

United States Embassy Athens, Greece

Security Message for U.S. Citizens: Safety and Security in Greece

November 16, 2012

The U.S. Embassy informs U.S. citizens that the “Threats To Safety and Security” section of the Greece Country Specific Information page has been updated to inform U.S. citizens of a rise in unprovoked harassment and violent attacks against persons who, because of their complexion, are perceived to be foreign migrants. U.S. citizens most at risk are those of African, Asian, Hispanic, or Middle Eastern descent in Athens and other major cities. Please review the [Country Specific Information for Greece](#).

We encourage all U.S. citizens to review their personal security plans; remain aware of their surroundings, including local events; monitor local news stations for updates; and report specific incidences of targeted violence to the U.S. Embassy in Athens or the U. S. Consulate General in Thessaloniki at the numbers below. U.S. citizens should maintain a high level of vigilance and take appropriate steps to enhance their personal security. For additional information, please refer to "[A Safe Trip Abroad](#)."

U.S. citizens traveling to or residing in Greece are encouraged to enroll in the Department of State’s [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program](#). By enrolling, U.S. citizens make it easier for the Embassy or nearest Consulate to contact them in the case of an emergency. U.S. citizens without Internet access may register directly with the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate.

Up-to-date information on security can also be obtained by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll free in the United States and Canada or, for callers outside the United States and Canada, a regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays). You can also stay up to date by bookmarking our [Bureau of Consular Affairs website](#), which contains the current [Travel Warnings and Travel Alerts](#) as well as the [Worldwide Caution](#). You can follow us on [Twitter](#) and the Bureau of Consular Affairs page on [Facebook](#) as well.

You can contact the U.S. Embassy in Athens or the U.S. Consulate General in Thessaloniki for general consular assistance and up-to-date information on conditions in Greece. The U.S. Embassy in Athens is open 8:30am to 5:00pm Monday-Friday, except on Greek and American official holidays and the last Wednesday of every month. The U.S. Consulate General in Thessaloniki is open every Tuesday and Thursday from 9:00 to 13:00, except on Greek and American official holidays.

The U.S. Embassy in Athens can be reached by e-mail at athensamericancitizenservices@state.gov or by telephone at 210-720-2414. **Please call 210-729-4444 for after-hours emergencies.**

The U.S. Consulate General in Thessaloniki can be reached by e-mail at usconsulate@state.gov, or by telephone at **2310- 242- 905**. **For after-hours emergencies, please call the Consulate number, and dial 0 at the prompt.**