

URGENT OFFICIAL NOTICE

US Embassy: magnitude 7.7 quake and tsunami threat for Panama

When	2026-10-09 12:56
Where	Panama (nationwide; coastal areas)
Source	usembassy_alert
Published	2026-10-09 14:30-05:00
Discovered	2026-10-09 16:00-05:00
Link	https://pa.usembassy.gov/natural-disaster-alert-u-s-embassy-panama-city-panama-october-9-2026/

Summary

The US Embassy in Panama issued a natural disaster alert after a magnitude 7.7 earthquake near La Pitaloza at 12:56 p.m. on 9 October 2026, warning of damaging aftershocks and potential tsunami threats for Panama and the region.

Details (summary of the article)

The U.S. Embassy in Panama City reports that a magnitude 7.7 earthquake struck about 14 km (9 miles) southwest of Pitaloza Arriba, La Pitaloza, Panama, at 12:56 local time on 9 October 2026. Aftershocks capable of causing damage may follow. The U.S. Tsunami Warning System has issued potential tsunami threats for Panama, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Peru, Mexico, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Colombia and Ecuador, with strong, unusual currents and unpredictable surges possible along the shore. The Embassy advises people to avoid damaged areas and not enter damaged buildings, stay away from the coast and move to higher ground if near it, follow instructions from local authorities, and be prepared for power and communication outages. Assistance: U.S. Embassy Panama City +507-317-5000, Panama-ACS@state.gov; State Department Consular Affairs 888-407-4747 or 202-501-4444. Travelers are encouraged to enroll in the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) for security updates.