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COVID-19 TRAVEL AND IMMIGRATION UPDATES



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COVID-19: TRAVEL AND IMMIGRATION DISRUPTION [UPDATED 18 SEPTEMBER 2020]

It is an unprecedented time. As a result of the COVID-19 global pandemic, many countries have implemented restrictions on entry and exit, visa and work permit issuance, closed borders, tightened quarantine rules and taken other measures in an attempt to slow the spread of COVID-19. These restrictions may affect international business travel and assignment plans.

Some countries have also introduced immigration concessions to facilitate applications; for example, moving to online applications, accepting soft copies of documents, granting automatic extension approval and more. However, these concessions must be reviewed country by country as the requirement to make a notification or other applications is often still in place.

CIBTvisas and Newland Chase are here to help you. This comprehensive guide gathers together the knowledge and data we have on entry restrictions, immigration restrictions (office closures, visa suspensions, etc.) and immigration concessions, worldwide.

We also invite you to [attend or to download and listen to our webinars](#), which address changes both globally, regionally and country by country. We are glad to offer you follow up white papers, discussion guides and FAQ sheets to support you with the conversations you need to have with your colleagues, employees and clients.

We can do more, too. [Contact us today](#) for a free 30-minute consultation on your specific needs and requirements. We are glad to help.

Disclaimer

We have aggregated information about some immigration-related restrictions imposed by some countries in response to this situation. The information contained in this document has been abridged from laws and administrative rulings and should not be construed or relied upon as legal advice.

CHANGE LOG

- 18 September 2020: Argentina, Colombia, Estonia, Ireland, Latvia, Norway, South Africa, Vietnam.
- 17 September 2020: Aruba, Belgium, Colombia, Denmark, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Latvia, Netherlands, Philippines, South Africa, United Kingdom, Vietnam.
- 16 September 2020: Hungary, India, Ireland, Malaysia, Mauritania, Netherlands, Poland.
- 15 September 2020: Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Georgia, Israel, Kenya, Kuwait, Lithuania, Slovakia, Vietnam.
- 14 September 2020: Chile, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, Denmark, Georgia, Lithuania, New Zealand, Saudi Arabia.
- 11 September 2020: Belgium, Brunei, Finland, India, Japan, Latvia, Malaysia, Singapore, Slovenia, South Korea, Switzerland, Uganda.
- 10 September 2020: Angola, Belgium, China, Germany, Indonesia, Italy, Malaysia, Malta, Norway, Panama, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States.
- 9 September 2020: Denmark, Italy, Netherlands.
- 8 September 2020: China, Finland, Japan, Malaysia, Morocco, New Zealand, Oman.
- 7 September 2020: Bahrain, China, Estonia, Hong Kong, Lithuania, Malaysia, Mozambique, New Zealand, Singapore, Switzerland.
- 4 September 2020: Argentina, Australia, China, Czech Republic, Ireland, Latvia, Nigeria, Singapore, Ukraine.
- 3 September 2020: Estonia, Germany, Jordan, Macau, Malaysia, Malta, Netherlands, Russia, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, Vietnam.
- 2 September 2020: Belize, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, India, Japan, Laos, Malta, Philippines, Poland, United Arab Emirates, Ukraine, United Kingdom.
- 1 September 2020: Bahamas, Belgium, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cyprus, Egypt, France, Greece, Kuwait, Macau, Malaysia, Russia, Ukraine.
- 31 August 2020: Argentina, Canada, Chile, El Salvador, Ghana, Hong Kong, Hungary, Israel, Lithuania, Peru.
- 28 August 2020: China, Costa Rica, Estonia, Japan, Latvia, Myanmar, Nigeria, Romania, Singapore, Slovakia, Ukraine.
- 27 August 2020: Brazil, Canada, Denmark, Fiji, Germany, Hungary, India, Mongolia, Namibia, Norway, Sweden, United Kingdom, United States, Uruguay.
- 26 August 2020: Belgium, Bolivia, Czech Republic, Ecuador, Ireland, Netherlands, Poland, Taiwan, Ukraine.
- 25 August 2020: Cyprus, Germany, Hong Kong, Ireland.
- 24 August 2020: Belgium, China, France, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Panama, Portugal, Singapore, United States, Vietnam.
- 21 August 2020: Bahrain, Belgium, Curacao, Egypt, Estonia, Indonesia, Latvia, Macau, Mali, Slovenia.
- 20 August 2020: Argentina, Armenia, Costa Rica, Germany, Greece, Jamaica, Kenya, Luxembourg, New Zealand, Norway, South Africa, United Kingdom, United States.
- 19 August 2020: Austria, Belgium, Bermuda, Finland, Georgia, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Nigeria, Slovakia, South Korea.
- 18 August 2020: Cyprus, Guatemala, Indonesia, Lithuania, Malaysia, Malta, Panama, Romania, Switzerland.
- 17 August 2020: Argentina, Austria, Canada, Chile, Ghana, Hong Kong, Iceland, Israel, Latvia, Lithuania, Malaysia, Mexico, Montenegro, Poland, Switzerland, United States.

EUROPEAN UNION

- Effective 8 August, the European Council has removed Morocco from the list of countries for whose residents it recommends travel restrictions should be lifted by Schengen countries.
- Effective 31 July, the European Council has removed Algeria from the list of countries for whose residents it recommends travel restrictions should be lifted by Schengen countries.
- On 16 July, the European Council updated the list of countries for whose residents it recommends travel restrictions should be lifted by Schengen countries. Montenegro and Serbia have been removed from the list.
- On 30 June, the European Council adopted a recommendation to Schengen member states (including prospective members Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus and Romania) and the four Schengen Associated States (Iceland, Lichtenstein, Norway, Switzerland) on the gradual lifting of the temporary restrictions on non-essential travel into the EU. Travel restrictions should be lifted for countries listed in the recommendation, with this list being reviewed and, as the case may be, updated every two weeks.
 - Based on the criteria and conditions set out in the latest recommendation, as from 1 July member states should start lifting the travel restrictions at the external borders for residents of the following third countries: Algeria, Australia, Canada, Georgia, Japan, ~~Montenegro~~, ~~Morocco~~, New Zealand, Rwanda, ~~Serbia~~, South Korea, Thailand, Tunisia and Uruguay (and China, subject to confirmation of reciprocity).
 - The Council recommendation is not a legally binding instrument. The authorities of the member states remain responsible for implementing the content of the recommendation. They may, in full transparency, lift only progressively travel restrictions towards countries listed.
 - A Member State should not decide to lift the travel restrictions for non-listed third countries before this has been decided in a coordinated manner.
 - Residents of Andorra, Monaco, San Marino and the Vatican should be considered as EU residents for the purpose of this recommendation.
 - Ireland and Denmark are not taking part in the adoption of this recommendation and are not bound by it or subject to its application.
 - For countries where travel restrictions continue to apply, the following categories of people should be exempted from the restrictions:
 - EU/EEA/Swiss/UK citizens and their family members
 - Long-term EU residents and their family members
 - Travellers with an essential function or need, as listed in the recommendation. This now includes **highly qualified third-country workers** if their employment is necessary from an economic perspective and the work cannot be postponed or performed abroad. It may include those whose application for permits under the EUs Blue Card Directive 2009/50, the EUs ICT Directive 2014/66 or as Researchers under Directive 2016/801 (or a national permit for skilled migrants) was approved but who were until now prevented from entering the EU due to the entry ban.
 - EU member states are expected to confirm and provide further guidance on this new exemption in the upcoming days. Note that for these exempted groups, public health measures such as quarantine may still apply.
- On 11 June, the European Commission issued a new recommendation to the Schengen Member States and Associated States to lift all internal border controls by

15 June, to extend the closure of the external border until 30 June and to lift the restrictions from 1 July. The Commission recommends that the travel restrictions are first lifted for travellers from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia from 1 July.

- The Commission recommends the resumption of visa application acceptance and processing.
- The Commission also recommends the expansion of the exemptions for countries which are still restricted, to include:
 - EU citizens and citizens of Schengen Associated States and third country nationals legally residing in the European Union, as well as their family members, **regardless of whether or not they are returning home** (and possibly subject to appropriate measures such as self-isolation equivalent to those imposed on each member state's own citizens);
 - Third-country nationals travelling for study;
 - Highly-qualified third-country national workers if their employment is necessary from an economic perspective and the work cannot be postponed or performed from abroad.
- On 17 March, the Schengen Area member states agreed to close the external borders of the Schengen Area to non-essential travel for all non-EU nationals.
- The non-Schengen EU member states (Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Ireland, Romania) as well as the UK are invited to also implement the restriction, although the EU has no power to enforce it.
- EU citizens, citizens of the Schengen states, nationals of San Marino, Andorra, Monaco and Vatican and UK citizens, as well as third-country national long-term EU residents, if they are returning to their homes, are also exempt.
- Family members of EU citizens, diplomats, cross-border workers and essential workers such as healthcare workers, seasonal workers, transport personnel, and passengers in transit, are also exempt.
- All persons (that is both EU/ Schengen Associated Countries and third-country nationals) who cross the external borders to enter the Schengen Area are subject to systematic checks, which may include health checks, at border crossing points.
- Member States should admit their own citizens and EU citizens or third country nationals legally residing on their territory. Member States can, however, take appropriate measures such as requiring non-nationals entering their territory to undergo self-isolation or similar measures upon return from an area affected by COVID-19, provided they impose the same requirements on their own nationals.
- Schengen states should accept and process visa applications for exempt categories of travellers.
- Third-country nationals who are stranded in the EU and as a result overstay their short-stay or long-stay visa, their residence permit, or their authorized visa-free maximum period of stay, can extend their status.
- The EU hopes that by adopting this measure, the EU member states will be able to re-open any "internal" borders with other EU member states which they have temporarily closed.

ALBANIA

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 10 June to 30 November, visa-free entry is permitted for citizens of Bahrain, Belarus, India, Oman, Qatar, Russia, Saudi Arabia and Thailand.
- Commercial flights have resumed between Tirana and Athens, Istanbul, Milan, Belgrade, Vienna, Venice and Florence. Only EU and Schengen residents and nationals are eligible to board these flights at this time.
- There is no general requirement for travellers returning to Albania to self-quarantine. Quarantine will only apply in specific cases when ordered by health authorities.
- All land borders with neighbouring Montenegro, Kosovo, North Macedonia and Greece have reopened.

ALGERIA

Entry Restrictions

- All borders are closed until the end of the pandemic.
- The labour authorities are not currently accepting or processing any applications. Renewals will be handled on resumption of service. Holders of residence cards or application receipts who are outside Algeria will be able to submit a visa application on the basis of the expired document and proceed with renewal on their return to Algeria.

ANGOLA

Entry Restrictions

- International flights are suspended but are due to resume from 21 September.
- Arriving travellers will be required to present a negative result from a COVID-19 PCR test taken within 72 hours of travel and to undergo quarantine or self-quarantine.

Immigration Concessions

- Effective 1 September, the Ministry of Interior has extended the validity of tourist visas held by foreign nationals **in Angola**, which have expired since 28 February 2020, until 31 December 2020.
- Effective 1 September, the Ministry of Interior has extended the validity of residence permits, temporary stay visas, work visas, study visas, investor visas and refugee cards held by foreign nationals **outside Angola**, which have expired since 28 February 2020, until 31 December 2020.

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

Entry Restrictions

- All arrivals are subject to testing and a mandatory 14-day quarantine.

ARGENTINA

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 7 September, those who are allowed to enter or exit the country must complete an online Affidavit, available at the Immigration Office's website
- Immigration authorities have started to approve Special Entry Permits for non-resident foreign nationals performing on essential activities as detailed in decree NUD 297/2020 dated 19 March 2020.
 - **However**, the issuance of visas is at the discretion of the relevant consulate, which might not issue a visa even supported by a Special Entry Permit – this should be checked with the relevant consulate on a case-by-case basis.
- The mandatory quarantine period has been extended until 20 September. Consequently, the suspension of entry for all non-residents, the suspension of consular visa services for foreign nationals and the suspension of in-country immigration and registry services are also extended until 20 September.
- All commercial passenger flights are suspended until further notice.
- Re-entry to Argentina is suspended for most foreign residents of Argentina. Those entering must comply with the 14-day self-quarantine on arrival. Additionally, all arrivals in Argentina must download an app developed by the Ministry of Health for a quick check related to COVID-19 symptoms. Consequences for noncompliance are fine and/or imprisonment.

Immigration Restrictions

- All government agencies including the Immigration Office and the Registry Office will remain closed until 20 September. Only some applications with an appointment scheduled beforehand may be allowed.
- The extension of temporary residences can be requested online.
 - Once documentation is uploaded onto the immigration platform, authorities issue the Certificate of Residencia Precariat together with a normal (i.e. non-express) appointment to complete the renewal process, at which the applicant will need to show original documents and biometrics will be taken.
 - If appointments are rescheduled, the Certificate of Residencia Precaria will automatically be extended.
 - Nevertheless, since normal appointments cannot be advanced, our recommendation is waiting until current restrictions are lifted in order to check if the Immigration Office allows the request for express appointments again.

Immigration Concessions

- Residence documents issued by the Immigration Office expiring from 17 March onwards are now automatically extended **until 17 October**. Foreign nationals in this situation will not be penalised and existing interviews will be rescheduled.

ARMENIA

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 12 August, non-resident foreign nationals are again permitted to enter Armenia by air, and flights have resumed.
- Visa on arrival is suspended – all visas must now be obtained via consulates.
- All arrivals are subject to a health screening at the airport and must have health insurance covering COVID-19.
- Upon entry, all foreign visitors are subject to a 14-day self-isolation, with an option to exit the quarantine early if they take a COVID-19 PCR test at their place of isolation and obtain a negative result.
- Land borders with Turkey, Iran, Azerbaijan and Georgia are closed for non-essential traffic.

ARUBA

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 24 September, the list of high-risk US states is updated:
 - Alabama, California, Colorado, Georgia, Idaho, Mississippi, Nevada, Ohio, Oregon and Texas **are removed from** the list of high-risk US states;
 - Kentucky, Maryland, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Pennsylvania and Virginia **are added to** the list of high-risk US states
- Entry is permitted for travellers from the United States, Europe, Canada, Bonaire and Curacao and Caribbean nations (except Dominican Republic and Haiti).
- Requirements for arrivals:
 - Complete an online Embarkation/Disembarkation (ED) card;
 - Submit a self-health declaration form 72 hours prior to travel;
 - Wear a mask on the flight to Aruba;
 - Test options: (Option 2 not available for residents of the following high-risk US states: *Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Nevada, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Wisconsin, and Wyoming*)
 - 1. Take a PCR COVID-19 test before travelling and upload the test results to a new digital platform or bring their test proof with them; OR
 - 2. Take for a test upon arrival in Aruba at own expense (price initially indicated at USD 75) and a mandatory 24-hour quarantine (with any travelling companions) while awaiting results. If positive, they will be isolated at alternative accommodation (with any travelling companions) until recovered; OR
 - 3. Take a test before travelling and also at the airport on arrival.
 - Purchase Aruba Visitor's Insurance;
 - consent to cooperate with all Aruba's COVID-19 procedures and instructions, including testing, quarantine etc. (as applicable).
- Residents who are abroad and are having difficulties returning to Aruba can contact cmo@crisis.aw for assistance.

Immigration Restrictions

- Some immigration offices in Aruba are closed, but online services are available.

AUSTRALIA

Entry Restrictions

- The ban on international travel has been extended until 17 December.
- All arrivals are subject to a mandatory 14-day quarantine at designated facilities (for example, a hotel) at their port of arrival.
- Entry is suspended for all nationalities, other than Australian citizens and Australian Permanent Residents, and their close family members; New Zealand citizens usually resident in Australia and their immediate family members; diplomats holding a subclass 995 visa; travellers transiting Australia for 72 hours or less; airline or maritime crew, those recruited under the government-approved Seasonal Worker Program or Pacific Labour Scheme; and holders of a Business Innovation and Investment (subclass 188) visa.
- Individual travel restriction exemptions may be granted for individuals in **critical sectors or with critical skills**:
 - Non-citizens travelling at the invitation of the Australian Government or a state or territory government authority for the purpose of assisting in the COVID-19 response
 - Those providing critical or specialist medical services, including air ambulance, medical evacuations and delivering critical medical supplies;
 - Non-citizens with critical skills required to maintain the supply of essential goods and services (such as in medical technology, critical infrastructure, telecommunications, engineering and mining, supply chain logistics, agricultural technology, food production, and the maritime industry);
 - Non-citizens working in a critical sector in Australia (such as financial technology, large scale manufacturing, film and television production and emerging technology), where no Australian worker is available;
 - Non-citizens sponsored by an employer to work in Australia in an occupation on the Priority Migration Skilled Occupation List (PMSOL);
 - Non-citizens whose entry would otherwise be in the national interest, supported by the Australian government or a state or territory government authority;
 - An individual can submit a request for a travel exemption under this category or a business can submit a request on their behalf. The applications of multiple travellers within the same group/business can be linked, so that the requests are considered together.
- Individual exemptions may also be granted for
 - Military personnel, including those who form part of the Status of Forces Agreement, Commonwealth Armed Forces, Asia Pacific Forces and Status of Armed Forces Agreement;
 - Students completing year 11 and 12, with support from the relevant state and territory government;
 - Those travelling for compassionate and compelling reasons including, but are not limited to, needing to travel due to the death or critical illness of a close family member.
- A visa and an exemption must be obtained in advance of travel.
 - An exemption application must be submitted online at least two weeks, but not more than three months, prior to the intended travel;
 - If an exemption is granted, evidence of the exemption decision must be presented at the airport;

- If an exemption is not granted, the travel plans should be cancelled.
- Where possible, Australian embassies, high commissions, and consulates are still operating in line with local regulations and restrictions. Priority is on assisting Australians overseas.
- Most offshore applications are on hold, particularly for permanent visas which would entitle the person to travel to Australia under an exemption.
- Temporary visa holders who are ineligible for entry into Australia under these measures will have their visa cancelled. Arrangements will be made to reinstate visas as appropriate following the lifting of these enhanced border control measures.

Exit Restrictions

- All international visitors are encouraged to depart if it is possible to do so. Travellers may be able to re-enter Australia if they meet entry conditions.
- Australian citizens and permanent residents cannot travel overseas due to COVID-19 restrictions, unless they meet one of the following exemptions:
 - Ordinarily resident in a country other than Australia;
 - Airline, maritime crew or associated safety officer;
 - A New Zealand citizen holding a Special Category (subclass 444) visa;
 - Engaged in the day-to-day conduct of outbound freight;
 - Associated with essential work at Australian offshore facilities;
 - Travelling on official government business, including members of the Australian Defence Force.
- Alternatively, they can submit an online exit request under one of the following exemptions:
 - Travel is part of the response to the COVID-19 outbreak;
 - Travel is essential for the conduct of critical industries and business (including export and import industries);
 - Travel to receive urgent medical treatment that is not available in Australia;
 - Travel on urgent and unavoidable personal business;
 - Travel in the national interest.
- A registration portal is available for temporary visa holders who would like assistance returning to their home country.

Immigration Restrictions

- Immigration office are still operational. Applications can still be submitted online and via post, though processing of applications has slowed considerably, and some have been placed on hold for now.
- All Immigration Medical Examinations in Victoria have temporarily ceased.

Immigration Concessions

- Temporary Skill Shortage and subclass 457 visa holders who have been stood down, but not laid off, will maintain a valid visa and businesses will have the opportunity to extend your visa as per normal arrangements.
- Businesses will be able to reduce their employees' hours without being in breach of their visa conditions or the business being in breach of their employer obligations.
- Those who have been laid off should find another employer within 60 days or make arrangements to leave Australia, where possible.

- If they cannot return to their home country, they need to maintain a valid visa and follow Australia’s health advice where necessary.
- A special category of the Subclass 408 Temporary Work Visa has been created to cater for temporary residents employed in critical sectors, like health, aged care or agriculture, who cannot return to their home country and have no other visa options.
- Those whose temporary work visa is expiring, are not working in a critical sector, are unable to return home because of entry restrictions and can’t meet the requirements for another visa, may still be eligible for the COVID-19 Pandemic event visa.
 - They will need to demonstrate why they can’t meet the requirements for another visa. This could include a statement and evidence that they do not have access to sufficient funds to be able to pay a further visa application charge (VAC).
- Visitor visa holders should apply for a new visa before their current visa expires to maintain their lawful status. If a visitor has a “No Further Stay” condition on their visa (including 8503, 8534 or 8535) and less than two months’ validity remaining, they can request a waiver of this condition to allow them to lodge a new visa application.
- Visa applicants abroad are being provided additional time to provide documents, health checks, and police certificates due to closures and restrictions of service providers.

AUSTRIA

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 24 August, the Balearic Islands are added to the list of high-risk areas.
- Effective 17 August, Croatia is added to the list of high-risk areas.
- Effective 1 August, the flight ban is lifted.
- Travellers from the following countries do not need to present a negative COVID-19 test or commit to quarantine:
 - *Andorra, Belgium, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain (Canary Islands only), Switzerland, United Kingdom, Vatican City.*
 - This applies only to people who are residents in the listed countries or Austrian citizens, who have not been in any country other than Austria or those European countries in the past ten days.
 - Travellers who are only transiting through Austria without a stopover do not need to present a test result.
- **EU/EEA/Swiss citizens arriving from a high-risk area** are required to present a medical certificate proving a negative COVID-19 PCR test (from a test taken in the last 72 hours before arrival). If the traveller cannot get tested before entering Austria, they must be tested within 48 hours after arrival, and has to self-quarantine until the test results arrive.
 - High-risk areas include Albania, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Croatia, Ecuador, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Iran, Kosovo, Mexico, Moldova, Montenegro, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Pakistan, China (Hubei province), Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Senegal, Serbia, South Africa, Spain (except Canary Islands), Sweden, Turkey, Ukraine and USA.

- **EU/EEA/Swiss citizens** arriving from a country in neither of the above lists are required to present a medical certificate proving a negative COVID-19 PCR test (from a test taken in the last 72 hours before arrival or undergo a ten-day quarantine.
- Entry is prohibited for **third-country nationals** arriving from states outside the Schengen area. Exemptions apply. Third-country nationals travelling from inside the Schengen area have to carry a medical certificate proving a negative COVID-19 test result within the last 72 hours and are subject to a 10-day self-quarantine.
- Travellers transiting through Austria are required to complete a declaration and may not be permitted to stop over.
- Cross-border commuters from some neighbouring countries which have signed agreements with Austria are exempt from the 14-day quarantine requirement if carrying proof of employment.
- Austrian/EU/EEA/Swiss citizens and their family members living in the same household, as well as holders of a D visa or a residence permit issued by Austria entering Austria by air from outside the Schengen area will be subject to a 14-day home quarantine, unless their immediate departure to another country (e.g. by car or train) is ensured or they provide a medical certificate confirming a negative molecular-biological SARS-CoV-2 test.

Immigration Restrictions

- First-time residence permit applicants can submit further required documents by email or post but should expect delays. D visa applications for applicants outside Austria are not possible until the relevant consulate has reopened. D visa holders may be able to enter Austria but should note that they have six months to collect their residence permit in Austria, from the date of the notification by the Austrian consulate that they can apply for a D visa.
- First-time residence permit applicants in Austria whose permission to stay in Austria has expired should be notified by the authority of the requirement to make an additional application under § 21 (3) of the Settlement and Residence Act.
- Residence permit renewal applications can be submitted by email or post to the relevant branch office. Delays should be expected. A personal appearance is not required until the authorities resume normal operating hours.
- Holders of work and residence permits who have applied for renewal before their current permit expires can continue to work during processing of the renewal application.
- Residence permits cannot currently be collected in person. Applicants should contact the authorities by telephone, email or post to arrange collection or delivery.

AZERBAIJAN

Entry Restrictions

- Land and air borders are closed until at least 1 August.
- Entry to Azerbaijan is suspended for non-resident foreign nationals.
- Visa issuance is suspended.
- The visa registration service ASAN has temporarily stopped issuance of electronic visas. Foreign nationals wishing to visit Azerbaijan are requested to apply for a visa

through relevant local Azerbaijani embassies and consulates operating limited services.

- Mutual visits of Azerbaijani and Russian citizens have been temporarily suspended.
- On arrival, foreign nationals, and Azerbaijani citizens who have visited an affected country in the previous 14 days, must submit a medical certificate proving they are not infected with coronavirus.
- Arrivals are screened and, in case of suspected infection, quarantined for 14 days.

Immigration Restrictions

- Work and residence permit applications can be submitted at the ASAN service centres and Regional Migration Departments with appointments booked in advance. Online applications are also available.

Immigration Concessions

- Expiring residence registrations can be extended for 30-60 days
- Applications for new or extended work permits or temporary or permanent residence permits can be submitted electronically. Supporting documents do not need to be notarised for electronic applications. However, the notarised supporting documents may be requested at a later date.

BAHAMAS

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 1 September, arrivals must present a negative COVID-19 test result less than **five** days old. Previously, test results had to be issued within the last seven days.
- Effective 22 July, entry will be suspended for US nationals. Americans still on the islands will be allowed to leave after that date under special accommodations.
- Effective 1 July, the borders are reopened to international tourists.
- Until further notice, entry is suspended for foreign nationals who have visited the UK, Ireland or Europe within the previous 20 days.

BAHRAIN

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 4 September, entry is restricted to Bahraini citizens, GCC citizens who do not require a visa, travellers eligible for visa on arrival, travellers with a valid eVisa, diplomats, military personnel, airline crew and holders of official, service or UN passports.
- Visas on arrival are reintroduced for citizens of eligible nationalities (see evisa.gov.bh). To obtain an eVisa prior to departure, see evisa.gov.bh.
- Effective 21 August, all arrivals must undergo a COVID-19 test on arrival and another ten days later, at their own expense.
 - If the first test is positive, they will be required to quarantine for ten days.

- If the first test is negative, they will not be required to continue self-isolation, but will be tested again on the tenth day.
- All incoming passengers must sign a declaration stating that they will follow the Ministry of Health's self-isolating regulations until their COVID-19 test carried out upon arrival in Bahrain is confirmed negative.
- All arrivals showing symptoms upon arrival or those that have visited Iran, Iraq, or Lebanon within 14 days will be subject to further quarantine measures.
- Until further notice, visa on arrival is suspended at all ports of entry.

Immigration Restrictions

- Effective 9 August, Bahrain's Labour Market Authority again accepts requests for new work permits. All vacancies must now be advertised in local papers for two weeks to give residents a chance to apply first.

Immigration Concessions

- The Nationality, Passports, and Residence Affairs (NPRA) authority announced automatic extension of visas (including visitor visas) until 31 October. Foreign nationals planning on staying in Bahrain after 31 October may apply through the government's eVisa portal to renew their visit visas.

