



Emergency Message to U.S. Citizens: Buenos Aires (Argentina), Demonstration Exp in Plaza de Mayo Riots/Civil Unrest

Western Hemisphere > Argentina > Buenos Aires

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The Argentine umbrella labor organization CGT has called for a national strike and demonstration march in the Plaza de Mayo in Buenos Aires on Wednesday, June 27, and other labor groups are expected to join the strike. The situation remains fluid, and the eventual dimension and details of the strike and demonstration remain uncertain at this time. Some but not all elements of public transportation are expected to be affected, along with partial or complete work interruptions in potentially many other sectors.

U.S. citizens are advised to exercise caution and maintain awareness of their surroundings. As mentioned in the State Department's country specific information page for Argentina, demonstrations are common in metropolitan Buenos Aires and occur in other major cities as well. Protesters on occasion block streets, highways, and major intersections, causing traffic jams and delaying travel. While demonstrations are usually nonviolent, some individuals break from larger groups and sometimes seek confrontation with the police and vandalize private property. U.S. citizens should take common-sense precautions and avoid gatherings or any other event where crowds have congregated to protest; in this case, one can expect much of the "Microcentro" of Buenos Aires to be significantly affected. Information about the location and other details of possible strike and/or demonstration activity is available from a variety of sources, including the local media. Passengers on buses, trains, and the subway should also be aware that these forms of transport are sometimes interrupted by strikes or work stoppages.

U.S. citizens living or traveling in Argentina are encouraged to enroll in the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP). By enrolling, you make it easier for the embassy/consulates to contact you in case of emergency. U.S. citizens without internet access may enroll directly at the U.S. Embassy, located at Avenida Colombia 4300 in the Palermo neighborhood of Buenos Aires (near the Plaza Italia stop on the "D" line subway). The main Embassy switchboard telephone is (54) (11) 5777-4533. Recorded consular information, including instructions on whom to contact in case of a U.S. citizen emergency, is available at tel. (54) (11) 4514-1830. The main Embassy fax is (54) (11) 5777-4240. The Consular Section fax is (54) (11) 5777-4293. The Consular Section is open to the public from 8:30 a.m. to noon and 2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, except on U.S. and



Argentine holidays. Additional information on Embassy services is available by e-mail at BuenosAires-ACS@state.gov.

U.S. citizens traveling abroad should regularly monitor the U.S. Embassy's website. 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. Follow us on Twitter and the Bureau of Consular Affairs page on Facebook. You can also download our free Smart Traveler iPhone App to have travel information at your fingertips. The U.S. Embassy also encourages U.S. citizens to review "A Safe Trip Abroad," which includes valuable security information for those living and traveling abroad. In addition to information on the Internet, travelers may obtain up-to-date information on security conditions by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the U.S. and Canada, or outside the U.S. and Canada on a regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444, during regular business hours.