



## Emergency Message for U.S. Citizens: Tropical Storm Ernesto, Merida (Mexico)

Maritime

Western Hemisphere > Mexico > Merida

8/6/2012

August 6, 2012, 12pm

Dear U.S. Citizens:

This Emergency Message is to inform U.S. citizens that the National Hurricane Center (NHC) has issued a Hurricane Watch for Tropical Storm Ernesto for the Yucatan peninsula coast between Chetumal and Punta Guesa (which includes the tourist areas of Majahual, Xcalak, and Bacalar). A Hurricane Watch means that hurricane conditions are possible within the watch area and is typically issued 48 hours before the anticipated first occurrence of tropical storm force winds. A Tropical Storm Watch is in effect from north of Punta Guesa to Tulum. A tropical storm watch means that tropical storm conditions are possible within the watch area, generally within 48 hours.

Tropical Storm Ernesto is currently predicted to approach the coast of Quintana Roo (near Chetumal) late Tuesday evening, move across the peninsula south of Merida, Yucatan, and exit into the Gulf of Mexico near Ciudad del Carmen, Campeche. In addition to danger from wind, flash floods and mudslides are possible. Coastal areas are especially vulnerable to these hazards. Please visit the National Hurricane Center's website to follow the storm's path.

U.S. citizens are encouraged to monitor media reports (radio, television, etc.) and Mexican Civil Protection websites. For Yucatan state, <http://www.yucatan.gob.mx/procivy/>. Quintana Roo (which includes the popular tourist areas of Cancun, Playa del Carmen, Cozumel, and Tulum), <http://proteccioncivil.qroo.gob.mx/>. Campeche, <http://cenecam.gob.mx/pronosticopr.php>. U.S. citizens in coastal areas especially may be impacted by the storm and are strongly encouraged to follow official instructions from local authorities (to include complying with any evacuation orders from Mexican government officials) and are urged to stay clear of beaches as rough seas associated with storm conditions create severe hazards.

U.S. citizens should stay in contact with relatives and friends in the U.S. to apprise them of their specific whereabouts, to include the name of the hotel or the address of the house where they are staying, both before and after the storm. Visitors should be familiar with their hotel or



cruise ship evacuation plans. If you must travel during this time please follow normal heavy rain precautions. U.S. citizens should carry their travel documents (i.e. U.S. passport, birth certificate, photo ID's, etc.) with them at all times or secure them by placing them in a safe waterproof location.

For the latest security information, Americans traveling abroad should regularly monitor the Department's Internet web site at <http://travel.state.gov> where the current Worldwide Caution Public Announcement, Travel Warnings, and Public Announcements can be found. Up to date information on security can also be obtained by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll free in the United States, 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).

Additional information on hurricanes and storm preparedness may be found in the "Hurricane Season-Know Before You Go" pamphlet at [http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis\\_pa\\_tw/cis\\_pa\\_tw\\_2915.html](http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis_pa_tw_2915.html) and on the "Natural Disasters" page of the Bureau of Consular Affairs' website at [http://travel.state.gov/travel/tips/emergencies/emergencies\\_1207.html](http://travel.state.gov/travel/tips/emergencies/emergencies_1207.html). In addition, please review Merida's Message For U.S. Citizens on Hurricane Season at <http://photos.state.gov/libraries/merida/231771/PDFs/musc04Jun2012.pdf>.

Updated information on travel in Mexico may be obtained from the Department of State by calling 1-888-407-4747 within the United States and Canada, or from overseas, 1-202-501-4444. These numbers are available from 8:00 am to 8:00 p.m., Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).

If you received this message it means you are registered with us! Encourage other American citizen family and friends traveling or residing in Mexico to register with us at <https://step.state.gov/step/>.

The U.S. Consulate in Merida, Yucatan, Mexico, has responsibility for the Mexican States of Quintana Roo, Yucatan, and Campeche. The Consulate remains open for business. The Consulate can be reached during its regular business hours (M-F, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) by telephone at 999-942-5700; by fax at 999-942-5777; and by email at [meridacons@state.gov](mailto:meridacons@state.gov) for all other questions. After hours, for emergencies involving U.S. citizens in the Mexican states of Yucatan, Quintana Roo, and Campeche, call the Consulate's main number and follow instructions to be connected to the Merida duty officer.



Full contact information follows:

**FOR ALL CALLS FROM THE UNITED STATES:** 011-52-999-942-5700

**CONSULATE MERIDA** (Calle 60 No. 338-K x 29 y 31, Colonia Alcala Martin, Merida, Yucatan, Mexico)

Main switchboard dialing from the US: 011-52-999-942-5700

Main switchboard dialing from outside Merida but within Mexico: 01-999-942-5700

**CONSULAR AGENCY CANCUN** (Blvd. Kukulcan Km 13, Torre La Europea, Despacho 301 ZH, Cancun, Quintana Roo, Mexico 77500), phone 998-883-0272.

**CONSULAR AGENCY COZUMEL** (Plaza Villa Mar en el Centro, Plaza Principal, (Parque Juárez between Melgar and 5th Avenue) 2nd floor, locales #8 and 9, Cozumel, Quintana Roo, Mexico), phone 987-872-4574.

**CONSULAR AGENCY PLAYA DEL CARMEN** ("The Palapa," Calle 1 Sur, between Avenida 15 and Avenida 20, Playa Del Carmen, Quintana Roo, Mexico), phone 984-873-0303.