Crisis & Emergency Situations



VISIT FLORIDA Tropical Storm Ian Update

Dear Franci,

As Tropical Storm Ian approaches Florida, VISIT FLORIDA continues to monitor current weather conditions and is in constant communication with the State Emergency Operations Center.

Yesterday, Governor Ron DeSantis issued <u>Executive Order 22-218</u> declaring a state of emergency for the following counties: Brevard, Broward, Charlotte, Collier, DeSoto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands, Hillsborough, Indian River, Lee, Manatee, Martin, Miami-Dade, Monroe, Okeechobee, Osceola, Palm Beach, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, Sarasota, and St. Lucie,

According to the National Hurricane Center, as of 11:00 a.m. EDT, September 24, the center of Tropical Storm Ian was located near latitude 14.4 North, longitude 75.2 West. Ian is moving toward the west near 15 mph (24 km/h), and this general motion is expected to continue through tonight. A turn toward the northwest is forecast on Sunday, followed by a north northwestward turn on Monday and a northward motion on Tuesday. On the forecast track, the center of Ian is forecast to move across the central Caribbean Sea today, pass southwest of Jamaica on Sunday, and pass near or over the Cayman Islands Sunday night and early Monday. Ian will then approach western Cuba late Monday and emerge over the southeastern Gulf of Mexico on Tuesday.

Maximum sustained winds remain near 45 mph (75 km/h) with higher gusts. Significant strengthening is forecast during the next few days. Ian is expected to become a hurricane late Sunday or Sunday night and could be at or near major hurricane strength late Monday when it approaches western Cuba.

Tropical-storm-force winds extend outward up to 60 miles (95 km) from the center.

The estimated minimum central pressure is 1003 mb (29.62 inches) based on NOAA Hurricane Hunter dropsonde data.

For the latest information regarding Tropical Storm Ian, please refer to the National Hurricane Center <u>HERE</u>.

View live webcams and get updates from all over the state **<u>HERE</u>**.

VISIT FLORIDA has taken the following actions in response to Tropical Storm Ian:

- VISIT FLORIDA is featuring travel safety information on our consumer-facing website, <u>VISITFLORIDA.com</u>, to provide weather alerts and official resources to assist visitors with making the most informed travel planning decisions possible. This page links to sources such as the National Hurricane Center, <u>FloridaDisaster.org</u>, Florida 511, and others.
- VISIT FLORIDA's three Official Florida Welcome Centers, located at major access points into and out of the state, are prepared to answer any consumer questions on Tropical Storm Ian.

VISIT FLORIDA will continue to monitor the storm and will be sure to share any further pertinent information with you via email as the situation unfolds. Florida's residents and visitors should continue to monitor the progress of Tropical Storm Ian and follow directives of local officials and emergency professionals.

Useful Links:

- <u>FloridaDisaster.org</u> for the latest on the state's response actions
- Follow <u>FLSERT on Twitter</u> for real time updates from the State's Emergency Response Team
- The National Hurricane Center for the latest information on Tropical Storm Ian
- Florida 511 for the latest on traffic conditions
- <u>Alert Florida</u> to signup for emergency alerts and other public safety notifications in your community
- VISIT FLORIDA Hurricane Preparedness Resources