



Emergency Message for U.S. Citizens: Male (Maldives), Risk of Instability

Travel Health and Safety

South Central Asia > Maldives > Male

12/6/2012

The U.S. Embassy in Colombo, Sri Lanka advises U.S. citizens to avoid unnecessary travel to the Maldivian capital island of Malé due to the continued risk of instability relating to the transfer of airport management. The U.S. Embassy has received no recent reports of demonstrations or unrest at the airport or at any of the tourist resorts. However, U.S. citizens should avoid large crowds and monitor media coverage of local events. We remind U.S. citizens that even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn violent. If you encounter demonstrations, or large crowds, you should remain calm and depart the area quickly and avoid confrontation. Check the U.S. Embassy Colombo website for possible updates, closely monitor local media for reports of protests, and remain aware of your surroundings at all times.

U.S. citizens living or traveling in the Republic of Maldives are encouraged to enroll with the U.S. Embassy through the State Department's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP). U.S. citizens without internet access may enroll at the Embassy. By enrolling, U.S. citizens make it easier for the Embassy to contact them in case of emergency. U.S. citizens traveling abroad should regularly monitor the U.S. Department of State Bureau of Consular Affairs website, where the current Worldwide Caution, Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and Country Specific Information can be found. 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. Follow us on Twitter and the Bureau of Consular Affairs page on Facebook as well. You can also download our free Smart Traveler iPhone App, available through iTunes and the Android market to have travel information at your fingertips.

In addition to information on the Internet, travelers may obtain the latest information on security conditions by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada, or outside the United States and Canada on a regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444. These

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numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).

The Consular Section of the U.S. Embassy in Colombo is located at 210 Galle Road. The telephone number is +94 11 249-8500. If you are an American citizen with an afterhours emergency, please call our hotline at: 077-725-6307. If you are unable to reach the duty officer on this number please dial 011-249-8888. The fax number is +94 11 249-8501. The Consulate's e-mail address is colomboacs@state.gov and its internet web page is <http://srilanka.usembassy.gov/>.

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