BANGLADESH

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 26 July, all foreign nationals departing from Bangladesh are required to present a negative COVID-19 test certificate issued within 72 hours of travel by an approved hospital. Travellers under the age of ten, and those who have spent less than 14 days in Bangladesh, are exempt.
- Foreign nationals coming to Bangladesh with valid visas must submit on arrival a medical certificate (with English translation), obtained within 72 hours of travel, indicating they are COVID-19 negative.
- Bangladesh-origin passengers holding a No Visa Required (NVR) and arriving with a negative COVID-19 certificate are subject to 14-day self-isolation.
- Bangladesh-origin passengers holding a No Visa Required (NVR) arriving without a COVID-19 negative certificate, or diagnosed with COVID-19 on arrival, will be institutionally quarantined for 14 days.
- Limited international flight operations have resumed.

BARBADOS

Entry Restrictions

- New travel restrictions take effect 5 August:
- **High-risk** countries include Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Peru, the Philippines, Russia, South Africa and the USA.

- **Medium-risk** countries include Australia, Canada, China, Dominican Republic, Egypt, France, Germany, Ghana, Haiti, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Portugal, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden and the UK.
- **Low-risk** countries include Cuba, Finland, Greenland, Guyana, Iceland, New Zealand, Norway, Uruguay and CARICOM states unless indicated in another category.
- Countries in the “**Bubble**” include Dominica, Grenada, St. Kitts & Nevis, Saint Lucia and St. Vincent & the Grenadines.
- All travellers arriving in Barbados must complete and submit an online immigration/customs form at travelform.gov.bb at least 24 hours prior to travel.
- All travellers must undergo a health screening.
- To be considered for fast-tracking upon arrival, travellers who have visited a **low-risk, medium-risk** or **high-risk** country within 21 days of arrival are advised to present a negative COVID-19 PCR test result from an accredited facility from within 72 hours prior to travel.
 - Those travelling from a **low-risk** country who have not visited a **high-risk** country within 21 days can present a negative COVID-19 PCR test result from within five days prior to travel.
- Those travelling from the “**Bubble**” who have not visited a **high-risk, medium-risk** or **low-risk** country in the previous 21 days are not required to take a COVID-19 PCR test prior to or on arrival.
- Travellers without a negative COVID-19 PCR test result will be required to take a test on arrival. Visitors who decline to take this test will be denied entry. Citizens and permanent residents who decline to take this test will be quarantined in a government facility.
 - Those who have visited a **high-risk** country in the previous 21 days will be required to await the results at the airport or a government facility (at no cost) or at a designated holding hotel/villa (at their own expense) or at a designated testing satellite hotel (at their own expense including the test). If the test is negative, they will be quarantined for 14 days with the option to take another COVID-19 PCR test between 5-7 days after the last test. They will typically be released from quarantine once a second negative result is obtained.
 - Those who have visited a **medium-risk** country in the previous 21 days will be permitted to leave the airport after immigration clearance. If they test is negative, they will be monitored for a period of 14 days. If they take another COVID-19 PCR test between 5-7 days after arrival and obtain a negative result, they will not be subject to further monitoring.
 - Those who have visited a **medium-risk** country in the previous 21 days will be permitted to leave the airport after immigration clearance. They will not be monitored or quarantined if the test is negative.
- If the on-arrival test result is positive they will be transported to an alternative location for isolation until recovery, after which they can resume their vacation or return home.
- If they have been in contact with a positive case, they will be quarantined at approved facilities.
- All **transit** passengers who have visited a **low-risk, medium-risk** or **high-risk** country within 21 days of arrival must present a negative COVID-19 PCR test result prior to arrival. Otherwise they will be denied entry.
- Travellers under 5 years old will not be required to have a COVID-19 PCR test unless they are symptomatic, or any member of the party has a positive test result.

- Unaccompanied minors will be required to have a valid negative COVID-19 test result to enter Barbados.

Immigration Restrictions

- Immigration offices are closed until further notice.

BELGIUM

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 18 September, *Belgium's travel advice* has been updated.
- Travellers entering from **red zones** are required to quarantine for 14 days and take to COVID-19 PCR tests (one on arrival and one after none days). **Red zones** currently include:
 - All countries outside the EU and Schengen;
 - **Andorra**;
 - **Austria**: province of Vienna;
 - **Croatia**: provinces of Split-Dalmatia, Brod-Posavina, Zadar, Sibenik-Knin, Dubrovnik-Neretva and Požega-Slavonia; provinces of Virovitica-Podravina, Lika-Senj;
 - **Czech Republic**: Prague region; regions of Central Bohemia, Southwest, Northeast and Southeast;
 - **France**: Ville de Paris; Departments of Ain, Alpes-Maritimes, Bouches-du-Rhône, Corse-du-Sud, Côte-d'Or, Essonne, Gard, Guadeloupe, Guyane française, Gironde, Haute-Corse, Haute-Garonne, Hauts-de-Seine, Hérault, Loiret, Martinique, Réunion, Rhône, Seine-et-Marne, Seine-Saint-Denis, Val-d'Oise, Val-de-Marne, Var, Vaucluse and Yvelines; Departments of Aveyron, Gers, Ille-et-Vilaine, Indre-et-Loire, Isère, Loire, Maine-et-Loire, Nord, Pas-de-Calais, Puy-de-Dôme, Pyrénées-Atlantiques, Pyrénées-Orientales, Sarthe, Seine-Maritime, Tarn-et-Garonne ;
 - **Hungary**: Budapest;
 - **Monaco**;
 - **Netherlands**: Provinces of South-Holland and North-Holland;
 - **Romania**;
 - **Spain** (except the islands of Tenerife, El Hierro, La Gomera and La Palma);
 - **Switzerland**: canton of Freiburg; canton of Vaud.
- Travellers entering from **orange zones** are strongly recommended to quarantine and take a COVID-19 test. **Orange zones** currently include:
 - **Austria**: Upper Austria, Lower Austria, Vienna, Salzburg, Burgenland, Styria and Tyrol;
 - **Bulgaria**;
 - **Croatia**: Zagreb (city and province); provinces of Bjelovar-Bilogora, Virovitica-Podravina, Osijek-Baranja, Vukovar-Srijem, Karlovac, Sisak-Moslavina, Lika-Senj, Primorje-Gorski Kotar, Istria, Varaždin, Međimurje, Koprivnica-Križevci, Krapina-Zagorje;
 - **Czech Republic**: Regions of Central Bohemia, Southwest, Northwest, Northeast, Southeast; Central Moravia and Moravia-Silesia;
 - **Denmark**;

- **France:** Departments of Aisne, Allier, Alpes-de-Haute-Provence, Ardèche, des Ardennes, Ariège, Aube, Aude, Aveyron, Bas-Rhin, Calvados, Cantal, Charente, Charente-Maritime, Cher, Corrèze, Côtes-d’Armor, Deux-Sèvres, Dordogne, Doubs, Drôme, Eure, Eure-et-Loir, Finistère, Gers, Haut-Rhin, Hautes-Alpes, Haute-Loire, Haute-Marne, Hautes-Pyrénées, Haute-Saône, Haute-Savoie, Haute-Vienne, Ille-et-Vilaine, Indre, Indre-et-Loire, Isère, Jura, Landes, Loir-et-Cher, Loire, Loire-Atlantique, Lot, Lot-et-Garonne, Lozère, Maine-et-Loire, Manche, Marne, Mayenne, Mayotte, Meurthe-et-Moselle, Meuse, Morbihan, Moselle, Nièvre, Nord, Oise, Orne, Pas-de-Calais, Puy-de-Dôme, Pyrénées-Atlantiques, Pyrénées-Orientales, Saint Martin, Savoie, Seine-Maritime, Somme, Saône-et-Loire, Sarthe, Tarn, Tarn-et-Garonne, Territoire de Belfort, Vendée, Vienne, Vosges, and Yonne;
- **Germany:** Upper Bavaria, Lower Bavaria, Stuttgart, Karlsruhe, Middle Franconia, Swabia, Freiburg, Upper Palatinate, Upper Franconia, Brandenburg, Bremen, Hamburg, Braunschweig, Hanover, Weser-Ems;
- **Greece;**
- **Hungary;**
- **Ireland:** Eastern and Midland; Southern Ireland;
- **Italy:** Regions of Veneto, Liguria, Lombardy, Campania, Sardinia, Emilia-Romagna, Tuscany, Puglia, Friuli-Venezia-Giulia, Umbria, Lazio. Autonomous Provinces of Bolzano and Trento. Autonomous Provinces of Bolzano and Trento;
- **Luxembourg;**
- **Malta;**
- **Netherlands:** South-Holland, North-Holland, Groningen, North Brabant, Utrecht, Limburg, Gelderland and Flevoland;
- **Norway:** Regions of Oslo and Viken; Western Norway;
- **Poland:** Lesser Poland, Subcarpathia, Pomerania;
- **Portugal:** Lisbon metropolitan area, Northern Portugal, Algarve, Alentejo;
- **San Marino;**
- **Slovakia;**
- **Slovenia;**
- **Spain:** Islands of Tenerife, El Hierro, La Gomera and La Palma;
- **Sweden:** Middle East Sweden, Småland and islands, South Sweden, West Sweden, Middle North Sweden and Middle Norrland;
- **Switzerland:** cantons of Vaud, Valais, Jura, Aargau, Bern, Geneva, Solothurn, Neuchâtel, Basel-Stadt, Zürich Schwyz and Zug;
- **United Kingdom:** North East England, East Midlands, West Midlands, East of England, London, Wales, North West England, Yorkshire and Humber, West Central Scotland, Southern Scotland and Northern Ireland;
- **Vatican.**
- Travellers arriving from **green zones** are not subject to quarantine or test. **Green zones** include all other zones in the EU, Schengen and the United Kingdom.
- Effective 1 August, all persons returning to Belgium, and all persons travelling through Belgium who are staying at least 48 hours, must complete and submit a *Passenger Locator Form*.
- Effective 1 September, people who have been physically separated in recent months because they come from different countries and who can provide proof of a lasting relationship but are not married will be able to cross the border.
- Highly-qualified third-country workers seeking a D visa to enter Belgium must have been issued a positive single permit decision (Annex 46) on which the code B29 (for

Blue Card) is stated (their employment must also be necessary from an economic perspective, and the work cannot be postponed or performed abroad). Those whose Annex D is marked with code B34 (for ordinary highly-skilled workers) will not currently be granted a D visa.

- All passengers on flights to Belgium from outside the Schengen area must complete and submit a public health passenger locator form.
- On 7 July, the Belgian government announced that non-essential travel to and from non-EU countries recommended by the EU will remain suspended for now.
- Entry from non-EU countries is permitted, subject to a 14-day quarantine, for the following essential purposes:
 - Healthcare professionals, health researchers, and elderly care professionals;
 - Frontier workers;
 - Seasonal workers in agriculture;
 - Transport personnel;
 - Diplomats, staff of international organisations, military personnel and humanitarian aid workers in the exercise of their functions;
 - Passengers in transit;
 - Passengers travelling for imperative family reasons;
 - Persons in need of international protection or for other humanitarian reasons respecting the principle of *non-refoulement*;
 - EU citizens and citizens of Schengen Associated States and third country nationals legally residing in the European Union, as well as their family members (when entry visa is required for a short stay in Schengen), regardless whether or not they are returning home;
 - third-country nationals travelling for the purpose of study;
 - highly qualified third-country workers if their employment is necessary from an economic perspective and the work cannot be postponed or performed abroad.
- Entry is once more permitted from the European Union member states, including the UK, and the rest of the Schengen countries (Switzerland, Norway, Liechtenstein, Iceland), without quarantine.
- Entry is permitted for third-country nationals holding residence cards or long-term visas issued by a member state. Arrivals from outside the Schengen area must stay home for 14 days, monitor their health and practice social distancing.

Immigration Restrictions

- Some communes are closed for all but urgent services.
- Government ministries are working from home, which is expected to lead to delays in application processing
- Visa applications and issuance are suspended. visa application centres are closing.

Immigration Concessions

- The **Flanders** authorities will not take into account a period of temporary unemployment due to COVID-19 when calculating the salary threshold for work permits and single permits, whether or not the employee receives any benefit from the National Employment Offices (NEO). The **Brussels** authorities have stated that they will take the exceptional circumstances into consideration and be flexible with regards to salary thresholds. The **Walloon** authorities will not take into account periods of temporary unemployment between 1 March and 31 August when

calculating salary thresholds, including for posted workers, on submission of certain documents.

- The authorities will provisionally extend the residence rights of non-EU citizens unable to travel back to their home countries if (1) their residence permit is expired and no renewal was submitted due to scheduled move back to home country; or (2) their short-term C visa is expiring; or (3) the 90-day maximum period allowed under Schengen rules is expiring. Employees in these situations should visit their local town hall where they must present their travel insurance, passport and proof that travel back to their home country is not possible. They will receive a declaration of arrival valid for 2 months.
- In Flanders, it is possible to apply for the renewal of the short-term work permit (maximum 3 months) while the employees are stuck in Belgium. The application processing will be expedited and the validity of the new work permit will not exceed the extension of residence (declaration of arrival) provided by the town hall.

BELIZE

Entry Restrictions

- The Belize government has announced that the borders will be reopened to international travel from 1 October, as will Philip Goldson International Airport.
 - Travellers to Belize will be required to provide a negative COVID-19 PCR test obtained no more than 72 hours prior to arrival, download the Belize Health App and undergo health screening on arrival.
- Belize's borders are closed until further notice.

BENIN

Entry Restrictions

- Limited international air travel has resumed.
- All arrivals are subject to a rapid Diagnostic Test and a PCR test at their own expense.

BERMUDA

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 25 August, residents without a negative pre-departure COVID-19 PCR test result must quarantine until they receive results from their day 8 COVID-19 PCR test.
- Foreign national **residents** and **visitors** can enter Bermuda.
 - Pre-departure, **visitors and residents** must, within 48 hours of departure, complete the Bermuda travel authorisation application form online which gathers important information for the island's health and immigration officials; a \$75 fee per traveller is required, which includes the cost of all COVID-19 testing in Bermuda. Each passenger must complete a form, regardless of age.
 - A **visitor**

- **must** take a certified RT-PCR COVID-19 test no more than 7 days before departure and obtain a negative result. This applies to adults and children age 10 years and up. However, for children ages 10 to 17, a saliva test is permitted in place of a RT-PCR test. Children less than 10 years old are exempt.
- Must consent to having a COVID-19 test on arrival and on days 4, 8 and 14 of their visit, and to quarantine in their accommodation until they receive a negative arrival test result.
- **A resident**
 - **is strongly advised** to take a certified RT-PCR COVID-19 test no more than 7 days before departure and obtain a negative result. **If not**, they can either (1) take an arrival test, quarantine for 4 days and can be released with a negative day-4 test; or (2) quarantine for at least 14 days.
- If a traveller becomes COVID-19 positive, is a close contact of a positive person, is symptomatic, or if a traveller is clinically diagnosed at any point, they will be subject to public health (COVID-19) regulations and will be quarantined or isolated, as appropriate, at their accommodation for up to 14 days. Each property will provide guidance on its parameters for handling positive cases, including, in many instances, offering a quarantine room at the same property at no additional cost for rate-paying guests.
- Anyone who becomes COVID-19 positive, or whom health authorities believe could be positive, will be fitted with an Aqua electronic bracelet to assist with isolation/quarantine.

BOLIVIA

Entry Restrictions

- The suspension of international flights into and out of Bolivia continues.
- All borders remain closed until further notice.
- Effective 18 August, travellers exempted from the border closure (returning Bolivian citizens and residents, diplomats, members of international organisations, technical specialists and drivers of international cargo) are no longer subject to quarantine but must present a COVID-19 PCR test result issued no more than 7 days previous to arrival.

Immigration Restrictions

- All immigration offices in Bolivia are operating limited services and opening hours.

BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA

Entry Restrictions

- Entry is suspended for all except:
 - nationals and residents of Bosnia & Herzegovina;
 - nationals of Croatia, Montenegro and Serbia;
 - spouses and children of nationals of Bosnia & Herzegovina;

- nationals and residents of, and holders of multiple-entry Schengen visas issued by, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland (Rep.), Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland. They must have a certificate with a negative Coronavirus (COVID-19) test result issued at most 48 hours before departure;
- passengers returning via Bosnia & Herzegovina to their country of residence. They must have a permit issued by the competent authority of Bosnia and Herzegovina;
- passengers travelling on business with an invitation issued by a company based in Bosnia & Herzegovina. They must have a certificate with a negative Coronavirus (COVID-19) test result issued at most 48 hours before arrival.

BOTSWANA

Entry Restrictions

- All borders remain closed and international flights suspended. Any citizen or resident returning to Botswana will be quarantined for 14 days.

Immigration Restrictions

- The Labour Department has reopened, so any extension applications required are now possible. Any foreign national holding a visa that will expire soon can now apply for extension and maintain valid legal status within Botswana.

BRAZIL

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 26 August, the airports which are not permitted to run international flights are now *Mato Grosso do Sul; Goiás; Roraima; Rondônia; Rio Grande do Sul; and Tocantins*.
- Effective 26 August, the health insurance that must be presented by a foreign passenger entering for a short stay of up to ninety days must meet the following requirements:
 - Validity period corresponding to the scheduled period of the trip;
 - Minimum coverage of BRL 30,000;
 - Must be in Portuguese or English;
 - Must be presented to the transport company, before boarding, under penalty of being denied entry to Brazil by the immigration authority.
- Effective 26 August, the following entry restrictions are in place:
 - Entry by air is permitted for up to 90 days for foreign travellers of any nationality who meet immigration requirements, including holding an entry visa if necessary.
 - Travellers must present proof of a health insurance policy valid in Brazil and covering the whole trip.

- Flights into six airports are suspended (Mato Grosso do Sul; Goiás; Roraima; Rondônia; Rio Grande do Sul; and Tocantins).
- Entry by land, sea or waterway remains suspended for foreign travellers of any nationality.
- This entry restriction does not apply to Brazilian citizens; permanent or temporary foreign residents of Brazil (who have registered with the Federal Police); foreign employees of the Brazilian government or international organisations; foreign national spouse, partner, child, parent or guardian of a Brazilian citizen; passengers in international transit (not leaving the airport transit zone) to a destination country that will admit them; foreign nationals authorised to enter Brazil by the Brazilian Government in the public interest; or foreign national holders of RNM (Foreign ID card).
- These entry restrictions do not prevent the entry by air or waterway of maritime crew to exercise specific functions aboard a vessel or platform operating in Brazilian waters, provided that they carry an entry visa as required.
- These entry restrictions do not prevent the disembarkation, authorized by the Federal Police, of maritime crew members whose entry is required by the maritime agent to the Federal Police, for medical assistance or for connection with a flight to their country of origin, or the termination of an employment contract. Responsibility for expenses must be agreed and signed by the relevant maritime agent, with the prior consent of the local health authorities and on presentation of the corresponding air tickets.
- There are entry restrictions for foreign nationals coming from Venezuela.

Immigration Restrictions

- The Federal Police has restricted services nationally. Immigration registration and residence permits, CRNM, DRNM and passport delivery requests will only be accepted in urgent cases. Passport issuance requests will only proceed for applicants with proof of travel in the next 30 days. Naturalization requests will not be processed.
- The General Coordination of Labour Immigration has resumed its procedural deadlines for immigration processes.
- Residence Permits are accepted and approved in regular processing times. Publishing on the National Gazette is also resumed.

Immigration Concessions

- The deadlines for visitors are suspended. Visitors whose status expires will not be penalized. Counting will resume at the end of the public health emergency situation. Except in cases that have already expired, the assessment will be made when the visitor leaves the country.
- Document expiry dates are suspended. Immigrants with expired immigration documents will not be penalized.

BRUNEI

Entry Restrictions

- Entry is permitted for residents of **Singapore** for short-term essential business and official purposes via a **Reciprocal Green Lane (RGL)**.
 - Travellers of any nationality, resident in Singapore, who have remained in Singapore for at least 14 days prior to departure for Brunei, must be sponsored by a Brunei government agency or Brunei-based company, which will file an application on behalf of the traveller on the Entry Travel Pass website, supported by a signed letter of undertaking, the traveller's 14-day controlled itinerary and endorsements from the authority relevant to the sector in which the company operates.
 - **Pre-departure from Singapore**, the approved Entry Travel Pass traveller will have to take a COVID-19 PCR test within 72 hours prior to departure.
 - **On the day after arrival in Brunei**, the travellers will undertake a COVID-19 PCR test at their own expense and remain in accommodation for 1 or 2 days until they receive their test results. They will then have to self-report their health condition via the Bru Health app and stick to their controlled itinerary for the first 14 days of their stay. §
- Entry is suspended for all foreign nationals, including for transit, by air, land or sea.
- Foreign nationals who have previously been granted visas but are outside Brunei are to delay travel to Brunei.
- All arrivals in Brunei are subject to 14-day quarantine at designated facilities and must pay BND 1000 for COVID-19 testing and quarantine accommodation.
- Citizens and residents of Brunei must apply online for approval from the Prime Minister's Office to leave the country. This policy does not apply to visitors without Brunei ID cards.

Immigration Restrictions

- All immigration offices remain closed and visa/permit processing is suspended.

BULGARIA

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 31 August, entry is permitted for travellers arriving from Turkey, Serbia, and Belarus without presenting proof of a negative COVID-19 PCR test.
- Effective 11 August, entry is permitted for travellers arriving from the United Arab Emirates, without presenting proof of a negative COVID-19 PCR test.
- Effective 31 July, entry is permitted for travellers arriving from Jordan and Ukraine, without presenting proof of a negative COVID-19 PCR test.
- Effective 28 July, entry is permitted for tourists from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Israel, Kosovo, Kuwait, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia. Proof of a negative COVID-19 test taken no more than 72 hours prior to arrival, is required.
- Entry remains suspended for third-country nationals coming from elsewhere, except citizens of Turkey travelling to their home country.
- The PCR test and 14-day quarantine period no longer apply to arrivals from Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, United Kingdom **plus** Iceland, Norway, Liechtenstein, Switzerland, Andorra, Monaco, San Marino and

Vatican, **plus** Australia, Canada, Georgia, Japan, Jordan, New Zealand, Rwanda, South Korea, Thailand, Tunisia, Ukraine and Uruguay.

- However, the 14-day quarantine and the requirement to submit negative PCR test results taken no more than 72 hours prior to entry still applies to arrivals from Sweden and Portugal and to all other third countries
- Tourists not subject to quarantine must submit to health inspectors at the border a declaration regarding observation of the Ministry of Health's anti-epidemic measures and acknowledgement of the risks of COVID-19.

Immigration Concessions

- The terms of validity of most types of residence permits which expire between 1 January 2020 and 31 October 2020, are extended by 6 months.
- If a third-country national fails to submit a temporary residence permit renewal application within the statutory 14 days prior to the permit's expiry date, their residence will not be deemed interrupted for the duration of the state of emergency if and when the third-country national applies for long-term or permanent residence.
- Any absence of a long-term or permanent residence permit holder from the territory of the EU member states for the duration of the state of emergency will not count towards the 12 months of permitted absence (which, if exceeded could lead to permit annulment).
- If a third-country national's current temporary residence permit expires during the state of emergency, they can enter Bulgaria without a visa within 14 days of the end of the state of emergency.

BURKINA FASO

Entry Restrictions

- International flights are set to resume from 1 August.
- All land border crossing points remain closed.

BURUNDI

Entry Restrictions

- International commercial flights at Mechior Ndadaye International Airport are suspended indefinitely.
- Visa issuance is suspended, and anyone arriving from a country affected by the virus will be placed in compulsory quarantine for 14 days.
- All travellers arriving from abroad will be required to present a negative COVID-19 test certificate issued within the previous 72 hours.

CAMBODIA

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 1 August, Cambodia will temporarily ban flights from Malaysia and Indonesia.
- Effective 22 June, cross-border travel with Vietnam for non-tourism purposes has resumed.
- Until further notice, visa exemption and the issuance of tourist visa, e-visa and visa on arrival is suspended for all foreign nationals.
- Entry for foreign nationals is only possible with a consular visa issued abroad.
- Visa applicants must provide a medical certificate issued by a competent health authority from their country no more than 72 hours prior to the date of travel to certify that they have not tested positive for COVID-19. Additionally, the individual will need to submit proof that their insurance policy has a minimum medical coverage of no less than USD 50,000 throughout the duration of their intended stay in Cambodia. This does not apply to holders of diplomatic or official visas.
- All arrivals will be subject to a health screening and risk assessment upon arrival and will also be subject to mandatory 14-day isolation or quarantine.
- The borders with Laos and Thailand are closed.
- Entry by air, sea and land is suspended until further notice for travellers who have visited certain countries in the previous 14 days.
- Authorities will permit travellers who test negative to self-quarantine; inbound foreign nationals will have to pay a USD 3,000 deposit to cover the costs, including USD 100 for the COVID-19 testing and USD 30 for a certificate stating they do not carry the virus.

CAMEROON

Entry Restrictions

- All land, sea and air borders are closed and all international passenger flights suspended.

CANADA

Entry Restrictions

- The suspension of non-essential entry for **foreign travellers who arrive from a country other than the United States** is extended until 30 September 2020.
 - Exemptions exist for:
 - Immediate family members of Canadian citizens and permanent residents. if entering to be with an immediate family member for a period of at least 15 days. Immediate family members here include spouse or common-law partner; dependent child of the person or of their spouse or common-law partner; dependent child of a dependent child; parent or step-parent of the person or of their spouse of common-law partner; guardian or tutor.
 - Certain essential and emergency service workers and transport crew members.
 - Temporary foreign workers currently living in Canada with a valid work permit;

- Temporary foreign workers coming to work in Canada for the first time to begin work, with a valid work permit or work permit approval letter and proof of employment at an operating Canadian business.
 - All discretionary/optional entry remains prohibited.
 - Immediate family members of temporary residents in Canada, such as those on a student or work visa, cannot enter Canada.
 - Foreign nationals arriving from a country other than the United States must prove that they are listed as being exempted from travel restrictions (including immediate family members); that they entering for an essential purpose; that they are not presenting signs or symptoms of COVID-19; and that they have a plan to quarantine for 14 days, unless exempted.
- The suspension of non-essential entry for **foreign travellers who arrive from the United States** is extended until 21 September 2020.
 - Entry may be permitted for:
 - Temporary foreign workers currently living in Canada with a valid work permit;
 - Temporary foreign workers coming to work in Canada for the first time to begin work, with a valid work permit or work permit approval letter and proof of employment at an operating Canadian business.
 - Temporary foreign workers eligible to apply for a work permit at a port of entry and with proof of employment at an operating Canadian business.
 - All discretionary/optional entry remains prohibited.
 - Foreign nationals arriving from the United States must prove that they are entering for an essential purpose; that they are not presenting signs or symptoms of COVID-19; and that they have a plan to quarantine for 14 days, unless exempted.
- Mandatory 14-day quarantine for all travellers entering Canada (other than for some essential services) is extended until at least 30 September.
- The Canadian government's ArriveCAN app, available for iOS, Android and the web, expedites port of entry processing by allowing travellers to submit information in support of their permitted purpose of travel within 48 hours before arrival, and to log their quarantine compliance.
- Canada visa centres in several cities have resumed operations, often with limited services / opening hours.
- A new policy temporarily exempts foreign workers in certain sectors, namely the agriculture, agri-food, health-care sectors and truck drivers, from having to give their biometrics before coming to Canada if the biometrics collection site closest to them is closed. The foreign worker must have a quarantine plan including a place to stay where they will not have contact with vulnerable individuals for 14 days after arrival. On arrival, they may be asked to give biometrics at a POE in Canada. They will also be assessed to ensure that they are coming for an essential purpose – for example, they have a letter of introduction for a work permit and a valid job offer and can work once they enter and complete their quarantine.
- If the visa application centres or other biometrics collection sites in the applicant's country or region are still closed, and their extension to give biometrics is ending, they won't have to give biometrics until the biometrics collection sites reopen. This applies, even if the biometric instruction letter (BIL) says that the deadline is 30 or 90 days. No application in progress will be closed or refused because of documents that are missing due to COVID-19. Applicants should keep checking online to see when the VACs and other biometrics collection sites start to reopen.

