



Emergency Message for U.S. Citizens: Islamabad (Pakistan), Travel to Gilgit/Skardu

Religious Violence

South Central Asia > Pakistan > Islamabad

8/20/2012

This security message alerts U.S. citizens that the U.S. Embassy in Islamabad, Pakistan, has restricted its staff from traveling to Gilgit until further notice. This travel restriction is due to the August 16, 2012, killings of Pakistani Shias by unknown militants near Babusar Pass. Additionally, the Embassy has advised that Mission staff visiting Skardu undertake heightened security measures.

The U.S. Mission in Pakistan continues to recommend that U.S. citizens defer all non-essential travel to Pakistan. See the Department of State's current Travel Warning for Pakistan. The U.S. Mission in Pakistan reiterates its advice to all U.S. citizens to take measures for their safety and security at all times, including practicing good situational awareness, avoiding of crowds, and maintaining a low profile. The U.S. Mission in Pakistan reminds U.S. citizens that even peaceful protests may become violent and advises U.S. citizens to avoid protests. U.S. citizens should vary times and routes for all required travel. U.S. citizens should ensure their travel documents and visas are valid at all times.

Updated information on travel and security in Pakistan may be obtained from the Department of State by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or, for callers outside the United States and Canada, on 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). For further information, please consult the Travel Warning for Pakistan and the Country Specific Information for Pakistan, as well as the Worldwide Caution. You can also stay up to date by bookmarking our Bureau of Consular Affairs website, which also contains current Travel Warnings and Travel Alerts. Follow us on Twitter and the Bureau of Consular Affairs page on Facebook, and download our free Smart Traveler iPhone App to have travel information at your fingertips.

U.S. citizens traveling to or living in Pakistan are encouraged to enroll in the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP). If you enroll we can keep you up to date with important safety and security announcements and can also help your family and friends get in touch with you in an emergency. U.S. citizens without Internet access may enroll directly with the nearest



U.S. Embassy or Consulate.

Contact Information follows for all U.S. Mission to Pakistan Posts:

The U.S. Embassy in Islamabad is located at Diplomatic Enclave, Ramna 5; telephone (92-51) 208-0000; Consular Section telephone (92-51) 208-2700; fax (92-51) 282-2632; e-mail address: ACSIslamabad@state.gov.

The U.S. Consulate General Karachi, located at Plot No 3-5, TPX Area, Mai Kolachi Road, Karachi, provides services to U.S. citizens by appointment only. Services can be scheduled by calling (92-21) 3527-5000 between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., Monday-Friday; fax (92-21) 3527-5885; website: <http://karachi.usconsulate.gov/>; e-mail: ACSKarachi@state.gov.

The U.S. Consulate General in Lahore is located at 50- Sharah-E-Abdul Hameed Bin Badees, (Old Empress Road) near Shimla Hill Rotary; telephone (92-42) 3603-4000 or 3603-4250; fax (92-42) 3603-4200; e-mail address: ACSLahore@state.gov.

The U.S. Consulate General in Peshawar is located at 11 Hospital Road, Cantonment, Peshawar; telephone (92-91) 526-8800; fax (92-91) 527-6712; e-mail address: ACSPeshawar@state.gov.