



MEXICO: Swine Flu Forces Consulates and Some Borders to Close

Effective immediately, due to the Swine Flu epidemic, the Argentine Consulate in Mexico City has closed their doors until further notice. Additionally, all U.S. Embassies and Consulates in the Mexican area will remain closed until May 5, 2009. If you have an appointment with the Argentine or U.S. Consulate in Mexico, it will need to be rescheduled.

Please note, however, that all National Institute of Migration (Instituto Nacional de Migración, INM) offices in the Mexican territory are keeping their regular office hours (except during the national holiday which is from May 1 to May 5); and, all cases will continue to be processed.

Some Mexican borders are being supervised and in some cases closed.

USA: The government has not made any announcements in this respect, albeit cruises with stops in Mexico have opted not to keep their scheduled stops in the Mexican Territory.

Cuba: Flights scheduled to enter and exit Mexico have been cancelled for a minimum of 48 hours. All borders, ports and airports are subject to multiple revisions.

Argentina: Flights entering and exiting Mexico have been cancelled until May 5, 2009 and the borders are subject to multiple revisions.

Europe: Currently, the French government is working with the EU (European Union) countries to determine whether flights will be cancelled.

Recommendation:

Make a direct flight reservation through Europe or South America so as not to interrupt your travel plans.

Expedited Mexican Passports:

The Secretary of Foreign Affairs (Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores, SRE) is still processing all previously-scheduled Mexican passports that need to be expedited.

How The Epidemic Will Affect You:

There is no issue if you plan to exit the country. You simply need to provide valid documentation.

Recommendation:

If you have an expiration date coming up within the next two weeks, have it renewed before you leave Mexico. If there is a minimum of 40 days remaining until your document expires, wait until you return to have it renewed. However, if you are outside of Mexico, keep in mind you have 30 days from the day it expires to re-enter Mexico and then you should apply for a renewal.

Pro-link GLOBAL will keep you informed of new updates. Please contact your PLG Immigration Consultant if you have questions or concerns in this regard.

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