Once they are able, they should complete the steps, including making an appointment to give biometrics, as soon as possible to avoid delays.

- No foreign national may enter Canada from the United States if they have been in a country other than the United States (or Canada) in the 14 days prior to seeking entry.
- Foreign nationals seeking to come to Canada from anywhere other than the US will need a work permit or approval letter before seeking to travel. An approved LMIA or IMWU opinion does not permit a foreign national to travel.
- Spouses with work permits and children with study permits should be allowed to accompany a foreign worker. Those on visitor records only will require a letter from a consular officer to allow for travel.
- Anyone showing symptoms of COVID-19 will not be allowed to board planes flying to Canada.
- Only four Canadian airports – Montreal, Toronto, Calgary and Vancouver will accept international flights from 18 March. Domestic flights and flights from USA, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Saint Pierre and Miquelon will not be impacted.
- Ports of Entry remain open, but service hours at various land border crossings have been reduced.
- Canadian embassies, high commissions and consulates are operating but with delays. However, most Visa Application Centers are closed, and the processing of biometrics therefore on hold. The Canadian government may allow extra time for the submission of biometrics.

Immigration Restrictions

- New work permit applications are permitted in various circumstances:
 - For visa-exempt foreign nationals entering Canada from the United States (not only US citizens or permanent residents), work permits can still be sought essentially as they were pre-COVID. Information should be provided to stress the importance of the work in Canada).
 - For those seeking work permits from any country other than the United States, an application must be online, and only those relating to work in 'essential services' will be processed, based on procedures in place. Essential services are defined to include work in sectors including health, food, transportation, utilities, manufacturing and others.
- The government has issued additional guidelines for employers of foreign workers in light of the COVID-19 situation. These include that employers comply with all applicable requirements vis-à-vis the employee (salary, etc.) from time of arrival, not conclusion of the 14-day self-isolation period.
- Flagpoling (exiting Canada briefly for the purpose of making an immigration application upon re-entry) is not advisable at this time.
- Non-essential work permits will not be issued at the border.
- Immediate family members who intend to reunite with a family member currently in Canada need written authorization from the government of Canada.

Immigration Concessions

- Foreign national visitors in Canada who arrived in Canada before 24 August 2020, have a job offer and apply for an employer-specific work permit no later than 31 March 2021 can now, if the work permit is approved, receive the permit without having to leave the country.

- Prior to this temporary policy change, a person applying as a temporary resident would usually need to apply for their initial work permit before they came to Canada. If they were already in Canada with visitor status when they were approved for a work permit, they would need to leave Canada and return before their work permit was issued to them.
- Any type of visitor who meets the criteria is eligible to apply under this new public policy, including super visa holders, business visitors and those who entered Canada through a Global Skills Strategy work permit exemption.
- Foreign nationals who arrive in Canada as visitors after August 24, 2020, are not eligible under the public policy.
- Applicants who meet these criteria and who had a valid work permit in the past 12 months can begin working for their new employer before their work permit application has been fully approved.
- Foreign nationals who were formerly workers, students and visitors in Canada but whose immigration status expired after 30 January 2020, and who remained in Canada, now have until 31 December 2020 to restore their status (instead of 90 days as previously).
 - Applicants for restoration must meet the requirements for the type of status and authorisation they are applying to restore.
 - Former work-permit holders who have applied to restore their status are now permitted to work pending a decision, provided they have a job offer, supported by a Labour Market Impact Assessment (LMIA) and that they notify IRCC through the new process established for this purpose (previously this was not permitted).
- Foreign workers already in Canada with a valid immigration status, an existing work permit or work permit exemption and a new job offer backed by a valid Labour Market Impact Assessment (LMIA) can get approval to start work while their work permit application is being processed. The applicant must send an electronic request to IRCC, which will be reviewed in 10 days and, if approved, will permit them to start working. This program does not apply to business visitors or those who are work permit-exempt for a short-term assignment under on the Global Skills Strategy.
- Ordinary rules apply for those seeking to extend before current work permit expiry (implied status).
- Foreign workers already in Canada whose status has been expired more than 90 days can seek a temporary resident permit, or a change of status, and will need to explain the need to remain.
- The timeframe for completion of biometrics is extended to 90 days instead of the normal 30 days (Service Canada has temporarily stopped collecting biometrics).
- Canadian citizenship applicants who are unable to travel to Canada can reschedule their knowledge tests, retests, interviews, hearings or Oaths of Citizenship for a later date.
- Permanent resident visa holders can request an extension of their Confirmation of Permanent Residence (COPR) if their visa will expire within the next 90 days and they are unable to travel to Canada. No application in progress will be stopped. applicants have 90 days to comply with document request and procedural requests. Landing appointments will be held by telephone.
- Applicants for visitor visas, work permits, study permits or permanent residence who cannot complete the next steps in their application will be given an automatic extension.
- Visitors, international students and foreign workers whose legal status in Canada will soon end, can apply for an extension, if eligible.

CAPE VERDE

Entry Restrictions

- All flights remain suspended until at least August, despite previous plans for services to resume in July.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Entry Restrictions

- Limited international flights have resumed at Bangui airport
- Passengers arriving from a country with local transmission of Coronavirus (COVID-19) are subject to quarantine for 21 days.

CHAD

Entry Restrictions

- International flights have resumed.
- On arrival, all travellers are required to present a negative COVID-19 test dated no more than 72 hours prior to arrival.
- Travellers from or who have transited through an affected country are subject to a mandatory 14-day quarantine.

CHILE

Entry Restrictions

- The closure of all land, sea and air borders is extended until 27 September for all but nationals and residents of Chile.
- Work and Residence Visas (initial applications) are now available for the following countries: Argentina, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, New Zealand, South Korea, Spain, the United Kingdom, and the United States.
- Some Chilean consulates have begun to accept visa applications.
- The Chilean authorities continue to receive visa applications only online. It should be noted that the applicant must be in Chile for this online process to be started.
- All arrivals from abroad, of any nationality, are subject to a mandatory quarantine.
- A completed *passenger information form* must be submitted prior to departure, and a digital “sanitary passport” will be issued.

Immigration Restrictions

- The Migration Department has suspended all in-person services. Payments, visa stamps and visa renewals (except Mercosur visas) are available online.

Immigration Concessions

- Online Permanent Residence applications are now available for citizens of the following countries: Brazil, China, Cuba, Haiti, and Peru. Previously, these nationalities were required to apply in-person. Note that in-person validation of supporting documents will still be required as of 30 September.
- The time allowed to inform the Migration Department about a change of employer is extended to 180 days from the ending date of the contract.
- Foreign nationals' ID cards which expired in 2019 are automatically extended until 31 December 2020. Foreign nationals' ID cards which have expired or will expire in 2020 are extended for one year from the expiration date. Foreign nationals who have recently requested a change of status or a visa extension must have their immigration status certified through the vouchers provided by the Department of Immigration and Migration or by a Provincial Government.

CHINA

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 3 September, flights to **Beijing** from Austria, Cambodia, Canada, Denmark, Greece, Pakistan, Sweden, Thailand are permitted to land directly in Beijing.
 - Since 23 March, all flights to Beijing have been first diverted to a "first entry point" airport for initial health screening of passengers.
- All travellers flying from Singapore to China are required to take a COVID-19 nucleic acid test (NAT) within three days before boarding and apply for a certified Health Declaration Form or HS Health Code.
 - **NOTE: Effective 11 September.**
 - Travellers flying directly from Singapore to China (with no transit/stops in other countries) can board their flight with two hard copies of the standardised NAT test certificate approved by the Chinese embassy and **do not need to apply for a HS Health Code or Health Declaration Form.**
 - The NAT Certificate issued must be in the same format as any one of the three memos listed and approved by the Chinese Embassy (please refer to Annex 1 [here](#)).
 - Foreign national passengers who hold a non-standard NAT Certificate must complete and sign a Health Declaration Form.
 - They should send a scanned copy of the signed form, together with the NAT test certificate (with negative result) and a photocopy of the bio-page of the passport to the Chinese Embassy at the following email addresses: chinaemb.sg@gmail.com with "HS + passenger name + departure date (YYYY/MM/DD)" as subject line of the email.
 - The certified Health Declaration Form with the official seal of the embassy will be emailed back to the passenger (in at least one working day).
 - Chinese national travellers who hold a non-standard NAT Certificate should apply for a Health Code via WeChat.
 - Details on the health code application process can be found at: https://hr.cs.mfa.gov.cn/help_two/help-two/hs.html.

- The test can be taken at any medical institution listed on the website of the Ministry of Health in Singapore and has a turnaround time of around 48 hours. Travellers can write to the following agencies for assistance:
 - MTI (COVID_SafeTravelEnquiries@mti.gov.sg) for travel related to essential business and employment;
 - MOM (www.mom.gov.sg/feedback) for travel by individuals with MOM-issued Work Permit, S Pass, and Special Pass;
 - MOH (MOH_QSM@moh.gov.sg) for travel related to education, compassionate reasons, or otherwise.
- All travellers should ensure that they have sufficient time to arrange for the test and to receive the results, in time for their departing flight.
- The passenger must present the printed, certified health certificate (or health code), within the validity period of the NAT test certificate, during check in or before boarding and is advised to also to carry any visa to China, or Green/Fast Lane Letter of Invitation (where applicable).
- Effective 24 August, the Chinese authorities have expanded the policy of allowing visa applications without a letter of invitation (LOI or “PU Letter”) to holders of valid residence permits (for work, family reunion or personal purposes) who are nationals of 12 Asian countries (*Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor Leste and Vietnam*).
- The Chinese authorities have confirmed that holders of valid residence permits (including for work, family reunion, or personal purpose) who are nationals of certain countries are now able to apply for a visa at a Chinese embassy or consulate in these countries without a letter of invitation (LOI or “PU Letter”).
 - The new policy now applies to nationals of *Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, the Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom*; and to nationals of *Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor Leste and Vietnam*.
- Effective immediately, travellers arriving from the following countries are required to obtain COVID-19 negative certificates within five days before boarding:
 - Russia, Egypt, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Saudi Arabia, Chad (from 1 August) and Iran (from 4 August).
 - The tests should be taken at institutions located at the place of departure and designated or recognised by relevant Chinese consulates or embassies.
 - Passengers should apply for green health codes with an “HS” mark or health declaration forms by presenting COVID-19 negative certificates. Airlines are responsible for checking the health codes or health declaration forms of the passengers before boarding.
- Effective 27 July, all inbound passengers arriving in **Shanghai** from overseas can spend half of their quarantine time at home, if certain conditions are met.
 - All inbound passengers to **Shanghai** will be required to undergo nucleic acid tests before being sent to 14-day quarantine at a designated facility, or into a medical facility if the result is positive.
 - For those who have residence in Shanghai, live apart from family members who do not have to be quarantined, or live with people who agree to be quarantined along with them, they apply to be sent home to continue their quarantine on the eighth day if their nucleic tests on the fifth day are negative.

- On the eighth day, qualifying persons will be transported directly from the designated quarantine facility to their homes by the authorities.
- Those transferring to Jiangsu, Zhejiang and Anhui provinces will also be transported to their destinations by the relevant authorities on the eighth day, if their nucleic tests on the fifth day are negative.
- Conditional home quarantine is still available for senior citizens, underage people, pregnant and breastfeeding women, people with restricted mobility, those caring for family members and those with certain diseases.
- Effective immediately, the Civil Aviation Administration of China is requiring all travellers entering China to fulfill the following requirements prior to their departure to China:
 - **All nationalities:** must provide a negative nucleic acid COVID-19 test report issued within 5 days of departure. The test must be issued from a recognized medical organization/clinic as designated by the relevant Chinese Embassy/Consulate.
 - **Foreign nationals:** must obtain a Health Declaration from the relevant Chinese Embassy/Consulate by presenting a negative COVID-19 test report.
 - **Chinese citizens:** must upload a negative COVID-19 test report to the health code portal (international version) prior to their travel. They will obtain a health code upon upload.
- Effective 8 June, 95 **foreign airlines** are permitted to resume one flight per week on a route they were already licenced to operate prior to the flight ban. Airlines that successfully screen out positive COVID-19 cases prior to arrival in China for three consecutive weeks will be permitted to operate a second weekly flight. Airlines that operate a flight with five or more positive cases will be suspended from operating flights for a week, and flights with ten or more cases will see the airline suspended for four weeks. The Civil Aviation Administration of China had previously authorized the resumption of charter flights from 8 countries (Singapore, Japan, the UK, Germany, France, Italy, Switzerland and South Korea).
- Residents of Singapore, South Korea and Germany qualifying for an M visa invitation letter for necessary and urgent economic, trade, scientific or technological activities may now qualify for a **fast-track route**, exempting them from the 14-day quarantine requirement in certain provinces and cities (Chongqing, Guangdong, Jiangsu, Shanghai, Tianjin and Zhejiang). The applicant needs to obtain negative COVID-19 test results in their home country after their M visa is issued and no more than three days before travelling. On arrival, they are tested again and quarantined for 1-2 days. The local district government in China will assign a designated car and driver to transport the foreign national during at least their first 14 days in China and may pay some other costs. Travellers who need to travel between the fast lane regions in China within the first 14 days upon arrival must, through the host company or government agency, obtain in advance the approval of the provincial/municipal government of the next destination. Travellers will only be allowed to travel outside the six fast lane regions after staying in the fast lane region(s) for 14 days.
- Companies in China are allowed to apply for an M visa **invitation letter** (“PU Letter”), for a maximum stay of 180 days, for essential foreign workers performing necessary and urgent economic, trade, scientific or technological activities. If the invitation letter is approved and issued (under limited circumstances), the foreign national can apply for an M visa at the relevant Chinese consulate. Please contact Newland Chase for a case-specific consultation.
- **Entry to China is suspended** for all foreign nationals, including holders of valid visas, residence permits and APEC Business Travel Cards. All visa waiver programs

are suspended. Entry with diplomatic, service, courtesy or C visas will not be affected. Foreign nationals coming to China for necessary economic, trade, scientific or technological activities or out of emergency humanitarian needs may apply for visas at Chinese embassies or consulates. Entry by foreign nationals with visas issued after the announcement on 26 March will not be affected.

- All incoming international flights to **Beijing** will first land at one of 16 “first entry point” airports (Chengdu, Changsha, Hefei, Lanzhou, Tianjin, Taiyuan, Hohhot, Shijiazhuang, Jinan, Qingdao, Nanjing, Shenyang, Dalian, Zhengzhou, Xi'an or Wuhan) where passengers will be screened. Those with fever or other respiratory symptoms will be sent to local hospitals for medical treatment. Those categorized as close contacts or with infection risks after epidemiological investigation will be taken to local sites for a 14-day quarantine. Passengers who are cleared will then be permitted to re-board the plane, which will take them on to Beijing.
- On arrival in **Beijing**, passengers will have their health checked again. and then be sent to the New China International Exhibition Centre for processing. Those who live in Beijing will be handed over to working groups from their home district stationed at the centre and then be sent to designated sites for a 14-day quarantine. Those who do not live in Beijing will be handed over to working groups from their home provinces, autonomous regions or municipalities. The working groups will arrange group trips for them to go home on planes or trains. After arriving at their home destination, they will also be quarantined for 14 days.
- Given that the process may take a long time, immigration authorities remind travellers of the possible need to make changes in their flights transferring at **Beijing**. Transfer passengers are advised to take into consideration the time needed for completing the entry procedures and health check-ups. In light of the pandemic situation overseas, immigration authorities also require all inbound travellers to truthfully report information including contact persons, destination addresses and personal contact information. Entry will be denied to those who do not meet the requirements or fail to truthfully fill in their health declaration forms or honestly answer inquiries from the border inspection authorities.
- Travellers arriving in **Guangdong** from abroad, regardless of nationality (including Chinese citizens), are subject to a 14-day quarantine at home or at a designated place. The quarantine requirement has been lifted for mainland residents returning to Guangdong province from Macau via Zhuhai.

Immigration Restrictions

- Effective immediately, Shanghai SAFEA has made permanent the suspension of the submission of physical documents for work permit applications (including initial, renewal, transfer, and cancellation).
 - The online process with commitments from Chinese employers has been fully implemented, and companies are exempt from submitting paper documents at the authority.
 - Processing times can be reduced by two working days.
 - Category B work permits can now be granted for up to two years, provided all the requirements are met.
 - Shanghai SAFEA has also simplified the required application documents to facilitate a change of employer - the new employer does not need to submit a certificate of no criminal record, certificate of physical examination, or work qualification certificate.

- Labour authorities have suspended the submission of physical documents for work permit applications (including initial, renewal, transfer, and cancellation). Instead, all applications will be processed online only during this period, with a commitment letter provided by the Chinese employer. The commitment letter should affirm the authenticity and validity of their online submission and original documents should be kept for further check.
- Medical authorities have the discretionary power to permit or refuse foreign nationals to undergo a medical examination based on their entry, residence, travel and other documents.

Immigration Concessions

- Chinese immigration authorities will exempt foreign nationals whose temporary visas or residence permits expire during this period of disruption from penalties, or impose lighter penalties, depending on the circumstances. Newland Chase's team in China is available to provide guidance and assistance with renewals and de-registration. Holders of valid endorsements to Hong Kong, Macao or Taiwan who are affected by the epidemic and fail to enter the above places within the validity period can re-apply for certificates of the same type and validity period for free when the outbreak is over.
- In **Shanghai**, high-level foreign talents over the age of 65 are exempted from submitting the insurance policy, commitment on insurance and commitment letter from tri-parties while applying for the work permit in Shanghai;
- The processing times for work permit cancellation in Shanghai will be reduced from 10 working days to 3 working days.
- In **Shanghai**, E-signature on employment termination letter or emails as well as WeChat messages can be accepted as evidence in support of the termination of employment relationship between the Chinese employer and foreign employee during the epidemic control period.
- While renewing the work permit in **Shanghai**, the authority accepts the tax payment evidence uploaded online by the Chinese employer. The foreign employee (who made the commitment on salary/ IIT before) does not need to go to the tax authority to get a printout of their tax payment record, which was previously required by the SAFEA authority.
- In **Shanghai**, the requirements on the salary/ IIT commitment will be relaxed to a reasonable extent while foreign employees (who made the above commitment earlier) renew their work permit during the epidemic control period (provisionally from February to April).
- Foreign employees in **Shanghai** are allowed to submit their online application for work permit renewal before its expiry date during this epidemic control period. Previously, such a renewal application shall be submitted online 30 days before the expiry date.
- Foreign nationals in **Shanghai** whose visas or residence permits have expired and who are not able to exit China during the epidemic control period, can have their visas or residence permits extended automatically for another two months (by NIA). They are allowed to apply for a work permit during the above extended period.
- In **Beijing**, the immigration authorities are asking all foreign nationals and Chinese citizens to hold off submitting their visa/stay/residence permit applications in person if it is not urgent. Those who require urgent assistance with applications are encouraged to make appointment reservations in advance. **Beijing** has adopted an

online submission and commitment letter process for work permit renewals and cancelations.

- In **Shenzhen**, the immigration authorities have opened green channels for expedited applications for emergencies and urgent requests. The authorities have also implemented other convenient measures to facilitate visa applications for those remaining in Shenzhen during this outbreak period.

COLOMBIA

Entry Restrictions

- On 19 September, international flights will resume between Cartagena airport and the United States. From 21 September, international flights will gradually resume between other airports in Colombia and, initially, Bolivia, Brazil, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico and the United States. All passengers must:
 - register for the CheckMig application at least one hour and up to 24 hours in advance of travel via the website of Migración Colombia;
 - complete a pre-check form via the “CheckMig” application;
 - present a negative result of a PCR test taken within 96 hours prior to departure. Passengers with COVID-19 symptoms will not be allowed to board.
- Submission of all visa applications at consulates is suspended. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs will accept visa applications for processing and electronic approval but will not make visa stamps in the passport. The Ministry of Foreign Relations will not process visa applications from foreign nationals who are outside Colombian territory.

Immigration Restrictions

- Effective 21 September, Migración Colombia has reactivated the following services, available by prior appointment only, with a transition period until 15 December:
 - Issuance of Foreigners’ ID Card and duplicates;
 - Foreign Registration for both minors and adults;
 - Certificates of Migratory Movement;
 - Certificate of Migratory Movement and Nationality;
 - Safe conduct SC-1 and SC-2.
 - Special Permit of Permanence for the Promotion of Formalization (PEP-FF).
 - Temporary Stay Permits (PTP) for extensions of stay in the national territory and for category change.
- Effective 21 September, Migración Colombia has resumed the procedural terms for administrative sanctions.
- Foreign nationals whose visa expires will have up to one month from 21 September to request safe conduct and resolve their immigration status.
- The term of stay will be resumed for foreign nationals holding entry and stay permits which have been suspended due to the health emergency.
- Foreign citizens who are in the country with entry and stay permits, whose expiration occurred during the health emergency, will have up to one more month from 1 October to resolve their immigration status.
- Effective 19 September:

- The cancellation terms for the special PEP stay permit have resumed.
 - Automatic Migration and BIOMIG services have resumed.
- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has been requesting additional documentation in support of visa applications. due to the COVID pandemic, including (but not limited to):
 - Undergraduate diploma, duly apostilled. In case the document is in another language than Spanish, it must be officially translated and duly legalized in Colombia;
 - International health insurance in which an amount of coverage of not less than \$70,000 dollars is evidenced;
 - Previous labour certifications;
 - Social Security forms.

Immigration Concessions

- Entry and stay permits that expire during the health emergency period (until 30 November) will be automatically extended until one month after the end of this period.
- Migración Colombia will not impose penalties on foreign nationals who cannot carry out visa registration or ID card application because of self-isolation.
- Migración Colombia will suspend the deadlines for cancelling special stay permits (PEP), and suspend expiry of the authorized stay for holders of entry and stay permits for “other activities” (POA), other than for Shore Pass and maritime or river crew.

CONGO-BRAZAVILLE

Entry Restrictions

- Land, sea and air borders are closed and all international flights are suspended.

COSTA RICA

Entry Restrictions

- The list of **approved countries** from which international visitors are permitted to enter Costa Rica now includes the following:
 - **The EU, Schengen, the microstates and the UK:** for citizens and residents of those countries.
 - **Canada:** for citizens and residents of Canada and for citizens and residents of the EU, Schengen and the UK in transit.
 - **Uruguay:** for citizens and residents of Uruguay.
 - **China, Japan, Singapore, South Korea and Thailand:** for citizens and residents of those countries.
 - **Australia and New Zealand:** for citizens and residents of those countries.
 - **From 1 September. United States:** for citizens and residents of Connecticut, Maine, Maryland, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Vermont, Virginia and Washington DC.

- **From 15 September. United States:** for citizens and residents of Arizona, Colorado, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Mexico, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Washington and Wyoming.
 - **From 1 October. United States:** for citizens and residents of California.
- Other exemptions to the suspension of entry include foreign nationals who exited Costa Rica before 24 March with a valid temporary or permanent residence, short-stay visa or special category visa; and foreign nationals who have submitted applications for temporary or permanent residence, short-stay visas or special category visas. Foreign nationals should travel with their valid ID cards or their application filing receipt.
- **Tourist/business visitors** and foreign nationals with pending immigration applications, who have been in the **approved countries** for at least the previous 14 days, must provide:
 - A completed “*Health Pass*”;
 - A negative result of a COVID-19 PCR test taken up to 72 hours before departure;
 - Insurance covering COVID-19 medical assistance and accommodation.
 - A round-trip or onward flight ticket
 - (Arrivals from the United States only) A driving licence to prove they live in one of the permitted six states. This is not required for minors travelling with their family.
- **Foreign National Residents:**
 - Can enter from any country;
 - Must undergo self-isolation for 14 days upon entry, although in practice, at the discretion of the authorities, this may be waived if the traveller arrives from one of the authorized countries and presents a negative result of a COVID-19 PCR test taken up to 72 hours before departure.
 - DIMEX card.
- **Foreign national relatives of Costa Rican nationals or residents:**
 - Can enter from any country;
 - The presence of the Costa Rican national or resident is not required;
 - Birth or marriage certificates proving the qualifying relationship (parents of minor Costa Rican or resident children, minor children of Costa Rican nationals or residents, or children of legal age with disabilities, spouses of Costa Rican nationals or residents, minor siblings of Costa Rican nationals or residents, or siblings of legal age with disabilities);
 - A round-trip or onward flight ticket;
 - Insurance covering COVID-19 medical assistance and accommodation.
 - A completed Health Pass;
 - Must undergo self-isolation for 14 days upon entry, although in practice, at the discretion of the authorities, this may be waived if the traveller arrives from one of the authorized countries and presents a negative result of a COVID-19 PCR test taken up to 72 hours before departure.
- Foreign nationals who are resident in Costa Rica and who leave or have left the country may be unable to re-enter (depending on entry restrictions) but will not lose their immigration status (unless they try to re-enter through an unauthorized border patrol checkpoint in an irregular condition). This applies to permanent and temporary residence, non-resident stay permits and some special categories. It also applies to

foreign applicants with approved immigration applications who are waiting for their final documentation and for all foreign nationals who are waiting for the approval of their immigration applications. It does not apply to drivers of international air, land, river or sea transport.

- Visa application submission, processing and issuance are suspended at all Costa Rican consulates until 18 September. Visas already stamped cannot be used before 18 September, and their validity will not be counted until that date.

Immigration Restrictions

- The issuance of initial and renewal immigration identification documentation (DIMEX) at the General Immigration Directorate is suspended until at least 18 September. Certain residents can book appointments for initial or renewal DIMEX applications through the Banco de Costa Rica or Correos de Costa Rica.

