

Cyclone checklist for Réunion

The official instructions for each cyclone alert level and how to prepare your home, as a checklist.

The cyclone alert system in Réunion has 5 levels, from pre-alert to the recovery phase. During red and purple alerts, people stay indoors and all traffic is forbidden.

Alert levels

Cyclone pre-alert

I KEEP INFORMED

A system is developing in the area and may threaten Réunion in the following days.

- Follow the Météo-France forecasts.
- Avoid long mountain hikes and sea trips of more than 24 hours.
- Stock up on supplies.
- Keep away from the shore in heavy swell.
- Find the nearest shelter.
- Write down the emergency numbers.

Orange alert

I GET READY

Danger for Réunion within 24 hours. Schools and nurseries close, businesses stay open.

- Follow the news on the radio, on television and on official websites.
- Bring in anything that could blow away and shelter your animals.
- Protect doors and windows.
- Check your supplies.
- Find your shelter and prepare for a possible evacuation.

Red alert

I STAY INDOORS

The cyclone hits the island, with heavy to very heavy rain or wind. The red alert is announced 3 hours in advance.

- Use the 3 hours' notice to get home or to a shelter.
- Do not travel after that. All traffic is strictly forbidden.
- Keep phone calls to a minimum.
- Stay indoors until the alert is lifted.
- Only drive again once the roads are announced as passable.

Purple alert

I STAY INDOORS

A major cyclone, with winds over 200 km/h, threatens all or part of the island. The purple alert is announced 3 hours in advance.

- Stay indoors and do not go out under any circumstances.
- Only make phone calls if absolutely necessary.
- Wait for the alert to be lifted before going out. A red alert phase follows the purple alert so the roads can be checked.

Recovery phase

I FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS

The threat is moving away, but the cyclone has caused damage and dangers remain. Schools stay closed, businesses may reopen.

- Do not cross flooded fords or overflowing ravines.
- Do not touch fallen power lines.
- Let emergency services through.
- Keep phone lines free.
- Drink bottled water or treat tap water.
- Only drive if necessary and if traffic is allowed.

Prepare your home

☐

Supplies stocked

☐

Nearest shelter located

☐

Emergency numbers written down

☐ Outdoor objects brought in or tied down

☐ Animals sheltered

☐ Doors and windows protected

☐ Evacuation prepared

Météo-France, cyclone warnings and alerts in Réunion, accessible version (issued on 25 October 2026).
See the source Consulted on 26 October 2026.

Emergency numbers

- 112, European emergency number
- 15, medical emergencies (Samu)
- 17, police
- 18, fire brigade

Staying informed

Follow the bulletins from Météo-France La Réunion and the prefecture's announcements. Red and purple alerts are announced 3 hours in advance.