



Emergency Message for U.S. Citizens: Suva (Fiji), Cyclone Niko in French Polynesia

Hurricanes

East Asia & Pacific > Fiji

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The U.S. Embassy in Suva, Fiji, informs U.S. citizens residing in or traveling to French Polynesia that a tropical cyclone alert is now in effect for French Polynesia. Category 1 Tropical Cyclone Niko was located approximately 173 miles north of Papeete, Tahiti at 0900 UTC and has tracked south/southeast at 8 miles per hour over the past six hours. According to the Regional Specialized Meteorological Center, strong winds and rain are expected in Papeete and the island of Bass is expected to experience tropical storm force winds early January 23. Tropical Cyclone Niko is expected to track southeast and intensify to a Category 2 tropical cyclone in the next 36 hours. The slow moving nature of this system and high winds and rain could cause some disruptions of electricity, water, and landline telephone communications in some of the affected areas. Flights may be disrupted. We urge U.S. citizens to consult the Joint Typhoon Warning Center for the latest weather information. We strongly recommend that U.S. citizens traveling to or residing in French Polynesia enroll in the Department of State's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) at travel.state.gov. STEP enrollment gives you the latest security updates, and makes it easier for the U.S. Embassy to contact you in an emergency. If you don't have Internet access, enroll directly with the nearest U.S. Embassy. Regularly monitor the State Department's website, where you can find current Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and the Worldwide Caution. Read the Country Specific Information for French Polynesia. For additional information, refer to the "Traveler's Checklist" on the State Department's website. Contact the U.S. Embassy for up-to-date information on travel restrictions. You can also call 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or 1-202-501-4444 from other countries. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays). Follow us on Twitter and Facebook to have travel information at your fingertips.

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The U.S. Embassy in Suva, Fiji is located at 158 Princes Road, Tamavua, Suva, Fiji and is open 8:00 to 17:00, (679) 331-4466. If you are a U.S. citizen in need of urgent assistance *outside of business hours*, **the emergency after-hours number for the U.S. Embassy is 679-772-8049.**

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