Immigration Concessions

- The validity of DIMEX residence identity cards that expired after 18 December 2019, and permanent residence DIMEX, will be extended until 30 September.
- After 30 September, foreign residents have three months to extend their DIMEX.
- Non-resident estancia DIMEX that expired after 17 March will be extended until 18 October.
- The legal stay of foreign national tourists who entered after 17 December 2019 will be automatically extended to 18 November.
- The validity of foreign driving licenses of foreign tourists entering after 17 December 2019 is extended until 18 November.
- Overstay penalties due to be imposed on 21 April are postponed until further notice.
- The validity of police clearance, marriage and birth certificates that are due to expire will be automatically extended until 18 September.
- The deadline for submitting additional documents to the immigration authorities is extended until 18 September.

CÔTE D'IVOIRE

Entry Restrictions

- Airports reopen to international flights on 1 July. Arrivals will be subject to health checks and systematic follow-ups during their stay.

CROATIA

Entry Restrictions

- The COVID-19 border crossing regime is extended until at least 30 September.
- All nationals (and their family members) and residents of EU/EEA/Swiss/UK and the microstates can enter Croatia without quarantine or other restrictions.
- Entry is permitted for all other foreign nationals for business, tourism or personal reasons, with the following conditions:

- For business/economic or tourist reasons, passengers must present a negative COVID-19 PCR test result, taken no more than 48 hours before arrival, or undergo a 14-day self-quarantine
- For business/economic reasons, it is necessary to present documentation proving the business reason for the visit to Croatia or the economic interest of Croatia;
- For tourism, it is necessary to present a confirmation of the reservation or paid accommodation in Croatia;
- For urgent personal reasons, a 14-day self-quarantine is required. This can be shortened to seven days if a passenger does a nasal and pharynx swab at his/her expense seven days after entering Croatia and gets a negative COVID-19 PCR test result.
- Passengers in transit may travel through the Republic of Croatia provided that they can prove the possibility of entering the country of destination or the possibility of entering the country through the territory of which they transit. During transit, the shortest traffic routes should be used without undue delay, including the motorway where possible. It is necessary to leave the Republic of Croatia as soon as possible and no longer than 12 hours from the moment of entry.
- Foreign nationals with confirmed permission to enter are advised to announce their visit by completing the online form [here](#) to shorten the waiting time at the border.

CUBA

Entry Restrictions

- Entry is suspended for all foreign nationals and Cuban citizens resident abroad. Returning Cuban citizens will be subject to government quarantine for 14 days.

CURACAO

Entry Restrictions

- Curacao has issued two lists of countries from where entry is permitted.
 - Low risk countries include *Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Bermuda, Bonaire, Cayman Islands, Dominica, Grenada Guadeloupe, Jamaica, Martinique, Montserrat, Saba, Saint Barthelemy, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, St. Eustatius, St. Vincent and Grenadines, Trinidad & Tobago and the British Virgin Islands.*
 - Medium-risk countries (limited to 10,000 visitors at a time) include *Austria, Canada, China, Cuba, Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Finland, France, Greece, Guyana, Hungary, Italy, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Switzerland, Taiwan, Turkey, Turks and Caicos, Uruguay and the United Kingdom.*
 - Flights to countries categorized as low risk or medium risk are authorised – flights to other destination will be reviewed further by the authorities.
 - Travellers from medium-risk countries must provide a negative COVID-19 test on arrival.

- Travellers from locations not on either list are required to request a travel exemption from the Curacao government and are subject to 14-day quarantine on arrival if approved.
- All arrivals must have international medical insurance and must provide contact details, personal information and their travel itinerary.
- Anyone testing positive on the island must quarantine at their own expense.

Immigration Restrictions

- Government offices are open and processing applications.

CYPRUS

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 18 September:
 - **Australia** is moved from Category B to Category A.
 - **Estonia, Georgia** are moved from Category A to Category B;
 - **Czech Republic, Hungary** are moved from Category B to Category C;
 - **Rwanda** is moved from Category C to Category B.
- Travellers from **Category A** countries (currently *Australia, Canada, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, New Zealand, Norway, South Korea and Thailand*) face no restrictions when travelling to Cyprus.
- Travellers from **Category B** countries (currently *Austria, Belgium, China (including Hong Kong), Denmark, Estonia, Georgia, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Poland, Portugal, Rwanda, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, Uruguay, and the Vatican*) are required to undergo a PCR test in the country no more than 72 hours prior to travel.
 - Passengers from Category B countries falling into the following categories may carry out the molecular examination upon arrival in the Republic: a) Cypriot citizens, their foreign national spouses, minor children and parents; b) all legal residents of Cyprus; c) persons entitled to under the Vienna Convention; d) persons, irrespective of nationality whose countries of residence do not provide a laboratory testing service (public or private) to those wishing to travel to Cyprus according to a relevant announcement.
 - It should be noted that the persons concerned will have to cover the cost of the examination themselves, and such persons should remain in self-isolation at home until the examination result is issued.
- Travellers from **Category C** countries (currently *Algeria, Andorra, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, France, Hungary, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, Romania, Serbia, Spain, Tunisia and all other third countries*) are only permitted to enter under certain limited conditions.
 - They can choose whether to undergo a diagnostic test for COVID-19 upon arrival in Cyprus or present a negative RT-PCR test certificate for COVID-19 undertaken at least 72 hours prior to departure.
 - They must also self-isolate for 14 days and undergo a COVID-19 test at their own expense 48 hours before the end of their 14-day self-isolation. The self-isolation period will only end when the result of this test is negative.
- A Special Entry Permit is required, if coming from countries not falling into Categories A or B, for first degree relatives of residents of Cyprus for purposes of

family reunion; and those whose arrival in Cyprus is necessary for the implementation of public projects or for honouring other professional commitments.

- Requests must be submitted online via [CyprusFlightPass](#);
 - If an approval is granted, a password will be to the applicant via email, to be used in applying for the issuance of a CyprusFlightPass;
 - Processing delays are foreseen. Applicants are urged to obtain the necessary permits before making travel arrangements.
- All passengers, regardless of nationality, are required to apply for the [CyprusFlightPass](#) within 24 hours before the departure of their flight.

Immigration Restrictions

- No applications for the issue or renewal of residence permits can be submitted except for cases of extreme urgency.

Immigration Concessions

- Holders of Cyprus immigration permits, regardless of nationality, who were due to arrive in Cyprus after 21 March 2020 may extend their arrival date until 30 November 2020 but should submit a request to the Civil Registry and Migration Department to obtain written entry permission.
- Third-country nationals holding who have remained abroad since 1 January 2020 whose temporary residence permit has expired after 15 March 2020 can apply for an entry permit provided their permit does not bear the indication “FINAL - NOT RENEWABLE”. If granted, entry will be permitted once restrictions are lifted.
- Third-country nationals abroad holding valid temporary residence permits whose permitted 90 days stay abroad has expired after 15 March 2020 due to flight and entry restrictions, can enter Cyprus without any further formality. They can then reapply for a residence permit.
- Third-country nationals currently in Cyprus for visiting purposes, with national or other visas such as Schengen visas, whose validity expired from 15 March 2020 onwards, as long as flight restrictions are in force, are not required to take any further action and no measures will be taken against them, nor shall their details be placed on the Stop List upon their departure, provided they depart immediately and as soon as possible after the restrictions are lifted.
- Non-Cypriot legal citizens of Cyprus who are existing GHS beneficiaries will have the re-evaluation of their right to access to GHS services based on a valid residence/work permit, suspended until 30 September. A GHS beneficiary whose residence/work permit has recently expired, or expires before 30 September, will continue to receive services up and until that date.

CZECH REPUBLIC

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 14 September, the Canary Islands of Spain are removed from the green zone. Romania has been added to the green zone.

- Employers of citizens of France, Luxembourg, Malta, Romania, Spain and red-zone countries who are entering or returning from these countries must request the result of a PCR test taken in the Czech Republic.
 - The employee cannot enter the workplace without first submitting this PCR test result.
 - These employees are required to undergo a second PCR test at their own expense 14 days after entry.
 - This measure no longer applies from Portugal or Sweden.
- The government has divided countries into green zone countries and red zone (medium and high risk) countries.
 - EU/EEA green zone countries now include Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the Vatican.
 - Non-EU/EEA green zone countries now include Australia, Canada, Japan, New Zealand, South Korea, Thailand and Tunisia.
 - Red zone countries include Romania, Spain, Algeria, China, Montenegro, Morocco and Serbia.
- ***Czech/EU/EEA/Swiss/UK/microstates citizens and third-country citizens who are nationals of a green-zone third-country or who hold a residence permit issued by the Czech Republic or a green-zone country*** are permitted to enter.
 - If they have only been in green zone countries in the previous 14 days face no restrictions and are not subject to quarantine.
 - If they have been in a red zone country for more than 12 hours in the previous 14 days, they must contact a regional hygiene station to undergo and submit a PCR test within 72 hours after arrival. Otherwise, quarantine is required. They must wear a face mask and limit their movement until they submit the PCR test.
- ***Citizens of red-zone countries without a Czech residence permit, and third-country residents of red zone countries***, are not permitted to enter except for family members of Czech citizens or of EU citizens resident in the Czech Republic, and a few other exceptions.
- Third-country nationals with a proven long-term relationship with a Czech citizen may enter, after obtaining authorization from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- All qualified workers under the Highly Qualified Employee Programme or the Key Scientific Staff Programme are permitted to enter (a negative COVID-19 test must be submitted on entry).

Immigration Restrictions

- Individuals are able to exit the country if they have received government permission based on “reasonable grounds”. On re-entry, they must either present a negative PCR test certificate (tests may be undergone on Czech territory) followed by free movement limitations for 14 days or undergo “necessary quarantine measures” as ordered by the regional hygiene station.

Immigration Concessions

- All foreign nationals (both visa-required and visa-free nationals) can legally stay in the Czech Republic for an additional 60 days after the end of the state of emergency. They do not need to request an extension of their visa or visa-free stay. Visas will not be extended and exit orders will not be issued.
- Upon departure from the Czech Republic, each foreign national will be issued an “exit stamp” into the passport, which will indicate the legality of their stay in the Czech Republic. This stamp will include the date of exit and will indicate legality of stay to the authorities of those states through which the foreign national might transfer when homeward bound, to avoid any possible penalties. The exit stamp is in use by the alien police inspectorate as of 4 May.
- According to the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs the 60-day bridging period concerns also employment permits issued by Labor Office of the Czech Republic, i.e. holders of Schengen visas for the purpose of employment and employment cards can continue to work.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 15 August, borders, airports and ports are reopened.
- All travellers arriving by air are required to present a negative COVID-19 test result from a test taken within 72 hours prior to boarding.
- All arrivals are required to self-quarantine for 14 days and may be asked to take an additional COVID-19 test.
- All travellers departing by air are also required to present a negative COVID-19 test result.

DENMARK

Entry Restrictions

- The borders of Denmark are open to tourists, travelling from “open” countries” and “open” regions in Nordic “quarantine countries”.
 - Tourists entering Denmark are no longer subject to a minimum stay requirement and will no longer have to show documentation of a 6-night booking.
 - Effective 19 September:
 - The list of banned countries includes Andorra, **Austria**, Belgium, Croatia, Czech Republic, France, **Hungary**, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, **Netherlands**, **Portugal**, Romania, Spain and **Switzerland**.
 - The list of open countries includes the remaining EU and Schengen countries, microstates and the UK, Australia, Canada, Georgia, Japan, New Zealand, South Korea, Thailand, Tunisia and Uruguay.
 - Effective 12 September:
 - The list of banned countries includes Andorra, Belgium, Croatia, Czech Republic, France, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Romania, San Marino and Spain.

- The list of open countries includes the remaining EU and Schengen countries, microstates and the UK, Australia, Canada, Georgia, Japan, New Zealand, South Korea, Thailand, Tunisia and Uruguay.
 - To be “open”, a country must have fewer than 20 infected persons per 100,000 inhabitants per week.
 - Once a country is open, the threshold for changing the status to “quarantine country” will be 30 infected persons per 100,000 inhabitants.
 - For travellers from “banned countries” (with a higher COVID-19 incidence), entry will be suspended unless they have a worthy purpose.
- Residents of Norway, Schleswig Holstein in Germany, or Scania, Halland or Blekinge in Sweden may enter Denmark by simply producing proof of residence. If the region does not meet the incidence criterion, it will be mandatory to present a negative test performed no later than 72 hours before entry into Denmark.
- Certain worthy purposes apply also to countries outside of the EU and Schengen area, as well as the UK. This includes boyfriends/girlfriends, fiancés/fiancées, grandparents and grandchildren, as well as business travel, job interviews, etc. However, it will be mandatory to present a negative test performed no later than 72 hours before entry into Denmark, except in the case of business travel, which was already considered a worthy purpose prior to the expansion.
- Several Denmark visa applications have resumed limited visa operations.
- Entry is allowed for permanent residents of Germany or a Nordic country (Sweden, Norway, Finland or Iceland) who are spouses, live-in partners, fiancés, sweethearts, parents, grandparents, children and grandchildren of a Danish national resident in or permanently staying in Denmark or of a foreign national resident in Denmark on the condition that the arriving foreign family member otherwise has a legal right to enter Denmark. The group of persons mentioned above can also enter Denmark together with their Danish family member/sweetheart if the latter is a resident of Germany or a Nordic country. The relationship must have lasted for a certain period, normally three months, and the persons must have met regularly in person. Accordingly, sweethearts whose relationship has been based merely on written and telephone contact are not deemed to have a worthy purpose under the current entry restrictions. The nature and duration of the relationship can be substantiated by making a solemn declaration in which the person resident in Denmark declares under penalty of perjury to be in a relationship with the foreign national who wants to enter Denmark and that the purpose of the entry is to visit the person resident in Denmark. The solemn declaration must be brought along on paper (the original document or a printout/photocopy) and handed in at the border control point. The form can be used for repeated entries into Denmark.
- Entry is allowed for permanent residents of Sweden or a Nordic country for the purpose of a stay in the foreign national's own summerhouse in Denmark, including for a holiday stay. A holiday stay in a rented summerhouse or at a hotel is not deemed a worthy purpose.
- Entry is allowed for Danish citizens; residents of Denmark, Greenland or Faroe Islands, passengers in transit to their country of residence and anyone with a **worthy purpose** for entry (see below).
- Other persons wishing to enter Denmark can expect to be rejected at the Danish borders unless they have a **worthy purpose** (anerkendelsesværdigt formål) for entering Denmark. Persons with a worthy purpose include, but are not limited to:
 - Self-employed business owners performing work in Denmark;

- Persons with a valid work permit, including persons who have not yet utilised their work permits and whose entry is for the purpose of working in Denmark;
- Spouses, live-in partners, parents and children of a Danish national resident in Denmark or a foreign national resident in Denmark on the condition that the arriving foreign family member otherwise has a legal right to enter Denmark;
- Spouses, live-in partners and children of a Danish national resident abroad who enter Denmark together with their Danish spouse/live-in partner for at short stay in Denmark during the COVID-19 crisis. However, it is not a worthy purpose to enter Denmark solely as a tourist or for a holiday. Arriving foreign family members must otherwise have a legal right to enter Denmark;
- Persons commissioned to deliver goods or services to/in Denmark or to transport goods out of Denmark, including persons commissioned to carry goods out of Denmark for business purposes;
- Persons entering Denmark to exercise visitation rights with minors;
- Persons serving as the primary caregiver for minors residing in Denmark (for example foster parents who are not core family members);
- Persons entering Denmark to visit a seriously ill or dying family member in Denmark;
- Persons entering Denmark to continue an ongoing course of treatment administered by the Danish health authorities;
- Persons who are to attend a funeral in Denmark;
- Persons who are to attend court proceedings in Denmark;
- Students to the extent that their educational institution is not closed (and no remote learning opportunity is offered);
- Seamen who are to sign off/on in Denmark the replacement of crew;
- Aircraft crew members, diplomats, offshore workers.
- Short-stay visa holders who have not been able to enter Denmark during the visa validity must apply for another visa when they can enter Denmark.

Immigration Restrictions

- All SIRI's branch offices (in Copenhagen, Odense, Aarhus, Aalborg, Aabenraa and Bornholm) have reopened. The online booking system has reopened and it is now possible to book appointments online. Longer processing times can be expected in all cases (30-45 days for initial cases and 90-100 days for extensions).
- Note that employers must inform SIRI if their assignees' employment terms have changed, regardless of the reason (including government-approved reduced time/salary packages). This also applies if the salary (including a possible reduction) still meets minimum salary requirements. The minimum salary threshold overrules collective agreements and must be met regardless of any support package.
- The immigration Service's Citizen Service is open, but it is only possible to get personal service if you book an appointment in advance. You can book an appointment for the following types of service:
 - Biometric features for residence permit
 - New passport
 - Re-entry permit
 - Short term visa extension

- Laissez-passer (pick up).
- The Immigration Service will continue to process all types of cases to the extent possible.
 - Certain parts of the case processing can be delayed or limited because it among other things was not possible to appear in person at the Citizen Service for a limited period of time.
 - It is also possible to submit digital (online) applications to us. Paper-based applications can be scanned and sent to us via our contact form.

Immigration Concessions

- The deadline for recording of biometric features for residence permit applications has been extended until 31 October 2020. The Danish Immigration Service will begin processing of applications without biometrics but will not reach a final decision until biometrics have been recorded. SIRI will contact applicants for biometric appointments. Biometric recording is possible in some countries outside Denmark.
- Residence permit holders who cannot enter Denmark within the first 6 months of their residence permit's validity due to coronavirus measures can apply for dispensation from their residence permit lapsing.
- Residence permit or short-stay visa holders whose status has expired but cannot leave Denmark on time due to coronavirus measures will not be penalised for late departure.
- International House in Copenhagen will issue CPR numbers for Copenhagen-based assignees on the basis of an application form and the applicant's power of attorney and will send health cards directly to assignees' homes. In-country biometrics recording not will not be possible, but work permit applications will still be processed.

DJIBOUTI

Entry Restrictions

- International flights resumed 18 July, with testing on arrival.

DOMINICA

Entry Restrictions

- The borders will reopen to international travellers from 7 August.
 - Arrivals are required to present a negative COVID-19 PCR test result dated between 24 and 72 hours before arrival; to complete an online health questionnaire 24 hours before arrival; and undergo health checks on arrival, with those testing positive required to self-isolate for 14 days in a government-approved facility.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Entry Restrictions

- Borders reopened from 1 July and Punta Cana International Airport resumed international flights.
- Effective 31 July, all arrivals must present proof of a negative COVID-19 PCR test undertaken within 5 days prior to arrival.

Immigration Restrictions

- Immigration offices in DR have reopened.

ECUADOR

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 15 August, international travellers arriving by air and presenting a negative COVID-19 PCR test result issued within the previous ten days are no longer subject to self-isolation.
 - If the traveller cannot present a suitable negative test result, they will be subject to testing on arrival at their own expense and quarantine at an authorized location until a negative result is obtained.
- All travellers are required to complete a health declaration form before arrival (one per family).
- Special additional requirements exist for the Galapagos Islands.
- Many international flight to Ecuador have resumed.

Immigration Restrictions

- Immigration and labour offices are closed until further notice.

Immigration Concessions

- The expiration dates of visas and the maximum stay abroad for temporary and permanent residents are suspended. Once the health emergency is declared over, foreign nationals will have thirty days to proceed with immigration regularization to avoid paying any fine.

EGYPT

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 1 September, all travellers, including Egyptian nationals, arriving at all airports, are required to submit a negative COVID-19 PCR test result, issued at most 72 hours before arrival. Children under six-years-old are exempt from this requirement.
- Effective 15 August, certain foreign nationals arriving at some airports will be required to present a negative COVID-19 PCR test issued at most 72 hours before arrival.
 - Arab and foreign tourists flying to the resort cities of Sharm Al Sheikh, Taba, Bhurghada, Marsa Allam and Matruh are exempt from the test requirement

- but are banned from travelling to other parts of Egypt, unless they have negative COVID-19 test results issued no more than 72 hours before travel.
 - Egyptian travellers are also exempt.
- The suspension of international flights and of entry for foreign nationals will be gradually lifted from 1 July.

Immigration Restrictions

- The Work Permits Authority will resume operations from 9 July.
- The Immigration Authority, Work Permits Authority, Civil Authority and Notary Public are closed.

EL SALVADOR

Entry Restrictions

- According to an announcement from the President of the Autonomous Port Executive Commission (CEPA), it is anticipated that Óscar Arnulfo Romero International Airport in San Salvador will resume international flights on 19 September.
- All Salvadoran citizens and resident foreign nationals who enter the country, by any means, are subject to a 30-day government quarantine.
- Entry is suspended for all non-resident foreign nationals.

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

Entry Restrictions

- Land borders with Cameroon and Gabon are closed, all commercial international flights are suspended and arrivals from affected countries are subject to a mandatory 14-day quarantine.

ESTONIA

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 21 September to 27 September, arrivals from the following countries are subject to mandatory 14-day quarantine:
 - Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia and United Kingdom.
- Anyone arriving in Estonia who began their journey from or transited through a country without health data or with an infection rate above 16/100,000 in the past 14 days (a risk country) is subject to mandatory 14-day quarantine.

- The restriction on movement is not applied if in the country that the person comes from the cumulative number of COVID-19 positive cases in the past 14 days is from 16 to 17.6 per 100,000 inhabitants and the ratio has not increased in the past two weeks.
- Effective 14 September, anyone arriving from Finland, Latvia or Lithuania is subject to mandatory 14-day quarantine **only if the infection rate rises above 25/100,000** in the past 14 days, rather than 16/100,000 as is the case for other countries of the EU/Schengen.
- Those returning to Estonia from a risk country can shorten their quarantine by undergoing a COVID-19 test on arrival at the port of entry.
 - Costs EUR 67 for foreign nationals, free for Estonian citizens;
 - Individuals must self-isolate until the result is issued;
 - If the first test result is negative, the individual can go to work or to shops but unnecessary contacts must be avoided for seven days;
 - A second test must be performed no earlier than 7 days after the results of the first test.
 - If the result of the second test is negative, the quarantine can be cancelled.
- Entry is permitted for:
 - Estonian citizens and their family members;
 - Citizens and residents of the EU, Schengen, the UK and the microstates, and individuals with a long-stay visa and their family members, with no symptoms;
 - Residents of Australia, Canada, Georgia, Japan, New Zealand, Rwanda, South Korea, Thailand, Tunisia and Uruguay, with no symptoms;
 - Citizens of other foreign states arriving from countries not listed above **for work or studies**;
 - Subject to 14-day quarantine;
 - The employer or educational institution must provide transport for the employee or student on their arrival in Estonia and ensure that they comply with the 14-day compulsory restriction on freedom of movement;
 - The employer or educational institution ensures that the employee or student undergoes two SARS-CoV-2 tests. The first test must be administered on their arrival and the second on the 14th day after their arrival;
 - The employee or student is not allowed to start working and studying respectively for the first 14 days following their arrival in Estonia;
 - The employee or student can start work and studies respectively from the 15th day since their arrival on the condition that their second coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 test was negative.

ETHIOPIA

Entry Restriction

- Home quarantine is now allowed for travellers able to present a negative COVID-19 test result conducted no more than 3 days prior to their travel to Ethiopia. Travellers

unable to provide a negative test result, are subject to a 7-day mandatory quarantine at government-designated hotels and facilities, at the passengers' own personal expense. This does not apply to transit passengers.

- Flights are suspended to and from many, but not all, international destinations – the latest details are [here](#).
- Ethiopia's land borders are closed.

FIJI

Entry Restrictions

- Fijian citizens and residents are permitted to return from Australia or New Zealand. Travellers must:
 - present proof of a negative COVID-19 test result obtained within 72 hours before travel;
 - undergo a 14-day government quarantine on arrival in Fiji;
 - download the careFIJI app on their smartphone.
 - The option to present a health certificate from a hospital or health facility stating that they quarantined in Australia or New Zealand for 14 days immediately before departure has been suspended.
- Yachts and pleasure craft may be permitted to enter Port Denarau Marina on a case-by-case basis under the "Blue Lanes" scheme.

Immigration Restrictions

- Valid permit holders may be permitted to return to Fiji on a case-by-case basis. New permits are also being granted on a case-by-case basis for individuals who possess specialised skills that aid Fiji's COVID-safe economic recovery. Existing and new permit holders must apply to the Permanent Secretary for Immigration to enter Fiji.

Immigration Concessions

- All foreign nationals who are currently stranded in the country due to COVID-19 should contact Fiji Immigration Office so that they can be properly guided to maintain their legal status. This applies to all categories of permit holders.
- Expatriate Employees who have been issued a 3-month extension of their work permit will be eligible to apply for another extension not exceeding 31 December 2020.

FINLAND

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 19 September, unrestricted entry will be permitted from countries with a COVID-19 infection rate of up to 25 per 100,000 population (higher than currently) in the previous 14 days. This includes travellers from Australia, Canada, Cyprus, Germany, Iceland, Japan, Norway, Poland and Sweden.

- **Unrestricted entry** is currently possible from *Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Liechtenstein, New Zealand, Rwanda, Slovakia, South Korea, Thailand, Tunisia, Uruguay* and the *Vatican*.
- **Restricted entry (category 1)** is currently in force for travel from the following countries *Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Cyprus, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland* and the *United Kingdom*.
 - *Self-isolation for 14 days upon arrival from these countries is recommended.*
- **Restricted entry (category 2)** is currently in force for travel from all other third countries, including *Australia, Canada, Russia, Turkey* and the *United States*.
 - *Self-isolation for 14 days upon arrival from these countries is recommended*
- Entry is permitted from **restriction category 1** countries for:
 - Return to Finland:
 - Finnish nationals and their family members;
 - EU/Schengen national residents of Finland and their family members,
 - Third-country nationals resident in Finland with a residence permit.
 - Return to or through other EU or Schengen countries:
 - EU/Schengen nationals and their family members;
 - Third-country nationals resident in another EU or Schengen country.
 - Work-related or essential travel, **including that based on employment or assignment**.
 - Traffic across border crossing points between Finland and Sweden and between Finland and Norway will be permitted between local border communities.
- Entry is permitted from **restriction category 2** countries for:
 - Return to Finland:
 - Finnish nationals and their family members;
 - EU/Schengen national residents of Finland and their family members,
 - Third-country nationals resident in Finland with a residence permit.
 - Return to or through other EU or Schengen countries:
 - EU/Schengen nationals and their family members;
 - Third-country nationals resident in another EU or Schengen country.
 - Essential reasons.
- Return traffic to Finland and other essential traffic from other third countries will be allowed at the external borders. In addition, transit traffic will be allowed at airports. Family members of Finnish citizens may enter the country regardless of nationality.
- The acceptance of residence permit applications at Finnish consulates is gradually resuming, depending on the situation in each country. Priority appointments will be given to applicants who had a previous appointment cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Finnish airports are now open for passenger traffic
- Third-country nationals can enter Finland for the first time if they already hold a valid residence permit.

Immigration Restrictions

- The Finnish government has again started to grant first residence permits for applications submitted from abroad that become valid on the day the application is decided. However, for the time being, consulates cannot hand over residence permit cards as usual.
- New residence permit applications can be prepared, but not fully submitted if the applicant is still abroad.

