

Four killed in Italian cable car crash, including British couple



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NAPLES, April 18— A British couple were among four people killed in a tragic cable car crash near Naples on Thursday, according to Italian police. The incident occurred when one of the supporting cables snapped, sending the cabin plummeting to the ground on the Mount Faito line near Castellammare di Stabia.

Authorities confirmed the victims include three passengers and the cable car driver, 59-year-old

Carmine Parlato. An Israeli woman was also among the deceased. A fifth passenger, believed to be a tourist, was seriously injured and airlifted to hospital, where they are now in stable condition, according to the Alpine Rescue Service.

Formal identification of the British victims has not yet been released. The UK Foreign Office stated it is in contact with Italian officials and providing consular support.

A criminal investigation into the cause of the crash has been launched. Officials from Torre Annunziata are examining the failure of the traction cable, which reportedly snapped during the ascent. The mayor of Castellammare di Stabia noted the emergency brake downstream had functioned, but not on the cabin nearing the summit.

The cable car system, which runs three kilometres from the town to the mountain's peak, had reportedly passed a safety inspection just two weeks ago. Sixteen passengers in a second cabin were rescued safely after the accident.

Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni, currently on an official visit to Washington, expressed her condolences to the families of the victims.

The Mount Faito cable car has operated since 1952. A similar fatal accident on the line occurred in 1960.