, which will include numerous heads of state, high ranking government officials, and large delegations, the U.S. Embassy in Dakar expects heavy traffic congestion and road closures in Dakar, including near the

Embassy in Almadies. The U.S. Embassy also expects limited hotel availability, disruptions in flights and extra congestion near the airport from Wednesday, November 26 through Monday, December 1, 2014. The U.S. Embassy will be closed on Thursday, November 27, in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday; because of travel limitations within the city, the U.S. Embassy has advised staff to consider traffic conditions when circulating within Dakar and the U.S. Embassy will be closed on Friday, November 28.

Stay In Touch with the Embassy

We strongly recommend U.S. citizens traveling to or residing in Senegal or Guinea-Bissau enroll in the Department of State's [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program \(STEP\)](#). STEP enrollment gives the latest security updates, and makes it easier for the U.S. embassy or nearest U.S. consulate to contact you in an emergency. If you don't have Internet access, enroll directly with the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate.

In addition, if you wish to participate in the optional SMS/text messaging program to receive security notices via text message, please send an email to DakarACS@state.gov for additional information.

Regularly monitor the State Department's [website](#), where you can find current [Travel Warnings](#), [Travel Alerts](#), and the [Worldwide Caution](#). Read the [Country Specific Information](#) for Senegal and neighboring countries. For additional information, refer to the [Traveler's Checklist](#) on the State Department's website.

Contact the U.S. embassy or consulate for up-to-date information on travel restrictions. You can also call 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or 1-202-501-4444 from other countries. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays). Follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) to have travel information at your fingertips.

The U.S. Embassy in Dakar is located on Route des Almadies and is open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Fridays from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. If you are a U.S. citizen in need of urgent assistance, the emergency number for the U.S. Embassy is +221 33 879 4444.