Immigration Concessions

- The deadline for residence permit applicants to prove their identity at a Finnish consulate or service point has been extended until 31 December.
 - Normally, it is necessary to visit a service point or Finnish mission within three months of application submission.
- Effective until 31 December 2020, the Finnish Immigration Service may grant residence permit extensions even if the applicant's income is lower than required for up to six months, due to coronavirus.
 - If a coronavirus exception is made to the income requirement, the residence permit will only be extended for up to one year, rather than up to four years as usual.
 - For work-based residence permit extensions where the income has decreased temporarily due to coronavirus, the income requirement is exceptionally considered to be met at the gross amount of labour market subsidy, that is, EUR 724 per month.
 - An exception to the income requirement for permits for family members requires that the income that secured the means of support of the family has decreased temporarily, due to coronavirus.
 - An exception can be made to the sufficient progress requirement for extensions of residence permits for studies, if studies did not progress as planned due to coronavirus.
- The police may extend the validity of a visa in the event that flight cancellations, for example, prevent the visa holder from leaving Finland before their visa expires.

FRANCE

Entry Restrictions

- Entry is permitted from ***the EU, the EEA, the microstates, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, Australia, Canada, Georgia, Japan, New Zealand, Rwanda, South Korea, Thailand, Tunisia or Uruguay.***
 - Travellers arriving from these countries **and** who have not visited a country not on this list in the month prior to arrival in France are not subject to a 14-day self-quarantine.
- Entry from ***countries not on the list above*** is only permitted under one of the following exceptions:
 - French citizens and their spouse and children;
 - Citizens of the EU, the EEA, the microstates, Switzerland and the United Kingdom (and their spouse and children), travelling to their country of nationality or residence;
 - Holders of a valid French or European residence permit or long-stay visa travelling to their main residence in France or Europe;

- Travellers in transit for less than 24 hours in an international zone;
- Members of a delegation on official travel, or of a diplomatic or consular mission, or of an international organization headquartered or having an office in France (and their spouse and children);
- Foreign health professionals helping to fight COVID-19;
- Members of crew or personnel operating passenger or cargo flights, or travelling as passengers to reach their departure base;
- Those carrying out international goods transport;
- Drivers and crew members of passenger coaches or trains;
- Members of crew or personnel operating a merchant or fishing vessel;
- Students with a long-stay visa or short-stay visa (VCS) for study or placements or coming for less than 90 days from a country exempted from VCS requirements, and with proof of accommodation in France;
- Professors and researchers employed or invited by a French higher education institute or research laboratory and travelling for study or teaching purposes;
- Holders of a “Talent Passport” long-stay visa.
- Travellers from **countries not on the list above** or who have visited a country not on the list in the month prior to arrival in France are subject to 14-day self-quarantine unless they can present a negative PCR test carried out less than 72 hours prior to departure and are asymptomatic.
- All travellers to France from **countries not on the list above** are required to complete **an international travel certificate** and present it to the carrier at boarding and to the border control authorities.
- **COVID-19 testing** is mandatory for travellers aged 11 years or older arriving from **high-risk countries**, or who have visited those countries in the previous month.
 - The affected countries are *Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Bahrain, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Equatorial Guinea, India, Israel, Kosovo, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Madagascar, Maldives, Mexico, Moldova, Montenegro, Oman, Palestine, Panama, Peru, Qatar, Serbia, South Africa, Turkey, UAE and USA.*
 - Travellers from Bahrain, Panama, UAE and USA must be tested in their country of origin no more than 72 hours before travelling, and negative test results must be presented at the airport, or they will be denied boarding.
 - Travellers from Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Equatorial Guinea, India, Israel, Kosovo, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Madagascar, Maldives, Mexico, Moldova, Montenegro, Oman, Palestine, Peru, Qatar, Serbia, South Africa or Turkey must take a test on arrival at the French airport, if testing is not available in the country of origin at least 72 hours before travelling.
 - Travellers from countries not on the above lists are encouraged to undertake a PCR test prior to travel or in the airport upon arrival. If not, they will be asked to comply with a two-week quarantine at their place of residence or in a suitable accommodation facility.
 - Travellers who test positive on arrival will be required to spend 14 days in isolation.
- The Secretary of State for Tourism, has announced that a special procedure will soon be put in place to allow the reunion of binational couples separated due to the COVID-19 crisis.
- International students will be facilitated arrival, whatever their country of origin. Their requests for visas and residence permits will be given priority.

- Workers with the nationality of an EU member state (including the UK) can enter and work in France under the posting regime if their assignment cannot be postponed. Before their arrival on French territory, the client sends proof of filing of the posted worker notification and all documents justifying the non-reportable nature of the assignment (if applicable, a declaration on free paper) to the address mail: detaches@interieur.gouv.fr. To cross the border, the posted worker must have a certificate of international travel (which includes a declaration on honour of the absence of symptoms of COVID-19 infection) and proof of filing of the posted worker notification. European workers posted for more than 48 hours to France must be subject to a quarantine measure or any other equivalent measure in their country of origin.
- Seasonal agricultural workers with nationality or residence in an EU member state the Schengen area or the UK, Andorra, Monaco, San Marino or the Vatican are allowed to enter and work in France. To cross the border, the worker must present an individual travel certificate travel (which includes a declaration on honour of the absence of symptoms of COVID-19 infection); an “employer” certificate of international travel; and a declaration prior to hiring, or an acknowledgement of receipt of simplified agricultural job title (TESA or TESA+) or an employment contract concluded with a company in France. If staying in France for more than 48 hours, they must undergo a 14-day quarantine or, alternatively, the employer can provide accommodation at the worksite, which the seasonal worker does not leave for 14 days, or accommodation near the worksite with a strictly controlled commute.
- Travellers entering France may be subject to a 14-day mandatory quarantine. Those entering from the EU Schengen zone and the UK are exempt for the time being. Cross-border workers are also, therefore, exempt.
- Individuals traveling between Metropolitan France and the overseas territories are required to self-isolate on arrival, excluding French Guiana and Mayotte, where all but essential travel is currently prohibited.
- The issuance of visas is suspended until further notice. This decision applies to all visa requests (Schengen short-stay visas, long-stay visas for France, and visas for overseas France). It also applies to applications for which appointments have already been made.

Immigration Restrictions

- The launch of the website for the pre-registration of residence permit applications for UK nationals, originally planned for 1 July, has been postponed until 1 October due to the COVID-19 crisis.
- Online applications are now available for renewal of receipts (récépissés) for residence permit application which expired before 16 March or will expire after 15 June. Récépissés which expire between 16 March and 15 June are automatically extended for 6 months from the expiry date, so there is no need to apply for renewal of these récépissés before September at the earliest.
- Online applications are also available for applications for duplicate (replacement) documents, change of address and travel documents for minors.
- Prefectural applications for residence permits will resume only by appointment or by mail. The possibility of a submission in person will be gradually opened depending on the prefectures and will be generalized no later than June 15. Permit holders expiring after June 15 will be given priority.
- Until further notice, labour offices are closed to the public.

- Until further notice, the issuance of all visas is suspended, including applications for which an appointment has already been made.

Immigration Concessions

- The Paris Prefecture of Police has launched a web portal to enable foreign nationals to apply for postal delivery of their residence permits that were supposed to be delivered during lockdown.
- The period of validity of the following permits that expire between 16 May and 15 June is extended by 180 days from their expiry date: long-stay visas, residence permits, provisional residence permits (authorisation provisoire de séjour) and receipts for applications for residence permits (récépissé). The right to work and all social rights are also extended.
- The period of validity of the following permits that expire between 16 March and 15 May is extended by a further 90 days to a total of 180 days from their expiry date: long-stay visas, residence permits, provisional residence permits (authorisation provisoire de séjour) and receipts for applications for residence permits (récépissé).
- Holders of short-stay visas which are going to expire who cannot return to their country of origin can, in case of justified urgency, receive a provisional residence permit. They are invited to make contact with the prefecture in the area of residence to extend their short-stay visa or receive a provisional residence permit.

GABON

Entry Restrictions

- All tourist visas from the most affected countries are suspended. International flight arrivals are restricted. Entry is suspended for travellers from the most affected countries, including the EU, China, South Korea and the United States.

GAMBIA

Entry Restrictions

- International flights are suspended until further notice.
- All arrivals are subject to a 14-day quarantine.

GEORGIA

Entry Restrictions

- International flight restrictions have been extended until at least 31 October. However, the restrictions do not apply to direct international flights between Tbilisi and Munich, Paris and Riga.
- Georgia has closed its borders to most foreign nationals until further notice.
- Effective 15 September, citizens and residents of Estonia, France, Germany, Latvia and Lithuania, arriving directly from those countries, are required to present negative

COVID-19 PCR test results from a test taken in the previous 72 hours, or undertaken testing at the airport on arrival at their own expense, or undergo quarantine.

- All travellers must complete an online form, including a 14-day travel history and contact details.
- Citizens of other EU states that have put Georgia on a green list (and citizens and residents of Estonia, France, Germany, Latvia and Lithuania arriving from any other country) are subject to 8-day (rather than 12-day) quarantine at their own expense.
 - After eight days, people placed in quarantine will take a PCR test and if the result is negative, they will be able to leave quarantine. However, they will still be obliged to take a second PCR test three days later.
- Entry for short-term business visits is permitted from any country.
 - Business travellers must complete an online form and obtain the agreement of the relevant sector agency.
 - Business travellers are subject to PCR testing at their own expense at a customs checkpoint / border crossing on entry, and then either further PCR testing every 72 hours for the next 8 days or an 8-day quarantine, also at their own expense.
 - This does not apply to citizens and residents of Estonia, France, Germany, Latvia and Lithuania.
- Georgian citizens coming from the EU and other countries shall be subject to a mandatory 8-day quarantine (in effect from September 15, 2020). An exception shall be the citizens of Georgia who hold a document confirming permanent residence in France, Germany, Estonia, Latvia or Lithuania or have the status of a citizen of these countries.
- Georgian citizens with a permanent residence permit from Estonia, France, Germany, Latvia or Lithuania must fill in a special form before crossing the Georgian border, providing their travel history for the last 14 days before entering Georgia, as well as the location of stay and contact information. With their consent, they shall undergo PCR testing at the airport.

GERMANY

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 16 September:
 - The following are considered risk areas:
 - Austria (the province of Vienna);
 - Croatia (the counties of Brodsko-Posavska and Viroviticko-Podravska);
 - Czech Republic (the region of Středočeský);
 - France (the Hauts de France region and the overseas territory of La Réunion);
 - Hungary (the city of Budapest);
 - Netherlands (the provinces of North Holland and South Holland);
 - Romania (the counties of Neamt and Caras Severin);
 - Switzerland (Canton Fribourg);
 - The counties of Arges and Dambovita in Romania are no longer considered risk areas.
- Entry is permitted for unmarried partners from third countries.
 - Proof is required of a long-term partnership with at least one meeting in Germany, or proof of a previous common place of residence abroad.

- Applicants must submit an invitation from the person residing in Germany, a jointly-signed statement on the existence of the relationship and proof of previous meetings with passport stamps, travel documents or plane tickets.
- Arrivals who have spent time in a risk area within the previous 14 days must present a negative COVID-19 PCR test result issued in the previous 48 hours. Otherwise, they must be tested at the airport, port or train station on arrival, and enter 14-day quarantine until they obtain a negative test result.
 - What counts is whether an area is classified as a risk area at the time of entry to Germany.
- Travellers returning to Germany will be offered free COVID-19 tests up to 72 hours after entry.
 - Those returning from risk countries will be tested at the airport, while those returning from non-risk countries will be offered an optional test from their local health authority.
 - Persons who do not want to get tested or those who test positive will be obliged to go through two weeks of mandatory quarantine.
- Before traveling to Germany one should double check on the website of the competent federal state of entry regarding the specific regulations there. If the state of entry is not the destination (residence) state at the same time, then the traveller should refer to the website of the destination.
- The obligation to self-isolate at home does not apply in the case of transit through Germany. In this case, however, you are obliged to leave Germany immediately.
- Travellers arriving from the following non-EU countries will be permitted to enter Germany: Australia, Canada, Georgia, New Zealand, Thailand, Tunisia and Uruguay. Travellers from China, Japan and South Korea will only be able to enter once they offer reciprocal entry permission to German nationals.
- Regardless of country of origin, entry is also permitted for, among others with an important travel reason, foreign specialists and highly qualified employees, whose employment is necessary from an economic point of view and whose work is not postponed or can be carried out abroad.
 - Foreign national skilled and highly-skilled workers who may enter into Germany for a long-term stay without a visa but who are nationals of a state that is not on the positive list, may ask the German diplomatic representation responsible for their place of usual residence for certification of their eligibility for, and of the urgency of, their entry, based on the provision of documentation from their employer.
 - Entry at short notice is permissible for urgent business purposes, conditional on the requirement to substantiate sufficiently (e.g. by presenting documentation from the employer or business partner in Germany) that entry is absolutely necessary even under the circumstance of a pandemic.
- Entry is also permitted for third-country national immediate family members for family reunion, to return home to Germany, to attend a funeral or wedding, for minor children to visit parents, to accompany a German spouse or registered partner to their residence in Germany or to take up residence in Germany or to accompany a German child as a custodial parent, even if the other parent remains outside Germany.

Immigration Restrictions

- Immigration offices in several cities have reopened with limited services (mainly for emergencies only) and on an appointment basis.

- Services at the alien offices in Berlin are unavailable without an appointment. Immigration offices in other cities are closed or offering only limited or emergency services.

Immigration Concessions

- Holders of expired Schengen visas in Germany who are unable to return home are permitted to stay in Germany until 30 September without being required to obtain a residence permit. They are also allowed to pursue gainful employment, and to travel to another country for up to three days of stay, provided Germany allows entry from that country.
- Foreign residents living in Berlin will not be penalised for the expiry of temporary residence documents while alien office services are restricted. However, exiting and re-entering Germany is only possible with a valid residence document.
- Foreign residents may have their permits extended by submitting an extension application (online or by fax) before the validity expires. They should obtain a confirmation letter or other proof of submission, which however would not grant re-entry into Germany.
- Hamburg and other jurisdictions may offer to extend C visas if required due to the current situation.

GHANA

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 1 September, Kotoka International Airport will reopen and resume operations. Airlines and arriving passengers must adhere to the following guidelines:
 - Any passenger arriving in Ghana must be in position of a negative COVID-19 PCR test result from an accredited laboratory in the country of origin. The test must have been completed within the 72 hours before the scheduled departure from the country of origin.
 - Disembarking passengers must wear face masks. Upon disembarkation, each passenger will undergo a mandatory COVID-19 test at the airport termination (fee to be borne by the passenger but should not exceed GH 500). Test results will be available within 30 minutes. Note that children under the age of five-years-old will be exempt from the airport testing requirement.
 - Passengers with a positive test result will be required to liaise with the Ghanaian health authorities for further clinical assessment and management.
 - Passengers with a negative test result will be allowed to enter Ghana and continue with their planned lawful activities.
 - Departing passengers will be required to take a COVID-19 PCR test within 72 hours prior to departure and present a negative result to port health officials for verification before being allowed to complete departure formalities.
- Ghanaian land and sea borders are closed to all travellers until further notice. Returning Ghanaians and foreign national residence permit holders are exempt but are required to undergo a 14-day quarantine if showing symptoms.
- The immigration authorities are back to work. All new and renewal applications can be submitted. However, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is closed and legalisations cannot be processed.

Immigration Restrictions

- Ghana Immigration Services is open to all applicants for extensions and new work permits.
- The requirement to undergo a medical examination at the Ghana Immigration Service clinic has been extended to all applicants for indefinite residence permits, right of abode, naturalization and the renewal of all immigration residence permits.

GREECE

Entry Restrictions

- Non-essential entry is permitted for residents of EEA countries, Switzerland and the UK, Australia, Canada, Georgia, Japan, New Zealand, Rwanda, South Korea, Thailand, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates and Uruguay.
- Non-essential entry remains suspended for permanent residents of other countries.
- All travellers into Greece are required to complete an online Passenger Locator Form (PLF) at least 48 hours prior to arrival. Once completed, the online form will generate a QR code. On arrival, screening personnel will scan the QR code and further screen/test some passengers.
- Effective 7 September until 21 September:
 - Flights from Russia are only permitted to land at Athens, Thessaloniki and Heraklion airports.
 - There is a limit of 500 passengers arriving per week from Russia.
- Effective until 30 September:
 - Passengers arriving **by air** from Albania, Belgium, Bulgaria, Hungary, (effective 18 September) Malta, North Macedonia, Romania, Spain and the United Arab Emirates must present a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 PCR test certificate issued at most 72 hours before arrival.
 - Greek citizens and residents and other essential travellers are **exempt** from this requirement.
 - Permanent residents of the UAE may arrive only by means of direct flights and must present proof of permanent residence in the UAE, return tickets and hotel reservations and travel insurance.
 - Inbound flights from the Catalonia area of Spain are suspended.
 - Flights coming from Israel are only permitted to land at Athens, Thessaloniki, Heraklion, Kos, and Corfu airports and there is a limit of 5000 passengers arriving per week from Israel. This does not apply to Greek citizens and residence permit holders.
 - Flights are restricted from Turkey, Bulgaria and Romania.
 - Flights from Albania and North Macedonia can only land at Athens Airport.
- Effective until 30 September:
 - Greek citizens and residence permit holders entering Greece **by land** must present a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 PCR test result issued at most 72 hours before arrival.
 - Those travelling for business who exit the country **by land** are not permitted to re-enter Greece.

- Greek nationals and residence permit holders who wish to exit and re-enter Greece **by land** must complete the Passenger Locator Form (PLF) prior to travel.
 - **Land borders** with Albania, North Macedonia and Turkey remain closed.
- Effective until 30 September:
 - **Sea borders** with Albania and Turkey are closed.
- Permanent residents of Israel will be re-tested for COVID-19 on arrival.
- Some Greece visa application centres have resumed operations.

Immigration Restrictions

- The Directorate of Migration has now started accepting both initial and renewal permit applications with a pre-booked appointment.
- The Ministry of Migration is largely closed to the public until further notice. Available services include handover of issued permits with a pre-booked appointment; submission (via courier) of additional documents for incomplete files submitted before COVID-19 closure; and application (via courier) of application for change of status (i.e. passport, address etc.). Initial and renewal permit applications are not yet available. Permits that are due to expire are treated separately with an extended application date. Services at the tax and social security authorities, the EU registration authorities and municipality offices are not available without an appointment, and appointments are only available for urgent requests.

Immigration Concessions

- Residence permits or blue receipts that expired or will expire between 20 July and 31 December are automatically extended for eight months from the respective expiration date, without the need to issue any other official document. These renewed permits or blue receipts will have as official start date the day after expiration (regardless of the application date).
- Residence permits or blue receipts that expired or will expire between 11 February and 30 June are automatically extended until 31 December 2020, without the need to issue any other official document. These renewed permits or blue receipts will have as official start date the day after expiration (regardless of the application date).
- Third-country nationals who were required to submit an application for initial residence permit (under a valid entry visa) between 12 March and 15 May, can submit their application until 30 September 2020.
- National visas that expire between 11 March and 31 August are automatically extended until 30 September 2020, unless the holder leaves Greece during this period.
- Foreign nationals can sign authorisations and private declarations online rather than in person via a new web portal (in Greek only – please contact us for English language user manual).

GUATEMALA

Entry Restrictions

- The government has announced the reopening of airports to international flights from 18 September.
- The suspension of entry for all nationalities is extended until further notice.
- Guatemalan citizens, permanent residents and diplomatic staff can enter, by land through Mexico, but are subject to 15-day quarantine.
- Foreign nationals who wish to leave Guatemala can do so, provided there is no entry restriction imposed by the governments of the destination countries.

Immigration Restrictions

- Effective 19 August, the central immigration offices will resume certain services:
 - Residency notification;
 - Temporary and permanent residence registration;
 - Application of single-entry and multiple-entry visas;
 - Visa transfer;
 - Data modification;
 - Annual fees for foreign nationals;
 - Update of information/data;
 - Issuance of certificates.
- Effective 4 August the Guatemalan Migration Institute has resumed operations.
 - Limited activities include general queries, correction of previous notifications, collection of previously paid certificates and preliminary verification of residence and guarantee application files.
 - The online appointment platform and bank payment system are not currently available.
 - The submission of any kind of application is not yet permitted.
- Effective 3 August, the Ministry of Labour resumes its activities in every office.
 - The Work Permit for Foreigners Office is open Monday to Friday for notifications and for corrections of previous notification; and Thursday and Friday only for submission of new work permit applications, extensions, cancellation and withdrawals.

Immigration Concessions

- The expiration term for foreign nationals who entered Guatemala and cannot leave due to border closure is suspended until the end of the state of emergency.
- All foreign documents valid from 5 March and duly apostilled can be submitted in support of applications or processes to the Foreign Operations Office.
- Permanent residents outside the country for longer than a year are permitted to re-enter Guatemala without losing their immigration status, provided they left Guatemala during the state of emergency.

GUYANA

Entry Restrictions

- The suspension of international passenger flights and the closure of all borders is extended until at least 15 August.
- The processing and issuance of visas and landing permits is suspended until further notice.

Immigration Restrictions

- All immigration offices are closed and pending immigration processes suspended.

HONDURAS

Entry Restrictions

- Honduran authorities have announced the reopening of airports for international commercial flights from 17 August.
- Honduran citizens, foreign residents and diplomats can enter but must undergo 14-day self-quarantine on arrival.

Immigration Restrictions

- The Migration National Institute officially reopened its main office in Tegucigalpa on 8 June. Other offices are closed until further notice.

Immigration Concessions

- Holders of permits and visas that expire while immigration offices are closed, and their employers, are exempt from penalties.

HONG KONG

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 15 August to 15 October, travellers commencing their travel in China are permitted to transit via Hong Kong International Airport. They must meet the following requirements:
 - Itinerary must be in a single booking;
 - Comply with requirements of end destination country;
 - Baggage checked in to the end destination;
 - Onward boarding pass/passes issued in city of origin;
 - Flight connection within 24 hours.
- Travellers arriving in Hong Kong from a high-risk place (currently Bangladesh, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, South Africa and the United States) must provide a negative COVID-19 PCR test certificate from a test issued within 72 hours before departure, and confirmation of a 14+ day hotel booking in Hong Kong.
- Entry is suspended for non-Hong Kong residents arriving from overseas by air; and for non-Hong Kong residents arriving from the Mainland, Macau and Taiwan who have visited any other country in the previous 14 days.
- The following are subject to 14-day quarantine:
 - Travellers from mainland China, Macau and Taiwan, including Hong Kong and non-Hong Kong residents;
 - Hong Kong residents who have been in any overseas countries or areas in the previous 14 days.
- Quarantine procedure:

- Travellers arriving at Hong Kong International Airport in the morning will stay at the Temporary Specimen Collection Centre (TSCC) of the Department of Health located in the airport to wait for test results after collecting their deep throat saliva samples there. They will receive the test results on the same day. As the test results for.
- Travellers arriving in the afternoon/evening/night will be taken to the Holding Centre for Test Results (HCTR) of the Department of Health (DOH) by coaches arranged by the Department of Health for one night to wait for their test results.
- If the test results are negative, travellers will be allowed to leave the hotel and go home or to a designated place immediately to continue completion of the 14-day compulsory quarantine.
- Confirmed cases and their close contacts will respectively be arranged for admission to hospital and sent to designated quarantine centres direct.
- Exemptions from the quarantine measures include cross-border students, as well as travellers from mainland China who have manufacturing operations or business activities, or provide professional services, and their travel is considered to be in the interest of Hong Kong's economic development. The full list of quarantine exemptions is [here](#).
- All border crossings between Mainland China and Hong Kong remain closed apart from Hong Kong International Airport, The Shenzhen Bay Port and the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge.
- All persons entering Hong Kong are required to complete and submit a Health Declaration Form on arrival. To be environmentally friendly, the Department of Health is encouraging travellers to complete the form online which can be accessed via <http://www.chp.gov.hk/hdf> After the online submission, the system will generate a QR code which is valid for 24 hours. The QR code screen should be captured and shown to the Department of Health authorities upon arrival in Hong Kong.

Immigration Restrictions

- Effective 7 September, the Immigration Department has resumed normal services.
 - The Employment and Dependant Visa has resumed normal services. Processing timeline may continue to be impacted for some time despite resumption of normal services.
 - Employment and Dependant Visa extension applications can only be submitted within one month of visa expiry date under the General Employment Policy (GEP) and under the Admission Scheme for Mainland Talent & Professionals (ASMTP).

Immigration Concessions

- Visa renewal applications can currently be submitted maximum one month prior to visa expiry date. Approval notification will be sent approximately within 2 to 4 weeks of application filing date.

HUNGARY

Entry Restrictions

- Hungary has exempted commuters travelling from Austria from the 30km and 24-hour restrictions.
- Hungary has exempted from the entry ban travellers from Czech Republic, Poland and Slovakia (the Visegrad countries) who had already booked trips to Hungary before 1 September, if they provide a negative COVID-19 test result obtained less than 5 days previously.
- Effective 1 September, Hungary will temporarily close its borders to foreign nationals.
 - The following travellers are exempt from this ban:
 - Persons with permanent residence cards (ÁTK, állandó tartózkodási kártya)
 - Persons holding a residence permit entitling them to stays more than 90 days
 - Athletes, sports experts, sports associations' delegated/assigned persons returning from foreign sporting events.
 - Hungarian citizens and their non-Hungarian citizen relatives.
 - These regulations are not applicable to:
 - Transportation activities;
 - Entry with official (not private) passports;
 - Persons showing proof of having recovered from Covid-19 infection within 6 months.
 - Note that non-Hungarian citizens may request an exemption from the travel ban through the National Police HQ.
- Individuals entering Hungary from abroad (including Hungarian citizens) are required to self-quarantine for 14 days. Note that the following individuals will be allowed to leave self-quarantine before the 14-day period if they are able to produce two negative test results taken two days apart after arrival in Hungary:
 - Hungarian citizens.
 - Persons who are employees or officers of foreign companies who are in business relations with a Hungarian company or are employees or officers of such a Hungarian company may enter Hungary.
 - Commuters within 30 km distance of the border may enter Hungary for a 24-hour period.
 - Entering persons may fall under a medical examination.
 - Military convoys.
 - Athletes and sports experts, organisers.
- Transit through Hungary within 24 hours via designated routes is possible. Transiting individuals may only stop at designated resting points.
- Effective 20 August, Norway has been moved from the yellow list to the green list.
 - Yellow countries include *Bulgaria, Canada, China, Japan, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Spain, Sweden, the UK, and the US.*
 - Entry from yellow countries is permitted for Hungarian and foreign nationals with a health screening and 14-day quarantine. They may be exempted from these requirements if they can present two negative coronavirus test results from tests carried out in the previous five days with 48 hours between tests. Hungarian nationals arriving from yellow countries are released from quarantine after a negative coronavirus test result.
 - Red countries include *Albania, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Ukraine, Australia, New Zealand, Brazil, Canada, Mexico and most of Asia, Africa and South and Central America.*

- Entry from red countries is permitted only for Hungarian nationals, who are only released from quarantine after two negative coronavirus test results.
- No separate list is published for green countries, but they include most of the EU and EEA member states and Switzerland.
- Entry from green countries entails no unusual border controls.
- The government has announced that Hungary will not allow citizens of non-EU countries, except for Serbia, to enter the country, despite the EU's latest recommendations.
- Entry is permitted without quarantine for citizens of EU and EEA member states (not including the UK) arriving from any country.
- Entry is suspended for all other foreign nationals except permanent residence card holders who are family members of Hungarian citizens, and EU/EEA citizens holding a permanent residence card (all subject to a 14-day quarantine). The following exceptions apply:
 - Foreign nationals arriving from Japan or South Korea may enter Hungary without restriction for intracompany business trips.
 - Serbian nationals can enter Hungary based on a reciprocity agreement.
 - Ukrainian nationals can enter Hungary for up to 24 hours and up to 30km from the border.
 - Non-EU/EEA residents of Hungary who wish to return to Hungary but do not have a Hungarian family member, and non-EU/EEA residents of another EU/EEA country may make a special request to re-enter Hungary *via an [online portal](#)* provided by the Hungarian police. Documents need to be attached to the request to prove a court appointment, business travel, medical treatment, school exam, travel connected to transportation or the funeral of a close family member.
 - Foreign nationals transiting through the airport must have a negative COVID-19 certificate, no more than four days old, and signed by a medical professional (from any country).
- Passengers arriving at Budapest's Liszt Ferenc International Airport (except business travellers from South Korea or Japan) will undergo a compulsory medical test upon arrival. Depending on the test's result, they may be taken to hospital quarantine or ordered to stay in home quarantine for 14 days.
- Consular application submission and processing are suspended.

