



## Security Message for U.S. Citizens: Moscow (Russia), Russia Day Celebrations June 12-13

Riots/Civil Unrest; Travel Health and Safety

Europe > Russia; Europe > Russia > Moscow

6/10/2016

The U.S. Embassy informs U.S. citizens that Sunday, June 12, 2016, is Russia Day, a national holiday commemorating the founding of the Russian Federation. To mark this holiday, we expect many Russians to gather on June 12 and 13 in public parks and other locations to celebrate with their colleagues, friends, and family. While the majority of these gatherings are peaceful, some celebrations may have the potential to become unruly; public drunkenness and small-scale physical altercations are possible.

Multiple groups have requested permission to hold a rally for 30,000 people in Pushkin Square in Central Moscow on June 13. The initial application was denied by authorities, but it is expected that the demonstration will be allowed to take place in the Marino area instead, on Pererva Street between Belorechenskaya and Lublinskaya streets, near Artem Borovik Park. Formal approval for the rally may not be issued until Friday, June 10, or possibly later.

U.S. citizens are reminded that even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and escalate into violence. Due to the likelihood of large crowds and the fact that any demonstration has the potential to become violent, U.S. citizens are advised to avoid demonstrations and the immediate surrounding areas.

Review your personal security plans, remain aware of your surroundings, including local events, and monitor local news stations for updates. Maintain a high level of vigilance and take appropriate steps to enhance your personal security.

### For more information:

See the **State Department's travel website** for the **Worldwide Caution**, Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and **Country-Specific Information Sheet for the Russian Federation**.

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**Contact the U.S. Embassy in Moscow**, located at 21 Novinsky Blvd. in Moscow, at +7 (495) 728-5577, 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. weekdays or by e-mail at [moscowwarden@state.gov](mailto:moscowwarden@state.gov) or visit the Embassy website at <http://moscow.usembassy.gov/service.html> . **After-hours emergency number for U.S. citizens is +7 (495) 728 5000 after 6:00 p.m. and on weekends and holidays.**

Call 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or 1-202-501-4444 from other countries from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).

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