Immigration Restrictions

- All immigration offices are closed and no appointments can currently be booked for in-person application submission.

Immigration Concessions

- Residence permits that are due to expire during the current state of emergency are automatically extended until 45 days after the end of the state of emergency.
- Residence permits and EU registration cards can be extended via a streamlined online process that reduces personal contact – this is recommended.

ICELAND

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 19 August at 00:00, all passengers arriving in Iceland can choose between a 14-day quarantine or a double testing procedure along with a 5/6-day quarantine.
 - The double border-screening procedure requires all passengers arriving in Iceland to undergo two PCR-tests: one upon arrival and another 5-6 days later to minimize the risk of a false negative causing infection to spread in the community. During this period, all arriving passengers must stay in quarantine in case of a possible infection. Those who test negative in the second PCR-test are no longer required to take special precautions. Those who test positive must self-isolate.
 - Alternatively, arriving passengers can choose to stay in 14-day quarantine without undergoing any tests.
 - Children born in 2005 and later are exempt from the double border-screening procedure.
- Effective 15 July, Iceland will lift travel restrictions for residents of 14 non-EEA states, in line with the recommendation of EU member states published on 30 June.
 - The lifting of travel restrictions will apply to Algeria, Australia, Canada, Georgia, Japan, Montenegro, Morocco, New Zealand, Rwanda, Serbia, South Korea, Thailand, Tunisia and Uruguay.
 - The list of countries exempt from travel restrictions will be revised regularly.
 - Icelandic authorities are preparing the implementation of EU guidelines and a new regulation will be issued within the next few days. All passengers arriving from these states must complete pre-registration and choose to undergo a PCR test or a 14-day quarantine upon arrival in Iceland.
 - Exemptions based on essential travel remain unchanged. For example, students from outside the Schengen area and specialists travelling for essential work continue to be allowed to enter Iceland.
- Effective 1 July, Iceland has reduced the price of the Coronavirus tests carried out at Keflavik international airport, from ISK 15,000 to ISK 11,000 (or ISK 9000 if paid for in advance).
- Effective 15 June, travellers permitted to enter Iceland will be given the option of a test upon arrival (ISK 11,000 if paid on site, or ISK 9000 if paid in advance) or quarantine for two weeks. Children born in 2005 or later are exempt from both testing and quarantine. Every passenger will be required to complete a pre-registration form and download the Rakning C-19 contact tracing app.
- Non-essential entry to Iceland remains suspended for foreign nationals other than EU/EFTA and UK nationals, holders of a valid residence permit in Iceland or any of the Schengen member states and family members of Icelandic or other EU/EFTA citizens.
- “Quarantine B” rules, which allow people to work during quarantine, will apply also to those arriving to work on specific projects (i.e. scientists, film crews, news reporters and sports teams).

Immigration Restrictions

- The Directorate of Labour has resumed the expedited processing of applications for work permits.
- The front desk of the Directorate of Immigration is only open to those who have a pre-booked appointment.

Immigration Concessions

- Those not able to leave Iceland before 10 September due to travel restrictions, quarantine or isolation can extend their stay without a residence permit or visa until 10 November, if they are issued a permission to stay upon being registered at the Directorate of Immigration.
 - If the requirements are not fulfilled, a permission to prolong the stay will not be granted. The respective individual will then have to leave Iceland as soon as possible, failure to comply might lead to expulsion and a subsequent re-entry ban.
 - The provision does not apply to foreign nationals who were in illegal stay before 20 March 2020 and does not prevent an expulsion on that or other basis in accordance with the provisions of the Foreigners Act.
 - The fact that there are no direct flights to the home country, high travel costs or other inconveniences of travelling now are not grounds for being allowed to stay in Iceland without a residence permit or visa.

INDIA

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 2 September, entry is permitted for Tibetan migrants resident in India (registered with the FRO/FRRO) and holding a certificate of identity issued by the Ministry of External Affairs and a return visa (which will be reactivated). If the return visa is expired, a fresh visa must be obtained from the relevant Indian consulate.
- Effective 1 September, all international travellers to **Tamil Nadu** must present a negative COVID-19 PCR test certificate (taken within 96 hours prior to arrival) and undergo 14-day home quarantine.
 - Indian nationals returning to Tamil Nadu, and their employers, must schedule the PCR test to ensure the result is received within 96 hours prior to departure.
 - International passengers arriving in the State of Tamil Nadu are also required to obtain TN e-Pass which can be obtained online using <https://tnepass.tnega.org/> and download Arogya Setu App on mobile (available at <https://www.mygov.in/aarogya-Setu-app/>). This should remain active at all times through Bluetooth and Wi-Fi.
- The suspension of all scheduled international passenger services is extended until 30 September. The suspension of visa services is extended in line with the suspension of all international passenger services.
- Certain categories of foreign nationals from a “*air transport bubble*” country (currently **Afghanistan, Bahrain, Canada, France, Germany, Iraq, Japan, Maldives, Nigeria, Qatar, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom and United States**), are permitted to enter India via non-scheduled commercial/chartered flights:
 - The following are the applicable categories:
 - Foreign nationals coming to India on any sub-categories of **employment visa**, along with their dependents holding dependent visas.
 - Foreign journalists holding J-1 visas and their dependents holding J-1X visas (suspended visas are reactivated);
 - Business travellers with a business visa (other than B3 visa for sports);
 - Healthcare professionals, health researchers, engineers and technicians for technical work at Indian health sector facilities, subject

- to a letter of invitation from a recognised and registered healthcare facility, registered pharmaceutical company or accredited university in India;
- Engineering, managerial, design or other specialists travelling to India on behalf of foreign business entities located in India, including all manufacturing units, design units, software and IT units as well as financial sector companies (banking and non-banking financial sector firms).
 - Technical specialists and engineers travelling for installation repair and maintenance of foreign-origin machinery and equipment facilities in India, on the invitation of a registered Indian business entity.
 - OCI Cardholders, minor children or students with at least one parent who is an Indian citizen or OCI Cardholder, spouses of Indian citizens, single parents of minor children who are Indian citizens or OCI Cardholders.
 - Dependent family members of foreign diplomats and official/service passport holding service staff accredited to foreign diplomatic Missions, consular offices or accredited International Organizations in India.
 - Foreign nationals who are persons of Indian origin, who wish to come to India on account of family emergencies like critical medical conditions of immediate family members or death. For this purpose, the person of Indian origin means someone who or any of whose parents had held an Indian passport or such parent (s) is / are or had been a citizen of India earlier.
 - Foreign nationals stranded in the close neighbouring countries and seeking to exit to their destination country through India. (xii) Foreign nationals coming on Medical grounds for treatment in India (including one Attendant, if so requested).
- All existing visas remain temporarily suspended and are not valid for entering India.
 - Travellers in the above categories must first obtain a fresh visa, as applicable, from the relevant Indian consulate.
 - This requirement does not apply to those holding valid visas of diplomatic, official, UN/International Organizations, **employment** and project categories.
 - Foreign nationals holding a valid long-term multiple-entry business visa issued by an Indian consulate must have these visas re-validated by the relevant consulate.
 - Arrival protocols:
 - All international arrivals must complete and submit a self-declaration form at least 72 hours before travel and undergo universal health screening at the designated health counters at all points of entry;
 - Travellers may be exempt from institutional quarantine by submitting on arrival a negative COVID-19 PCR test, conducted within 96 hours prior to travel;
 - If a negative PCR test result is not presented, travellers are subject to a 7-day institutional quarantine at their own expense followed by a 7-day home quarantine. In exceptional cases, receiving states may permit home quarantine for the entire 14-day period. In such cases, those under home quarantine will have to download India's domestic health monitoring and tracking mobile application known as 'Arogya Setu'.

- Visa-free travel granted to OCI card holders who are not in India presently has been suspended until further notice.
- All existing visas (except diplomatic, UN/international organization, employment and project visas) issued to nationals of any country who have not yet entered India stand suspended until the lifting of the suspension of international passenger services.
- Incoming travellers, including Indian nationals are required to complete and submit a self-declaration form at least 72 hours before travel, and undergo universal health screening at the designated health counters at all points of entry.

Immigration Restrictions

- India Visa application centres and online e-visa application facility are closed till further notice.
- Foreign nationals are not permitted to visit the Foreigners Regional Registration Office (FRRO) or Foreigners Registration Office (FRO) without a prior appointment until further notice.

Immigration Concessions

- Regular Visas, e-visas or stay permits of foreign nationals whose visas have expired or will expire after 30 June are deemed valid without fee and without overstay penalties until 30 days after the date of the lifting of the suspension of international passenger services.
- The validity of OCI card of foreign nationals presently in India shall remain.

INDONESIA

Entry Restrictions

- Effective immediately, foreign nationals can apply for new telex visas in the following visa categories:
 - Single Entry Business Visa (SEBV); Work Visa (Limited Stay Visa); Dependent Visa (Family Reunification); Investor Visa; Retirement Visa.
- Effective immediately, foreign nationals holding a telex visa (approval for a work permit or a business visa) issued after 2 April 2020 are permitted to apply for a visit visa or stay visa at an Indonesian consulate abroad.
 - Foreign nationals holding telex visas issued between 1 December 2019 and 2 April 2020 will need to reactivate their telex visas before applying for a visit visa or a stay visa.
 - Details should be confirmed with the relevant consulate.
 - New applications for limited stay permit (ITAS) are now permitted for foreign nationals outside Indonesia. However, the Ministry of Manpower has not yet started to accept new work permit applications (except those with prior recommendation from the Investment Authority (BKPM)).
- Special travel corridor arrangements have been established between Indonesia and both South Korea and United Arab Emirates to facilitate travel for business, employment, diplomatic and official purposes.
- Foreign nationals entering Indonesia must present a negative COVID-19 PCR test certificate in English, issued no more than 7 days previously.

- Individuals who present a **negative** test result:
 - are given health clearance, which will be forwarded to the local health office via their national representative for monitoring during quarantine;
 - will be issued a Health Alert Card (HAC) on arrival;
 - can continue to travel to their destination;
 - must undergo self-quarantine at home for 14 days.
- If travellers cannot provide an adequate, valid negative COVID-19 test certificate, health officers at the airport will take the individual to a hospital or quarantine facility to perform a PCR test. While awaiting the results (3-5 days), the individual must remain in quarantine at one of the designated hotels, at their own cost.
 - If the result is negative, the individual is permitted to continue to their destination city, and must conduct self-quarantine at home for 14 days;
 - If the result is positive, the individual must remain in quarantine until a negative result is recorded.
- Entry and transit are suspended for foreign national visitors who have spent any time in the previous 14 days in countries affected by COVID-19. Exemptions exist for:
 - Children of dual citizenship with a foreign passport and registered in the immigration system as an Indonesian citizen;
 - Holders of Temporary Stay Permit and Permanent Stay Permit (Permanent Residents/KITAS and KITAP) with a valid Multiple Re-entry Permit.
 - Holders of Diplomatic Visa and Official/Service Visa,
 - Holders of Diplomatic Stay Permit and Official/Service Stay Permit.
 - People engaged with Medical Services and Delivery of Supplies (humanitarian assistance),
 - Airline and Maritime Crews including Land Transports.
 - People whose travel is associated with essential work for National Strategic Projects such as infrastructure or construction with approval from the Director-General of Immigration.
 - Holders of Temporary Stay Permit/Permanent Stay Permit (Permanent Residents/KITAS and KITAP) and Multiple Re-entry Permit that has **expired** and is still abroad, only through certain airports.

Immigration Restrictions

- New work permit applications by Foreign Investment Companies (PT PMA) which are not related with National Strategic Projects, can be approved by the Ministry of Manpower as long as there is a recommendation letter from the Investment Coordinating Board (BKPM).
- All foreign nationals who are currently outside Indonesia and are holders of a limited stay permit (ITAS) which needs to be extended, must cancel their permit and reapply for a new permit.
- All applications for new Short-Term Work Permit and new Long-Term Work Permit (RPTKA and Notification) are suspended until further notice.

Immigration Concessions

- On 19 August, the Directorate General of Immigration (DGI) published a new directive extending until 20 September the deadline for holders of expired stay permits, visas and visa exemptions to regularize their immigration status or leave Indonesia:

- **Holders of a valid ITAP who are currently in Indonesia** can apply for extension at the local immigration office;
- **Holders of an expired ITAP who are currently in Indonesia** must leave Indonesia by 20 September or can apply for a new limited stay visa (VTT) or visit visa in-country.
- **Holders of a valid ITAS who are currently in Indonesia** can apply for extension or conversion to ITAP at the local immigration office;
- **Holders of an expired ITAS which cannot be extended and who are currently in Indonesia** must leave Indonesia by 20 September.
- **Holders of an expired ITAP or ITAS who are currently abroad** can enter Indonesia with an approval letter from the ministry or a technical institution (RPTKA/notification) or apply for a new limited stay visa (VTT) to enter Indonesia.
- **Holders of an expired ITAP or ITAS sponsored by a spouse (with a valid or expired MERP) and who are currently abroad** can enter Indonesia directly.
 - Extension of ITAS/ITAP and MERP must be completed by 8 September (possibly extended to 31 December in case of technical issues).
- **Holders of a valid single-entry visit visa which who are currently in Indonesia** can apply for extension or conversion to ITAS at the local immigration office;
- **Holders of an expired single-entry visit visa which cannot be extended who are currently in Indonesia** must leave Indonesia by 20 September or can apply for a new limited stay visa (VTT) or visit visa. In case there is no transportation out of Indonesia, the visa can be extended for periods of 30 days until the COVID-19 crisis is over.
- **Holders of a multiple-entry visit visa whose stay permission period (60 days) has expired and who are currently in Indonesia** can convert their visa to ITAS; or must leave Indonesia before 20 September; or can apply for a new limited stay visa (VTT) or visit visa. In case there is no transportation out of Indonesia, the visa can be extended for periods of 30 days until the COVID-19 crisis is over.
- **Holders of an APEC Business Travel Card whose visit stay permit (60 days) has expired and who are currently in Indonesia** must leave Indonesia before 20 September; or can apply for a new limited stay visa (VTT) or visit visa. In case there is no transportation out of Indonesia, the visa can be extended for periods of 30 days until the COVID-19 crisis is over.
- **Holders of an expired Visa on Arrival (VOA) which cannot be extended and who are currently in Indonesia** must leave Indonesia before 20 September; or can apply for a new limited stay visa (VTT) or visit visa. In case there is no transportation out of Indonesia, the visa can be extended for periods of 30 days until the COVID-19 crisis is over.
- **Foreign nationals currently in Indonesia on a visa exemption** must leave Indonesia before 20 September; or can apply for a new limited stay visa (VTT) or visit visa.
- **Holders of a telex visa issued after 1 December 2019 who are currently in Indonesia** can apply for ITAS or visit visa in-country.
- All applications for extension of Long-Term Work Permit (RPTKA and Notification) can to be submitted to the Ministry of Manpower.

IRAQ

Entry Restrictions

- International and domestic flights have resumed at all airports.
- All new arrivals must present negative COVID-19 test results from their country of origin, issued within 48 hours before departure, and another thermal test will be performed on arrival. If positive, the patient will transfer to quarantine.
- Blood work can be completed at ALSAHIA clinic in Baghdad, at military bases once proved that the candidate is COVID-19 negative, or as usual at ALASAD air base.
- All blood work related to the US embassy has been postponed until further notice.

Immigration Restrictions

- The Ministry of Interior (MOI) is now processing multiple entry/exit visa (MEEV) renewal and exit visa applications.
 - For MEEV renewal, the MOI now requests a COVID-19 test in addition to an HIV test.
 - For exit visa, the MOI requests a valid flight ticket in addition to a valid visa for the destination country.
- The MOI continues to issue new letters of approval (LOAs).
- The MOI at ALASAD air base is issuing multiple entry visas (MEVs) for arrivals with valid LOAs.

Immigration Concessions

- Effective until 20 October 2020, the visa validity period starts from the arrival date, rather than the issuance date of the letter of approval (LOA).
- All expiring or expired LOAs since 22 February 2020 are considered valid until 20 October 2020.
- Visas which expired or expire since 22 February are not subject to a penalty fee.
- Visas which expired before 22 February are subject to a reduced penalty fee of IQD 100,000 (rather than IQD 500,000).

IRELAND

Entry Restrictions

- Irish borders remain open, but all persons arriving in Ireland (except those arriving from “green list” countries) are required to undergo a 14-day self-quarantine.
- Effective 21 September, the **green list** is updated:
 - Estonia, Greece, Greenland, Hungary, Italy, Norway and Slovakia **are removed** from the green list;
 - Cyprus, Germany, Iceland and Poland **are added** to the list
 - The green list **includes** Cyprus, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland.
 - Individuals arriving from these countries/regions will not be required to self-quarantine for 14 days upon arrival in Ireland.

- The green list will be updated weekly with countries with a cumulative incidence rate of 25 or less per 100,000, based on the latest data from the ECDC.
- Effective 26 August, all persons travelling to Ireland are required to complete an online COVID-19 *Passenger Locator Form* prior to arrival.
 - The information provided may be used to contact the travellers in the following 14 days to verify the details given on the form and to provide public health advice. This form may also be used for the purposes of contact tracing in relation to confirmed or suspected cases of COVID-19.
 - Travellers are not required to complete a COVID-19 Passenger Locator Form if they are an essential supply chain worker (that is, air and ship crew and hauliers) or an accredited diplomat.
- The Department of Justice and Equality has started a limited resumption, in some countries, of visa services, including the acceptance of long-stay D visa applications, including for study, as well as emergency or priority visas. Short-stay visas for non-essential travel will not be issued.

Immigration Restrictions

- Having closed temporarily to allow for revised public health guidance to be issued, the Dublin area Registration Office in Burgh Quay and Registration Offices outside Dublin reopened for first-time registrations by appointment from 24 August.
- The *online Registration Renewal System* for immigration registration has been extended to all Dublin-based non-EEA nationals seeking to *renew* their immigration registration, who have less than 30 days left on their permission.
 - The renewal registration process involves completing an online form, uploading supporting documents, paying a fee and then submitting the passport and current IRP Card via registered post to ISD Burgh Quay. No attendance at Burgh Quay is required.
- Immigration Service Delivery (ISD) has temporarily stopped accepting visa applications. Online applications are available as usual, but applications will not be processed, apart from emergency visas for essential workers, and visas for immediate family members of Irish citizens, legal residents and EU citizens. Any application made online will remain valid until restrictions are lifted.
- Visa-required nationals, currently outside Ireland, with an expired IRP card are required to apply for an entry visa through their local consulate / VFS Global office.

Immigration Concessions

- Current valid permissions to reside in Ireland which are due to expire between 20 September 2020 and 20 January 2021 are automatically renewed until 20 January 2021.
 - Holders of a valid permission should ensure they renew their registration in the normal way as soon as possible, and by 20 January 2021 at the latest.
 - This is the fifth, the longest, and expected to be the final, extension of permissions implemented since the onset of the pandemic.
 - A new IRP or permission letter will not be issued for this automatic renewal.
 - The renewal of permission is on the same basis as the existing permission and the same conditions attach.
 - Any permission that was renewed by previous notices is automatically renewed by this notice.

- This renewal of permission also applies to:
 - Persons granted permission to land at a port of entry on condition they register at Burgh Quay or their local AGS registration office within 3 months but have yet to do so.
 - Persons in the country on a short-stay visa who have been granted permission to remain for less than three months who may be unable to leave Ireland and return home due to uncertainties caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The periods of automatic renewal of permission count as reckonable residence for citizenship purposes only in circumstances where the person in question already held a nature of permission that counted as reckonable residence.
- The renewal of permission also applies to students, non-EEA nationals on visitor status who have applied for a Stamp 0 status.
- Employees can present their previous Irish Residence Permit (IRP) Card and a copy of the Irish Naturalisation and Immigration Service (INIS) notice to their employers to show that they can continue to work.
- Those residing in Ireland on a Stamp 2 (student permission) who wish to avail of their Stamp 1G under the Third Level Graduate Programme, can now apply by emailing the registration office at Burgh Quay.
- The Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation ('DBEI') are still accepting and processing employment permit applications and related applications (Stamp 4, Trusted Partner and Reviews) and are issuing permits electronically, once granted.
- Expired employment permits do not need to be sent back to DBEI within four weeks of expiry during the COVID-19 emergency period.
- DBEI have confirmed that non-EEA nationals can work remotely but a notification to the DBEI is required.
- DBEI will allow employees to change their start date with their new employment, if they cannot take up the job as a result of COVID-19.
- During the emergency period, employees who withdraw their application because of the emergency will receive a full refund of their application fee.

Atypical Work Scheme

- Effective 3 September, an online application process for the Atypical Work Scheme (AWS) is available via the [Immigration Online Portal](#).
 - Effective 18 September, applications and EFT payment of application fees must be submitted via the new online portal.
 - The [online application process](#) includes important [new documentation requirements](#).
 - Requests for the re-issue of a letter of permission that has expired prior to use due to COVID-19 travel restrictions should continue to be submitted by email, including proof of postal return of any hard copy letter of approval.
- Where the holder of an AWS cannot travel during the validity period of their decision letter, the letter should be returned to ISD as a matter of urgency and an amended letter of approval will issue when ISD has been notified of revised travel plans – when this is met, no new application or payment of application fee will be required. Where new travel dates remain within the validity of the decision letter, no action is required.
- If an AWS holder had to leave Ireland early due to travel restrictions/work shut down, and needs to return when restrictions are lifted, the currently valid letter of approval should be returned to ISD and an amended letter of approval will issue when INIS

has been notified of revised travel plans, and provided with confirmation from the Irish-based host body regarding the cessation of operations, and evidence of departure. When these criteria are met, no new application, or payment of application fee will be required.

ISRAEL

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 18 September, a full nationwide lockdown is imposed for an initial 3 weeks.
 - During this period, Ben Gurion International Airport will remain open.
 - Those departing Israel must present a valid flight ticket four hours before their flight to obtain permission to travel to the airport.
- Effective 31 August, travellers arriving in Israel who have, in the previous 14 days, only been in “green” locations will not be subject to 14-day quarantine.
 - The green locations currently include (latest updates in ***bold italics***): ***Australia***, Austria, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, Hungary, ***Ireland***, Italy, Jordan, Latvia, Lithuania, New Zealand, ***Norway***, ***Portugal***, Rwanda, ***Singapore***, Slovenia, ***Taiwan***, ***Thailand***, ***United Arab Emirates***, United Kingdom, and ***Uruguay***.
- Employers for foreign experts who were already working in Israel but are not currently in Israel can apply for “Entry During COVID-19” at the local Ministry of Interior with jurisdiction over the company.
 - The foreign expert must hold a valid work permit, B-1 work visa and re-entry visa/multiple-entry visa;
 - No other special ministry-specific permit is required (as was previously the case).
- The Israel Airports Authority has notified airlines that the ban on non-Israelis entering Israel has been extended (for the second time) to 1 September, while Israelis returning from abroad must continue to self-isolate for two weeks.
- Experts that are needed urgently in Israel will need a special approval from the related ministry under the restrictions of the Ministry of Health.
- Short term technicians that are urgently needed will be allowed to enter the country for seven days under special restrictions of the Ministry of Health. Applications might therefore take more time than usual. Technicians that are needed for a longer, will be able to stay up to 45 days, and will be required to undertake 14 days of quarantine.
- The Ministry of Interior has issued updated entry rules:
 - No foreign national is allowed to board a flight to Israel without holding a pre-entry approval issued by the Ministry of Interior;
 - All arrivals must present health insurance that specifically covers COVID-19;
 - Foreign experts holding a one-year B-1 expert visa, and their families, can now travel to their home country and back to Israel, subject to a pre-approved application for re-entry during COVID 19. The special re-entry application must be submitted (and approved) at the Ministry of Interior before departure. This requirement is in addition to the normal multiple-entry visa requirement.
 - Any foreign national leaving Israel before the end of the 14-day self-isolation period without special permission is violating the law, and additional entry will not be permitted.

- Foreign experts can now visit Israel for up to seven working days under the 45-day work permit programme, without quarantine, but with the prior approval of the Ministry of Economy.
- The Israeli Ministry of Interior has clarified the requirements for an exceptional foreign national entry permit. Those who may be eligible include:
 - **Foreign experts** performing work necessary for national infrastructure and/or functional continuity of the economy, with a recommendation from the relevant government office. After obtaining the foreign expert's necessity approval, the company should apply for a work permit through the Work Permit Unit of the Ministry of Interior. The final stage will be approval to travel to Israel, granted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Foreign experts arriving for more than 72 hours must remain in isolation for 14 days from the date of arrival. The employers of new or returning foreign experts must provide housing in apartments rather than hotels for the isolation period.
 - **A foreign national married to an Israeli citizen or permanent resident.** The application should be submitted at either the Ministry of Interior in Israel or at the Israeli Consulate abroad, depending on the circumstances. If both spouses live abroad, the foreign national's entry will be subject to presentation of health insurance (including a section relating to COVID-19 coverage).
 - **Foreign students** who have started their studies in Israel and are currently abroad.
 - **Married Yeshiva students.**
 - **Medical tourists.**
 - Permanent or foreign residents, whose "centre of life" is in Israel for purposes of **attending a wedding** of immediate family members (including that of grandchildren).
 - Immediate family members and their spouses **attending a funeral.**
- The suspension of entry for all foreign nationals is extended until 1 July. Exemptions exist for citizens or residents of Israel and those who have received extraordinary permission from the Population and Immigration Authority.

Immigration Concessions

- An automatic three-month extension will be granted to all foreign nationals holding a Foreign Expert B-1 work visa which expires between up to 30 June.
- An automatic ten-week extension will be granted to all foreign nationals holding a Foreign Expert B-1 work visa which expires up to 31 August.
- These extensions apply to all subcategories of working visas for foreign experts, including Hi-Tech 365 (HIT 365) visas, 90-days (STEP), Hi-Tech 90 days (HIT 90) and the 45-day short-term work authorisation (SEA).
- Where a foreign worker changes employer, it will be necessary to apply for a work permit under the normal procedures, with an application to transfer the employee to the new employer.
- It is recommended to apply as soon as possible for an extension to a work visa for those intending to stay in Israel beyond the automatic extension.
- Processing time for urgent visas for critical machine repair and installation is currently 2-3 weeks. An application to the relevant government department and approval by the Ministry of Health are required (in addition to applications for a work permit and a visa). The company is required to report on the location of the housing of the foreign national. The foreign national must report a body temperature over 38° Celsius (equal to 100.4° Fahrenheit) or any other known coronavirus symptoms

which existed before the flight to Israel, during the stay in Israel and 14 days after departure.

ITALY

Entry Restrictions

- Travel restrictions have been extended until 7 October and unmarried partners of Italian citizens and residents are permitted to enter Italy (a 14-day self-quarantine requirement applies).
- Entry is permitted from **List A** countries (**San Marino** and **Vatican City**) with no limitations.
- Entry is permitted from **List B** countries (**EU member states except for Croatia, Greece, Malta, Spain, Romania and Bulgaria; Schengen states; the UK, Andorra and Monaco, Faroe Islands, Greenland, Svalbard and Jan Mayen, Gibraltar, Channel Islands, Isle of Man, British bases on the island of Cyprus, Azores and Madeira, Spanish North Africa**) for any reason and without self-quarantine, unless the traveller has in the previous 14 days visited a country in List C, D, E or F.
- Entry is permitted from **Croatia, Greece, Malta** or **Spain** with a molecular or antigenic COVID-19 swab tests
 - The test may be carried out within 72 hours prior to arrival; or upon arrival at the port of entry; or within 48 hours of arrival at the company local health reference, in which case they must self-isolate while waiting to take the test.
- Entry is permitted from **List C** countries (**Bulgaria** and **Romania**) for any reason, unless the traveller has in the previous 14 days visited a country in List E or F. 14-day self-quarantine is required.
- Entry is permitted from **List D** countries (**Australia, Canada, Georgia, Japan, New Zealand, Rwanda, South Korea, Thailand, Tunisia, Uruguay**) for any reason unless the traveller has in the previous 14 days visited a country in List E or F. 14-day self-quarantine is required.
- Entry is permitted from **List E** countries (**rest of the world**) only for specific, essential purposes (or for any reason for Italian/EU/Schengen citizens and residents and their family members). 14-day self-quarantine is required.
- Entry is suspended from **List F** countries (**Armenia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Kosovo, Kuwait, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Oman, Panama, Peru** and **Serbia**) with the exception of EU citizens (including Italian citizens) and their family members, and transport crew members and transport staff, diplomatic and military officers and agents. 14-day self-quarantine is required.
- Provided the traveller has not stayed in any country on list C or F in the previous 14 days and show no symptoms, exemptions from 14-day quarantine (and the swab testing rules from Croatia, Greece, Malta and Spain) exist for the following:
 - Persons travelling to Italy for a short stay (up to 120 hours in total) for proven work, urgent or health reasons;
 - Persons transiting through the country for no more than 36 hours;
 - Citizens or residents of countries in Lists A, B, C and D travelling for proven employment reasons;
 - Transport crew members and travel staff;
 - Health personnel travelling for professional purposes;

- Cross-border workers;
 - Employees of companies with their main or secondary headquarters in Italy, returning to the country after travelling abroad, for work, for no more than 120 hours (5 days);
 - Travel to and from San Marino or the Vatican;
 - Officials of international organisations, diplomats, military personnel;
 - Students attending study programmes abroad and returning home at least once a week;
 - persons entering the country for work reasons regulated by specific security protocols, approved by the competent health authorities;
 - persons entering the country for reasons that cannot be postponed, including their participation in international sports events or trade fairs, subject to prior authorisation by the Ministry of Health and subject to the obligation to present to the carrier on boarding, or to any other competent authority, a declaration to the effect that they have taken a molecular or antigenic swab test, with a negative result, within 72 hours before entering Italy.
- All arrivals from abroad are required to complete a **self-certification form** declaring their purpose of travel, their place of departure and the address of their destination in Italy, and to present this to the carrier before boarding. They must inform the local health authority (ASL) upon arrival.

Immigration Restrictions

- Public offices throughout Italy remain closed to the public. Employers and assignees in Italy should be prepared for delays in the processing of immigration and work authorisation applications.
- All applications pending as of 23 February or submitted since 23 February will not be processed until further notice.

Immigration Concessions

- All residence permits, work permits, family permits, study permits, entry visas, titles of travel with an expiration date between 23 February 2020 and 15 June 2020 were extended until 31 August 2020.
- Seasonal permits expiring between 23 February 2020 and 31 May 2020 will be extended until 31 December 2020.
- All certificates, permits of stay, authorisations and clearances with an expiration date between 31 January 2020 and 15 April 2020 were extended until 15 June 2020.
- Italian passports and ID cards expiring after 17 March 2020 were extended until 31 August 2020, but the extended validity will only be recognised within Italy.
- Deadlines for residence permit application and issuance are suspended for 30 days. Normally, initial residence permit applications must be submitted within 8 working days of arrival in Italy and renewal applications within 60 days of permit expiry.
- EU citizens posted to work in Italy or employed in Italy between 23 February 2020 and 15 April 2020 had to lawfully register their stay with the Town Hall by 15 June 2020.

JAMAICA

Entry Restrictions

- Jamaica's borders have reopened to international travellers.
- All international arrivals must request a [travel authorization](#).
- The following are currently considered high-risk locations: Brazil, Dominican Republic, Mexico and USA.
- **Jamaican citizens and residents** may be subject to COVID-29 PCR testing on arrival if assessed as high-risk as a result of exhibiting symptoms, exposure to persons who have tested positive, belonging to a high-risk group or other risk factors.
 - Whether or not persons are required to be tested, they will be required to remain in quarantine at home for 14 days from their date of entry to Jamaica. If persons are required to be tested and their test is negative, they will be required to complete their quarantine at home for 14 days from their date of entry to Jamaica. If the test is positive, they will be isolated either at home or in a government facility as determined by the health authorities.
 - Persons assessed by the health authorities as presenting a very low risk of spread may be required to stay at home for 14 days from their date of entry to Jamaica. These persons would be allowed to leave their home only once per day, to go to the closest practicable location for the purpose of obtaining food, medical supplies or medical services, conducting financial transactions, overseeing their place of business, attending a place of worship, and physical exercise. They would also be required to work from home.
- **Non-resident visitors**, aged 12 and over, who are residents of high-risk locations are required to obtain a COVID-19 PCR test within 10 days prior to travel, at an accredited facility in the country of residence.
 - Effective 20 August, a copy of the test result must be uploaded as part of the Travel Authorisation application. This is already in effect for residents of Arizona, Florida, New York and Texas in the USA.
- Non-resident visitors **for tourism** staying at approved "resilient corridor" accommodation may be required to be tested at the airport or designated facility, in which case they would have to await their test result in their hotel room;
 - If the test is negative, they would remain at their hotel/resort within the "resilient corridor" and restricted to property under the "Stay in Resilient Corridor" measure.
 - If the test is positive, they would be isolated either at the hotel/resort or in a government facility as determined by the health authorities.
 - Persons not required to be tested on arrival will be allowed to go to their hotel/resort under the "Stay in Resilient Corridor" measure.
- Non-resident visitors **for business** will be tested on arrival at the airport.
 - They will await their result at their hotel/intended address;
 - If the test is negative, they would be released from quarantine and be under a "Stay at Intended Address for Business Travellers" measure for a period of 14 days from their date of entry to Jamaica or for the duration of their stay if shorter than 14 days.
 - If the test is positive, they would be isolated either at their hotel/intended address or in a government facility as determined by the health authorities.
 - Non-residents visiting Jamaica for business purposes for 14 days or more will be subject to the same testing and quarantine protocols as for Jamaican citizens and residents.

- Non-resident visitors **for other purposes** may be required to be tested at the airport or designated facility, in which case they would have to await their test result under quarantine at their hotel/intended address.
 - Whether or not persons are required to be tested, they will be required to remain in quarantine at home for 14 days from their date of entry to Jamaica. If persons are required to be tested and their test is negative, they will be required to remain in quarantine at home for 14 days from their date of entry to Jamaica. If the test is positive, they will be isolated either at home or in a government facility as determined by the health authorities.

JAPAN

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 18 September, Japan and **Singapore** will reopen the border between the two countries to residents of each country for short-term essential business and official purposes via a **Reciprocal Green Lane (RGL)**. Further details are yet to be published.
- The Government of Japan is phasing in a framework of special measures for resuming cross-border business and work travel, separately from general entry procedures, on the condition of additional quarantine measures. This framework will become effective with relevant countries/regions one after another once such arrangements have been agreed and implemented.
 - Effective 8 September, these measures apply to nationals of Cambodia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar and Taiwan. The measures are scheduled to apply to Singapore next.
 - Effective 29 July, these measures apply only to nationals of Thailand and Vietnam who live in the designated country and travel to Japan via direct flight from the designated country.
 - The “Business Track” applies to short-term business travellers and the “Residence Track” applies to holders of a Certificate of Eligibility for work or long-term stay as a “Business Manager”, “Intra-company transfer”, “Engineer / Specialist in humanities / International services”, “Nursing care”, “Highly skilled professional”, “Technical Intern Training”, “Specified Skilled Worker”, “Designated activities (Start-up)” or “Designated activities (nurses/candidate nurses and care workers/candidate care workers who wish to enter Japan based on an EPA).
 - For the time being, holders of status of residence dependent are not eligible to accompany their family members with the status of residence listed above under these trial measures
 - Foreign nationals who are willing to enter or re-enter Japan under this framework need either a new visa or a “Re-entry Confirmation Letter” in addition to a certificate of pre-entry PCR test results.
 - In case the applicant presents an expired Certificate of Eligibility issued on or after 1 October 2019, the applicant is required to show a document issued by his/her accepting organization in Japan that states the organization will still be able to accept the applicant to have him/her engage in the activities described on the application for the Certificate of Eligibility.
 - On top of the current border control measures (i.e. undergoing PCR testing, refraining from using public transport and 14-day self-quarantine), applicants

must take additional quarantine measures (e.g. presenting a certificate of the result of pre-entry PCR testing and keeping location data for 14 days after entry into Japan).

- For the “Business Track”, the government will partially relax restrictions on conducting limited business activities in Japan during the 14-day quarantine period on the condition that travellers take additional measures (e.g. submission of a “Schedule of Activities in Japan”).
- Effective 5 August, entry will be permitted for holders of a residence status who left Japan before the country where they are currently staying came under the entry ban.
 - Relevant residence statuses include: “Permanent Resident”, “Spouse or Child of Japanese National”, “Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident” or “Long Term Resident” (including the spouse or child of a Japanese national without these residence statuses);
 - Upon re-entry, these foreign nationals are requested to present a Re-entry Confirmation Letter issued by the relevant Japanese mission overseas, as well as a pre-entry PCR test certificate (issued within 72 hours of departure).
 - Effective 7 August, foreign nationals with the above residence statuses intending to enter or re-enter Japan with special exceptional circumstances who stayed in Bangladesh, Pakistan, the Philippines or Peru in the previous 14 days are subject to the new requirement to present, upon entry, the Re-entry Confirmation letter and pre-entry PCR test certificate.
 - Effective on or after 1 September, these documents must be presented by all foreign nationals with the above residence statuses intending to re-enter Japan.
- Travellers of any nationality who have in the previous 14 days visited any of the travel ban countries are subject to a PCR test on arrival, and all nationals arriving from all regions must wait 14 days at a location designated by the quarantine station chief and must refrain from using public transportation.
- Until further notice, entry is suspended for travellers of any nationality who have in the previous 14 days visited the following countries:
 - *Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Canada, United States, Uruguay, Venezuela, Australia, New Zealand, Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei, China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Macau, Malaysia, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, South Korea, Singapore, Taiwan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Uzbekistan, Vietnam, Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Kosovo, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, Ukraine, United Kingdom, Vatican, Bahrain, Iran, Israel, Kuwait, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, Botswana, Cape Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, DR Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Morocco, Namibia, Nigeria, Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sao Tome and Principe, Sudan, Tunisia, Zambia, Zimbabwe.*

- Entry is also suspended for foreign nationals who have Chinese passports issued in Hubei Province or Zhejiang Province of China.
- The suspension of the following single and multiple entry visas issued by Japanese consulates is extended until at least the end of August:
 - Visas issued **by 8 March** in mainland China, Hong Kong, Macao and South Korea;
 - Visas issued **by 20 March** in Iran, Egypt, Andorra, Austria, Bulgaria, Belgium, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, Vatican;
 - Visas issued **by 27 March** in Brunei, Malaysia, Indonesia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam, Bahrain, Israel, Qatar and DR Congo;
 - Visas issued **by 2 April** in Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, India, Laos, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste, Cook, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall, Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Grenada, Guyana, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Christopher and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint. Vincent, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, Venezuela, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Afghanistan, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Syria, United Arab Emirates (note), Yemen, Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe.
- The suspension of visa exemptions for nationals of the following countries is extended until at least the end of August: *Bangladesh, Brunei, Cambodia, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Laos, Macau, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam, Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay, Andorra, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, the United Kingdom, Uzbekistan, Vatican, Israel, Iran, Oman, Qatar, United Arab Emirates, Lesotho, Tunisia.*
 - However, visa exemption measures are not suspended for nationals of *Canada, United States of America, North Macedonia, Serbia, Chile, Australia, New Zealand, Turkey and Mauritius.*
- The effect of Pre-Clearances (i.e. visa exemptions) granted by the Japanese Government to holders of APEC Business Travel Cards (ABTC) issued by the

following countries and regions is also suspended: Brunei, China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Russia, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam.

Immigration Restrictions

- The Immigration Bureau is accepting applications for Certificate of Eligibility (CoE) for medium to long-term stays, and other applications such as extension or change of status.

Immigration Concessions

- The Immigration Bureau has extended the expiration date of Certificate of Eligibility (CoE) for 6 months from the date the entry ban is lifted, or until 30 April, whichever is sooner.
- The Immigration Bureau will extend the acceptance of renewal/extension applications for three months from the expiry date due in March, April, May or June.

JORDAN

Entry Restrictions

- Jordanian authorities have announced the resumption of regularly scheduled flights from Amman Airport from 8 September. During the first week, only up to four flights will be permitted to land.
- Countries have been classified into red, yellow and green categories by infection rate.
 - Travellers arriving from **green** countries (currently: *Canada, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Greece, Hong Kong, Hungary, Lithuania, Malaysia, Morocco, Poland, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey and Tunisia*) with a negative COVID-19 PCR test are not subject to self-quarantine.
 - Travellers arriving from **yellow** countries (currently: *Algeria, Austria, Germany, Italy, Malta, Netherlands and UAE*) are subject to 7 days of institutional quarantine followed by 7 days of self-quarantine.
 - Travellers arriving from **red** countries (currently: *Bahrain, Belgium, France, Iraq, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Oman, Qatar, Romania, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Spain, UK, Ukraine, USA, Egypt, Sudan, Syria and Yemen*) are subject to 7 days of institutional quarantine followed by 7 days of self-quarantine with a tracking bracelet.
- All travellers arriving in Jordan will be required to:
 - Provide proof of residence in the departing country for at least 14 days before departing for Jordan.
 - Complete an online declaration 24 hours prior to departure. Upon completion, the traveller will receive a QR code that they will be required to show upon arrival in Jordan.
 - Have health insurance covering COVID-19 treatment for the entire period of the intended trip.
 - Provide proof of a negative COVID-19 PCR test issued up to 72 hours prior to travel.
 - Undergo a COVID-19 PCR test on arrival at a cost of JOD 40.

- Install [Aman.jo](#) mobile application.

KAZAKHSTAN

Entry Restrictions

- Regular passenger flights have resumed since 17 August with a number of countries, including Belarus, Germany, South Korea, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates and others. Flights with Egypt, Netherlands and Russia will resume once the governments reach an agreement.
- Entry is permitted for foreign nationals who are citizens of a country with whom direct flights have resumed, travelling on a direct flight from this country (transit flights are prohibited).
 - Travellers must have obtained an appropriate visa (except for nationals of CIS member states).
 - Travellers are required to undergo either a COVID-19 test at their accommodation within 48 hours of arrival or a 14-day self-quarantine. Those presenting a negative COVID-19 test certificate issued in the previous 5 days are exempt from this requirement.
- The suspension of entry for all other foreign nationals is extended until further notice. Exemptions apply:
 - Residence permit holders and their family members (spouse, parents and children). Note that border crossing for this category is permitted only once every 30 days.
 - Employees of Kazakh and foreign companies holding a special entry permit.
 - Citizens of countries with whom Kazakhstan has resumed direct flight connections, travelling from their country of citizenship, and holding an appropriate visa.
 - Family members (spouse, parents, children) of Kazakh citizens with confirmation of the family relationship. Note that border crossing for this category is permitted only once every 30 days.
 - Employees of Kazakhstan airlines and their family members.
 - Accredited consular personnel.
- All consular visa applications must now be supported by a medical certificate showing absence of coronavirus infection, issued within 48 hours of the application.
- The unilateral visa-free regime for nationals of 57 countries is suspended until 1 November 2020. Citizens of these countries will be unable to visit Kazakhstan without a visa. This does not apply to nationals of countries which have signed bilateral agreements on visa-free travel. Foreign nationals currently in Kazakhstan under the unilateral visa-free regime can exit the country during the state of emergency if there are flights to their home countries.

Immigration Concessions

- C3 work visas can be renewed (not earlier than 30 business days and not later than 5 business days prior to expiry) once the work permit is extended (not later than 30 calendar days prior to expiry).
- B2 business visas can be extended by up to 30 days (at least 5 days prior to expiry).
- Visa-free nationals can apply for a business visa for up to 30 days to stay beyond their 30-day visa waiver.

KENYA

Entry Restrictions

- Effective immediately, the Kenyan government has expanded to 130 its list of countries from where travellers are exempt from quarantine.
- Effective 1 August, scheduled commercial passenger flights are permitted.
 - Passengers entering Kenya are required to present a negative COVID-19 test result produced not more than 96 hours before travel.
 - There is no mandatory quarantine for arriving passengers unless they are symptomatic.
 - Passenger Locator Cards (PLC, provided both on the flight and at the airport terminal) will be used to track passengers entering Kenya.
 - Passengers may be subject to quarantine restrictions if any passengers within two rows of their seat appear symptomatic.
 - Passengers departing Kenya should follow COVID-19 requirements of the destination country. There is no COVID-19 test requirement to depart Kenya.
 - At the airport, temperature checks will help identify passengers with a body temperature of 37.5°C (99.5°F) or higher. Any passenger with an elevated body temperature shall be referred for secondary assessment by Port Health staff present at the airport who will handle the passenger in accordance with public health guidelines. If a passenger is confirmed to have a fever, they will not be allowed to board their flight.
 - Evidence of a flight is sufficient to exempt from any penalty drivers who are collecting or depositing passengers from flights arriving after curfew hours.

Immigration Restrictions

- Visa and work permit endorsement can be completed for those who need to travelling out of Kenya. .
- In-country immigration services have resumed, but there is a significant backlog of cases. Follow-ups in person are not possible. Permit and pass processing is now taking 1-2 months, compared to 2 weeks before the pandemic.

Immigration Concessions

- Effective 14 September, the amnesty allowing foreign nationals who are out of immigration status to remain in the country during the lockdown period has been lifted. Affected foreign nationals must leave the country within two weeks or apply for a permit or pass to regularize their status.
- The Directorate of Immigration (DIS) has partially resumed operations. Applications for permits and passes can be submitted to the DIS for processing (expect an additional 2-3 weeks processing time). Pending applications are under review.
- Applicants must stop working once their current work permit expires. A notification that a permit or pass has been issued shall suffice as proof of authorization to work. During this time they should obtain a visa to allow them to remain in Kenya.
- Endorsement and foreign national registration will be completed once the DIS resumes full operations.

KYRGYZSTAN

- Entry is now permitted for citizens of 31 countries, including *Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, China, Georgia, Germany, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Pakistan, Portugal, Qatar, Russia, Slovenia, South Korea, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Arab Emirates* and *United Kingdom*.
- Entry is suspended until further notice, for all other foreign nationals except permanent residents and family members of Kyrgyz citizens, employees of diplomatic missions and consular offices of foreign states and employees of international organizations.
- The issuance of entry visas is suspended until further notice.
- Anyone entering Kyrgyzstan will be subject to a 3-day mandatory quarantine in state facilities. If they do not show any symptoms, they should then be allowed to quarantine at home for 14 days.
- Foreign nationals with expired visas or registration can stay in Kyrgyzstan until at least 1 June 2020.

KUWAIT

Entry Restrictions

- The government has approved the gradual resumption of commercial international flights from 1 August, with an initial cap of 100 flights per day.
- Flights from, or transiting through, countries deemed to be high risk will not be resumed.
 - Argentina, France, and Yemen have been added to the list of high-risk countries.
 - These include Afghanistan, Argentina, Armenia, Bangladesh, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Chile, China, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Egypt, France, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Iran, Iraq, Italy, Kosovo, Lebanon, Mexico, Moldova, Montenegro, Nepal, North Macedonia, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Serbia, Singapore, Spain, Sri Lanka, Syria and Yemen.
 - If transiting through prohibited countries, passengers must settle in non-prohibited countries for a period of 14 days before being permitted to enter Kuwait, and provide a negative PCR test result which is valid for 72 hours.
- Passengers arriving in Kuwaiti airports are required to:
 - Download and register on the health-monitoring app, Shlonik, prior to boarding their departing flight.
 - Provide a negative COVID-19 PCR test result, issued within the previous 96 hours prior to departure.
 - Undergo temperature checks prior to boarding their departing flight and upon arrival in Kuwait.
 - If requested, undergo a random COVID-19 PCR test upon arrival. Kuwaiti authorities have advised that 10% of passengers on each flight will be selected for random testing.
 - Be subject to a home-quarantine for 14 days upon arrival in Kuwait.

- Travel out of Kuwait is now permitted in certain cases: Critical health conditions; students studying abroad; Kuwaiti citizens resident abroad or having a foreign-national spouse resident abroad (and other special cases approved by the Ministry of the Interior).
 - The travel period should not be less than 30 days.
 - The traveller must submit a request to travel to the Ministry of the Interior at least ten days prior to travel, supported by the relevant documents and entry visa to the destination country.
 - The traveller must sign a declaration and a pledge to bear the expenses of return travel and any quarantine or treatment on their return, if required by the health authorities.
 - All airlines carrying passengers to Kuwait must request a negative PCR test result, in Arabic, issued no more than four days previously, from each passenger before boarding.
- Kuwait will temporarily not allow Gulf citizens to enter the country using their national identity cards.

Immigration Restrictions

- Immigration offices are closed until further notice. The authorities have temporarily stopped issuing visas and first-time work permits.

Immigration Concessions

- A three-month extension until 31 August was automatically granted to temporary residents, both in Kuwait and abroad, whose immigration status expires, work visa holders who have not been able to complete residency procedures and holders of expired visit visas.
- Decisions regarding foreign residents will be valid for 12 months (rather than 6 months), even if the foreign resident is outside Kuwait.

LAOS

Entry Restrictions

- All international borders remain closed and the issuance of visas remains suspended until at least 30 September.
 - Exceptions may be granted for mandated experts, public officials, and foreign workers entering the country to work on important and necessary projects.
 - All arrivals must undergo a COVID-19 test on arrival and may be quarantined.
 - Foreign nationals working or studying in Laos will be granted authorization to return home.
- The Immigration Department has reopened.

LATVIA

Entry Restrictions

- Entry is permitted for foreign nationals resident in EU and EEA countries (including the UK and the microstates) and Switzerland, as well as Australia, Canada, Georgia, Japan, New Zealand, Rwanda, South Korea, Thailand, Tunisia and Uruguay. Serbia, Montenegro, Algeria and Morocco have been removed from this list.
- Arrivals from these countries are not subject to self-isolation, unless they have in the previous 14 days been in a country with a 14-day cumulative incidence of 16 or more COVID-19 cases per 100,000.
- Effective 19 September, **Lithuania** has been added to the list of countries subject to self-isolation.
- Currently, arrivals who have, in the previous 14 days, been in *Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia, the United Kingdom* or any other non-EU/EEA country, are subject to self-isolation.
- Effective 17 September the period of self-isolation has been reduced from 14 days to 10 days.
 - This applies to arrivals from countries with a 14-day cumulative incidence of 16 or more COVID-19 cases per 100,000.
 - Medical staff, social care, and social rehabilitation staff; educational staff; and kindergarten staff who are in close daily contact with their respective patients, clients, or children will only be allowed to observe the shorter, 10-day self-isolation period after leaving a so-called red country if they test negative for Covid-19 on the eighth day after their return.
- Land borders with Russia and Belarus are closed to public and private transport. International air traffic is suspended (apart from certain repatriation flights).
- Some Latvia visa application centres have reopened.

LEBANON

Entry Restrictions

- Beirut Rafic Hariri International Airport is scheduled to resume commercial flights from 1 July, at 10% of its capacity. Travellers must undergo a COVID-19 test within 96 hours of arrival. They will be tested again on arrival and will be subject to quarantine if they test positive.
- Entry is suspended for all foreign nationals.
- All air, land and seaports are closed.

LIBERIA

Entry Restrictions

- Entry is suspended for foreign travellers until further notice.

LITHUANIA

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 14 September, the incidence rate threshold used for establishing the list of affected countries has been raised to 25 cases (instead of 16 cases as previously) per 100,000 population in the last 14 days. No isolation is required for arrivals from Estonia and Latvia.
- Effective 11 September, the list of affected countries has been updated.
 - The following have been removed from the list of affected countries: *Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Bulgaria, Canada, Ethiopia, Faroe Islands, Gambia, Germany, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Poland, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Serbia, Sweden.*
 - All travellers who arrive from, or have travelled through, countries on this list are subject to 14-day self-isolation.
 - Non-resident foreign nationals must also present a negative result of a COVID-19 PCR test obtained within 72 hours prior to entry and are subject to 14-day self-isolation. The test is not mandatory for Lithuanian citizens and resident foreign nationals.
 - All arrivals may shorten the self-isolation period by taking a coronavirus test no earlier than after 8 days. In the case of a negative result, the self-isolation period can then be shortened to 10 days.
- Airport transit is permitted without testing or self-isolation.
- Effective 15 September, all travellers arriving in Lithuania from abroad by air, sea or land are required to register online with the National Public Health Centre (NPHC) and present the QR code they receive on boarding their plane, ferry, bus or train.

LUXEMBOURG

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 21 August 2020, individuals seeking to enter Luxembourg by air, whose travel does not originate from an EU member country or one of the countries exempted by the European Union (Australia, Canada, Georgia, Japan, New Zealand, Rwanda, South Korea, Thailand, Tunisia and Uruguay), must provide proof of a negative COVID-19 test, administered less than 72 hours (previously 48 hours) before departure, at the time of boarding.
- The suspension of entry for third-country nationals is extended until 31 December.
- New exemptions have been added for third-country nationals traveling for the purpose of study; and for highly qualified third country workers if their employment is economically necessary and their work cannot be postponed or performed from abroad.
 - For these categories, an express request must be sent by email (service.visas@mae.etat.lu) to the Passport, Visa and Legalization Office, in order to obtain a specific certificate.
- Other exemptions exist for citizens of the EU, Schengen countries and the UK and their family members; long-term residents; health professionals; transport workers; cross-border workers from France Belgium and Germany; diplomats and employees of international organisations; transit passengers; and those travelling for urgent and justified family reasons.

Immigration Restrictions

- The Immigration Directorate is not accepting manual applications or document submissions, and all reception desks are closed until further notice. Appointments can be made in emergency situations.

Immigration Concessions

- For third-country nationals who submitted their declaration of arrival between 1 January and 31 July, the time limit during which they will have to request the issuance of a residence permit has been extended from three to six months.
- For residence permits that expired after 1 March, the validity period has been extended until 31 August.
- For third-country nationals holding a short-term visa, and those not subject to a visa requirement and whose duration of stay has exceeded the 90-day period after 1 March, their stay was regularised until 31 July, by which date they should have left Luxembourg.
- To facilitate their exit from the Schengen area, all those concerned should make an appointment with the Passports, Visas and Legalisations Office of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs for the purpose of the issuance of a "return visa", via the following link: guichet.lu/rdv-visa-fr.

MACAU

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 4 September, the 14-day quarantine requirement for arrivals from Urumqi has been lifted.
- Effective 31 August, the 14-day quarantine requirement for arrivals from Nantang (in Lufeng, Shanwei City of Guangdong Province) has been lifted.
- The 14-day quarantine requirement for arrivals from Dalian has been lifted.
- Entry is suspended for all visitors from foreign countries.
- Visitors from mainland China, Hong Kong or Taiwan are permitted to enter:
 - Those who have visited a foreign country in the previous 14 days are **not** permitted to enter.
 - Those who have visited Hong Kong in the previous 14 days must hold a certificate showing a negative COVID-19 PCR test result issued within the previous 24 hours and will need to go to a designated place for a 14-day medical observation.
 - Those who have visited Taiwan in the previous 14 days must hold a certificate showing a negative COVID-19 PCR test result issued within the previous 7 days and will need to go to a designated place for a 14-day medical observation.
 - Those who have visited mainland China in the previous 14 days must hold a certificate showing a negative result or a certificate of specimen collection for a COVID-19 PCR test issued within the past 7 days.

Immigration Restrictions

- Immigration offices are open for services to foreign nationals already in the country.

MADAGASCAR

Entry Restrictions

- All flights are suspended, and all cruise ships are suspended from entering any port.

MALAWI

Entry Restrictions

- Until further notice, all international flights to and from Malawi are suspended. Flights carrying medical professionals, essential health equipment and emergency relief items are exempted. Flights carrying returning Malawi citizens and residents or cargo will be handled on a case by case basis.
- The entry ban on foreign nationals arriving from countries seriously affected by COVID-19 remains in place. Malawi residents and nationals arriving from COVID-19 affected countries will be required to self or institutional quarantine. Additionally, authorities have suspended the issuance of visas to foreign nationals from countries affected by COVID-19.

MALAYSIA

Entry Restrictions

- Foreign nationals who are citizens or residents of countries with more than 150,000 COVID-19 cases, or who are travelling from those countries, are no longer permitted to enter Malaysia.
 - The current list is as follows (latest additions **in bold**): **Argentina, Bangladesh, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Iran, Italy, Mexico, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom and United States.**
 - Exceptions are made for:
 - All long-term pass holders;
 - Diplomats and dependants based in Malaysia who have been issued with the Exemption Order. Otherwise, an entry approval must be obtained by the Malaysia Immigration Department.
 - Seafarers (where entry is for sign on or joint ship activities only)
 - Pilots and cabin crew of commercial and private airlines are entering as crew or passengers but must provide a General Declaration for the next flight operation.
 - Professional crew and workers in the Oil & Gas industry who already hold a valid Malaysian issued Pass and have been granted with and Entry Approval by the Director General of Immigration.
 - Transit is allowed provided passengers have a confirmed connecting flight and do not pass immigration clearance.
 - Malaysian citizens travelling from the 23 countries are permitted entry but must enter 14-day quarantine at government-appointed hotels and testing at their own expense.

- The Malaysian Embassies in the 23 countries will suspend the issuance of all visa types and Travel Notice/Travel Permission until further notice.
- It is not clear whether pending or renewal applications for nationals of these 23 countries will be processed or put on hold.
- There is no clarity as to how long this entry ban may last.
- **MSC/ICT status companies** are no longer required to obtain a support letter from MDEC in support of an Entry Approval Letter (EAL) application, as enforced previously. After completing the Pass Approval stage, companies may proceed to apply directly for Entry Approval and Exit/Re-Entry Permission via MYEntry.
- Singapore and Malaysia have introduced entry facilities between the two countries to certain types of travellers:
 - The **Reciprocal Green Lane (RGL)** enables cross-border travel for essential business and official purposes for up to 14 days.
 - Travellers of any nationality who have legally resided in Singapore for at least 14 days before travelling to Malaysia.
 - A medical certificate must be presented showing a negative COVID-19 PCR test result issued within the previous 72 hours before departure.
 - Entry is permitted through direct flights only to KLIA, KLIA2, Penang International Airport and land border crossings (i.e. Causeway and Second Link).
 - Travellers must remain under temporary self-isolation until the result of an on-arrival COVID-19 PCR test is confirmed.
 - The **Periodic Commuting Arrangement (PCA)** allows Singapore nationals and permanent residents with valid Malaysian work authorization to cross the border.
 - Eligible travellers utilizing the PCA should remain in Malaysia for work for at least 90 days, after which they are permitted to return to Singapore for a short period of time, and then re-enter Malaysia for at least an additional three months - no daily commuting is allowed.
 - Entry is permitted through land border crossings only i.e. Causeway and Second Link.
 - Travellers must enter a 7-day quarantine until the result of an on-arrival COVID-19 PCR test is available. This must be undertaken in government-designated centres unless the final destination is in Johor, in which case a modified Home Surveillance Order (HSO) is permitted.
 - The sponsor organisation in Malaysia is advised to file an application 10 working days before the traveller's proposed travel date, via MyTravelPass (MTP) portal.
 - MTP approval is expected to be issued 24 hours before proposed departure date.
 - The traveller must pre-install the MySejahtera app before entry and agree to bear the cost of a COVID-19 test on arrival.
- A new online system called MYEntry streamlines the process of applying for an **Entry Approval Letter (EAL)** or for **Exit/Re-Entry Permission**.
 - MYEntry is accessible via the Expatriate Services Division (ESD) online system.
 - MYEntry is applicable for all Malaysian passes issued via ESD, MDEC and MIDA.
- Returning travellers (citizens and foreign nationals) are now subject to PCR testing on arrival and mandatory 14-day **quarantine** at designated quarantine centres.

- Travellers will be asked to bear full accommodation costs for the entire stay (RM50-60 per day for ages 7-12 years; RM150 per day for ages 13 years and above; free for ages 0-6 years and people with disabilities. Deposit or full payment in advance).
- At least three days **before departure**, returning travellers must download and complete a Letter of Undertaking (LOU), and submit it at a Malaysian mission in their home country.
- Subject to the approval of the Malaysian mission, a Letter of Approval (Entry Permit) is issued via email. This must be presented during flight check-in, and again to the authorities on arrival.
- Travellers must download MySejahtera mobile app at least 1 day before departure date and update essential information.
- Travellers are not required to undergo a COVID-19 test in their home country before departure but are advised to check directly with airlines if there is any requirement to produce COVID-19 test results before boarding their flight (most airlines are requesting COVID-19 test results at check-in.)
- **On arrival**, travellers must go through health screening – those showing COVID-19 symptoms will be isolated and referred to hospital for treatment – and COVID-19 **PCR tests** will be performed in the arrivals hall at the traveller's expense.
- The travellers will be transported by the authorities to the designated quarantine facility.
- **During quarantine**, the traveller must conduct daily self-health assessments and report to Quarantine Station personnel. Those who subsequently test positive for COVID-19 will be transferred to hospital for treatment.
- The Immigration Department has clarified that all holders of long-term passes (Employment Pass, Professional Visit Pass, Dependant Pass, Long-Term Social Visit Pass), along with their dependents and/or foreign maids, can apply for **Entry Approval** to enter Malaysia. Employers may also apply to the relevant approving agency for **new** immigration pass approvals for foreign nationals abroad.
 - There is no longer any exemption for Employment Pass (EP) Category 1 holders, Residence Pass (RPT) holders and their respective dependents.
 - Long-term pass holders are exempt from the travel ban on 23 countries.
 - Prospective entrants must obtain a Support Letter from the respective approving agency (ESD or MIDA – no longer required from MDEC), which typically takes 3-7 working days, depending on the agency.
 - They must then apply to taskforce_esd@imi.gov.my for entry approval from the Director General of Immigration (DGIM). If accepted, an Entry Approval Letter will be issued within 14 working days.
 - Visa-required nationals with existing passes which have expired, or with new immigration pass approvals, must submit the Entry Approval Letter with other relevant documents at a Malaysian embassy, consulate or high commission. Subject to approval, the Malaysian mission will issue an entry visa which must be presented to the airline at check-in and to the immigration checkpoint on arrival.
 - The foreign national must undergo a PCR COVID-19 test within 3 days of entry and must present a negative result on check-in and on arrival.
 - The permitted entry points are Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA), the Immigration Checkpoint in the Sultan Iskandar Building (BSI) in Johor and the Sultan Abu Bakar Complex (2nd Link), Johor.

- On arrival, the foreign national must present their Entry Approval Letter and negative test results, and download the MySejahtera app. They will be subject to a health screening and may have to undergo a COVID-19 swab test. Arrivals who test negative must undergo quarantine at a designated quarantine center. Arrivals who test positive will be transferred to hospital.
- Holders of Malaysia My 2nd Home (MM2H) passes are allowed to return to Malaysia. They must apply to the Ministry of Tourism and Culture (MOTAC) and, on approval, undergo a COVID-19 swab test a maximum 14 days before arrival at Malaysia International Airport, to be provided to the authorities on arrival. MM2H pass holders must agree to undergo quarantine for 14 days at an assigned quarantine station and must prepare and sign a Letter of Undertaking (LoU) stating their readiness to bear the accommodation costs.
- Malaysian citizens in Singapore intending to return to Malaysia by land may need to apply for an “entry permit” from the Malaysian High Commission, in addition to the exit requirements of the Singapore Ministry of Manpower.
- Malaysian citizens and permanent residence (PR) holders can enter but are subject to 14 days of self-quarantine. The same goes for the spouses and children of Malaysian citizens holding a Long-Term Social Visit Pass, foreign diplomats and their spouses and children.
- Transit through Kuala Lumpur International airport, without going through an immigration checkpoint, is allowed.

Exit Restrictions

- All categories of pass holder who wish to **exit and return** to Malaysia must obtain exit and re-entry permission (ERP) from DGIM and must return within 60 days.
- All categories who wish to **exit for good** must cancel their pass or obtain a special pass if required.
- No approval is required for Malaysian citizens who are diplomats returning to work; students; holders of a long-term pass issued by another country; or employees of oil, gas and shipping companies signing on overseas.
- Approval is required for Malaysians who previously entered Malaysia during any of the Movement Control Orders; Malaysians who have just received work permit approval from an employer overseas; Malaysians who wish to attend meetings, seminars, exhibitions and other business activities; emergency or medical situations; or Malaysians who need to accompany their children for studies.
- Exit for leisure, holidays or visiting family is not permitted.

Immigration Restrictions

- The Recovery Movement Control Order (RMCO) is extended until 31 December.
- The Expatriate Services Division (ESD) Immigration Office at Putrajaya reopened to visitors on 6 May and the MYXpats Centre (ESD) reopens on 13 May. The department has revamped its SOP by requesting MyHelp online appointments made in advance for counter submissions; hence, no walk-ins allowed for time-being.
- The e-Xpats Service Centre of MDEC (MSC/ICT status companies) reopens for counter submissions (with an appointment booked online) by employers from 13 May.
- Applications for new Employment Pass (EP) / Dependant Pass (DP) / Long-Term Visitor Pass (LTVP) involving applicants who are currently abroad will be kept on hold until the MCO is completely lifted.

Immigration Concessions

- For any pass issued by MDEC that has expired more than 30 days, the company must apply for a Special Pass at the Operations, Investigation and Prosecution Division (Bahagian Operasi, Siasatan dan Pendakwaan) of the Immigration Department of Putrajaya. In advance of this application, the company must obtain a MEMO from the Immigration Unit (Expatriate Services) of MDEC Cyberjaya to be submitted with the Special Pass application.
- Effective 1 August, the Immigration Department of Malaysia will resume charges for Special Passes (RM100 per passport holder) for passes which expire **on or after 1 August**. Special Pass applications for passes that expired **before 1 August** are non-chargeable, provided submission of passport for Special Pass issuance/endorsement is completed **before 31 August**.
- For passes issued by MDEC that expired on or before 31 January 2020, the case must be referred to the Enforcement, Investigation and Prosecution Division with Memo issued by Immigration Unit (Expatriate Services) of MDEC Cyberjaya or the Immigration Northern Branch.
- Holders of passes issued by MDEC that expired between 1 February and 17 March should apply directly at the Immigration Unit (Expatriate Services) of MDEC Cyberjaya, or the Enforcement, Investigation and Prosecution Division (Immigration Northern Branch).
- For passes issued by MDEC that expire from 18 March until the MCO ends, all applications will be issued with a pass for free. For a simple renewal application at the eXpats Service centre in Cyberjaya, supporting documents are not required. For a renewal application in Penang or for a change of position, change of employer or endorsement of a new, already-approved application at any office, supporting documents are required.

MALDIVES

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 15 July, all COVID-19 travel restrictions are lifted.
- Currently, a negative COVID-19 test result is required, and entry is only allowed by private yacht or aircraft.

MALI

Entry Restrictions

- The military junta has announced that, effective 21 August, all ports of entry are reopened. The borders were closed following a military coup on 18 August. However, the Economic Community of West African States has instructed its member states (Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, The Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, and Togo) to keep their borders with Mali closed.

MALTA

Entry Restrictions

- Persons travelling from countries on an “amber list” are required to present a negative COVID-19 test certificate, issued no more than 72 hours previously, before boarding.
 - Those who do not present such a certificate may be asked to undergo a test at the airport on arrival or to self-quarantine for 14 days in Malta.
 - The amber list currently includes *Czech Republic, France (all Paris airports and Marseille) Romania, Tunisia and Spain (Barcelona, Girona and Madrid)*.
- Effective 12 September, the amber list also includes *France (all Paris airports and Marseille)*.
- The following is the list of corridor countries: *Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Switzerland, United Kingdom, Vatican; Australia, Canada, China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Jordan, Lebanon, Macau, Morocco, New Zealand, Rwanda, South Korea, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay*.
 - Arrivals from these countries who have been in these countries for the previous 14 days are not subject to 14-day quarantine.
- The following categories of travellers may be permitted to enter Malta even if they have spent any time in the previous 14 days in a non-corridor country:
 - Maltese citizens and residents travelling for any reason; Non-Maltese citizens and non-residents travelling for essential reasons; third-country national spouses and partners of Maltese citizens or residents:
 - These travellers must request entry approval and undergo a PCR swab test within 7 days prior to flying to Malta, another PCR swab test 7-10 days after arrival and a 14-day self-quarantine.
- All passengers travelling to Malta are required to complete a Public Health Declaration Form and a Passenger Locator Form which can be downloaded from [here](#).
- Flights to and from all remaining destinations remain suspended.

Immigration Restrictions

- Identity Malta is intending to start accepting new single permit applications from 3 August.
 - Applicants should submit a single permit application online via <https://singlepermit.gov.mt/>, once the employer has registered on singlepermit.ima@gov.mt and s/he has initiated the application process. Employers encountering difficulties using the online single permit platform should send an email to singlepermit.ima@gov.mt. The online platform also accepts renewals as well as change in employment applications.
 - Pending applications which were put on hold will be reassessed in the light of the current labour market situation and requirements.
 - Identity Malta will issue new letters of approval in principle with extended dates to successful single permit applicants who are still abroad and whose letter of approval in principle has expired.

- Applicants who were notified to proceed to Malta and were granted a visa from a Maltese consulate, which has now expired, will need to submit a new visa application once service has resumed at the relevant Maltese consulate. Such applications may be granted if it is possible to travel to Malta again, the employer declares that they still wish to engage the applicant and there are no new restrictions imposed by the Health Authorities which may impede travel to Malta.
- Family members and other third-country nationals holding a temporary residence permit which has recently expired, who originate in safe corridor countries, can apply for a new visa, and should send an email to the Central VISA Unit on cvu.ima@gov.mt in order to seek their authorisation.
- Processing of residence cards is suspended for UK nationals in the context of Brexit. UK nationals with a residence card appointment should still attend. Residence cards that have already been issued to UK nationals remain valid until a new residence card is issued.
- EU, EEA and Swiss nationals, as well as their family members, who have either been in Malta for (3) three months and have not yet registered their residence or whose residence document has expired, should send an email to eu.ima@gov.mt. Applicants will receive a confirmation email as proof of their registration.
- Interviews of couples confirming whether the foreign spouse enjoys freedom of movement rights, are temporarily suspended.
- Identity Malta Agency is only accepting new single permit applications for highly skilled workers (Key Employee Initiative) and workers in the health sector and social care for the elderly and the disabled. New applications for highly skilled workers and medical professionals, as well as renewals and change in employment should be submitted to <https://singlepermit.gov.mt/>, after the employer sends a registration email to onlinesinglepermit.ima@gov.mt.
- The Central Visa Unit will be open to the public from 08:00am to 11:00am and customers will be seen by appointment only. Appointments can be booked by sending an email to visa.ima@gov.mt.
- Those who do not intend to apply for a visa or residence permit to extend their stays in Malta are to leave the territory immediately upon the expiry of their authorisation to stay.

Immigration Concessions

- Third-country nationals currently residing in Malta on the basis of an interim permit ('blue paper') can request an extension of their interim permit via [email](#).

MAURITANIA

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 11 September, entry by air is permitted for non-Mauritanian nationals. Travellers are required to present a negative PCR test carried out within 72 hours prior to arrival.
- All flights to and from Mauritania are suspended and most border points are closed.

MAURITIUS

Entry Restrictions

- All flights to and from Mauritius are suspended and the border remains closed, until further notice.

MEXICO

Entry Restrictions

- The US and Mexico have agreed to extend restrictions on non-essential travel by land across their shared border until 21 September. Cross-border trade and regular commuters will not be blocked.
- There is no quarantine for arriving travellers.
- Visa services at certain Mexican consulates have recommenced, depending on local conditions.

Immigration Restrictions

- Effective 22 June, appointments can be booked, online or via telephone, to obtain an ordinary Mexican passport at ten offices in Mexico City and ten offices in other states. On 1 July, four more offices will open. Appointments are currently being issued for proven medical, family or work emergencies only. There may, however, be no available appointments.
- The Migration Institute (INM) is operating, but only a limited number of tickets are issued each day for application submission and other procedures. Foreign nationals can attend their fingerprinting appointments. Delivery of residence cards continues, with the possibility of some delay. Requests for visa authorisations for job offers and to obtain or update Employer Enrolment Proof are being accepted.
- Although the expiry dates of temporary and permanent residence cards are suspended until further notice, in practice the INM is accepting applications for residence renewal with an upcoming expiry date (within the next 1-5 business days).

Immigration Concessions

- Until further notice, expiry dates of temporary and permanent residence cards, and deadlines for certain immigration procedures, are suspended. These procedures include change of status applications, in-country temporary residence card applications (“canje” process), and notifications of change of employer, address, marital status, name, or nationality. Deadlines for corporate procedures, such as updating Employer Enrolment Proof, are not suspended.
- Foreign nationals who entered Mexico as visitors for business or other purposes without a permit to perform remunerated activities, and who cannot leave before the end of their legal stay, can apply for a new regularization process (“Regularización Migratoria por Razones Humanitarias bajo el supuesto COVID 19”). Requirements, timeframes and terms may vary from case to case, depending on the office of application in Mexico.

MOLDOVA

Entry Restrictions

- Entry is suspended for all foreign nationals.

MONGOLIA

Entry Restrictions

- The suspension of all international air and rail services has been extended until at least 15 September.
- Entry remains suspended, except for nationals of Mongolia, and for residents of Mongolia who are direct family members of nationals of Mongolia, who are subject to a 21-day quarantine at designated facilities and an additional 14-day self-isolation.

MONTENEGRO

Entry Restrictions

- International flights have resumed at Podgorica and Tivat airports.
- Entry is permitted without restrictions for citizens and permanent and temporary residents of Montenegro and residents of countries on the **green list** of countries with fewer than 25 COVID-19 cases per 100,000 inhabitants, who enter from a country on the green list and have not visited any country not on the green list in the previous 14 days. (Current green list: *Algeria, Andorra, Austria, Azerbaijan, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Brunei, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, China, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Malaysia, Mauritius, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vietnam, Zambia, Zimbabwe*).
- Effective 3 September, entry is permitted for citizens and permanent and temporary residents of Montenegro and foreign nationals entering from countries on the **yellow list** (currently *Albania, Australia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Israel, Kosovo, Lebanon, North Macedonia, Serbia, Seychelles, Singapore and the USA*), or from one of the countries on the green list who has visited any of the countries on the yellow list in the previous 14 days) on presentation of a negative antibody (IgG) test result or a negative COVID-19 PCR test not older than 72 hours, (or a positive antibody (IgG) test not older than 30 days) if they have not visited any country on the red list. The test requirement does not apply to children under the age of five years.
- Entry is permitted with a mandatory 14-day quarantine for citizens and permanent and temporary residents of Montenegro arriving from or having visited in the previous 14 days a country **on the red list**.

- Effective 3 September, entry is permitted with health supervision for citizens and permanent and temporary residents of Montenegro arriving from the countries of the region, who have stayed in those countries for up to 48 hours.
- Residents of countries not on these lists are not allowed to enter Montenegro.

Immigration Concessions

- State authorities, public administration bodies, local self - government and local administration authority, companies, public institutions and other legal persons, entrepreneurs and natural persons are obliged to consider expired permanent residence permits, temporary residence permits and temporary residence and work permits of foreign nationals, on the basis of which they exercise their rights or fulfil their obligations before these authorities, as valid until 1 July.

MOROCCO

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 10 September, entry is permitted for certain visa-exempt foreign nationals with proof of a hotel reservation or business invitation and a negative result of a COVID-19 PCR test taken no more than 48 hours prior to arrival.
- Effective 14 July, entry is permitted by sea and air for Moroccan citizens and foreign residents of Morocco, as well as their families.
- Starting 15 July, specific flights will be chartered by both Royal Air Maroc and Air Arabia, as well as dedicated ferries departing from Genoa and Sète.
- Travelling to Morocco on these chartered flights and ferries is permitted for Moroccan citizens of any status, and foreign nationals holding Moroccan residence permits who are stranded abroad, and their families.
 - Passengers are required to present both a (negative) PCR virus test and an antibody test taken within less than 48 hours of the flight before boarding the planes (children under 11 don't have to take the tests).
 - Passengers may undergo a clinical exam upon arrival in case any symptom is suspected.
 - Arriving travellers will have to remain at home for 7 days before taking another PCR test and getting a negative result. They will have to download, print and sign a sworn statement assuring that they'll do so; the document can be downloaded via the Waiqaytna app.
- Leaving Morocco on these chartered flights and ferries is permitted for Moroccan citizens resident abroad, or with dual citizenship, and foreign citizens (with or without a Moroccan residence permit) stranded in Morocco.
 - Moroccan students recently admitted to foreign universities, Moroccan citizens living abroad with a type D long-stay visa, Moroccans seeking medical treatment abroad and people benefitting from a family reunion visa must obtain exceptional authorization in order to leave the country.
 - No test is required to leave the country.

Immigration Restrictions

- The state of emergency and the closure of most government offices is extended until 10 July.

- At this time, the government is not processing requests for obtaining, renewing, or extending residency cards until further notice.

Immigration Concessions

- Foreign nationals in Morocco who are unable to depart the country within 90 days due to the closure of borders and airspace will be permitted to exit without a fine (when the borders and airspace reopen), even if they are not in possession of an extension to reside in the country beyond 90 days. Similarly, the Government of Morocco will continue to honour the residency cards of foreign nationals that expire during this period.
- Employers can send a written request for work permit renewal to the Ministry of Labour and Professional Integration (Directorate of Employment), duly signed and stamped by the employer and signed by the employee, accompanied by a copy of the employment agreement (also signed and stamped).

MOZAMBIQUE

Entry Restrictions

- The suspension of all international flights has been lifted, allowing business travellers, tourists, and essential personnel to enter the country from a number of unspecified 'safe' countries, on a reciprocal basis.
 - All travellers must present on arrival a negative COVID-19 PCR test result from a test administered in their country of origin no more than 72 hours prior to departure.
 - All arrivals of any nationality from any country of origin are subject to 10 days of quarantine.
 - Following the 10-day quarantine, travellers are required to pass another PCR test at their own expense to confirm they continue to be free of COVID-19.
 - The issuance of entry visas is suspended in all but exceptional circumstances, and all issued visas which expire during this period are cancelled.
- Visa waiver agreements between Mozambique and other countries are resumed under condition of reciprocity.

Immigration Restrictions

- Work Permits are being issued although the Labour Department is still working on rotation so it may take a little longer.
- The issuance of official documents (e.g. visas and travel documents, vehicle registrations, drivers' licenses, and marriage certificates) is suspended until further notice.
- Immigration offices are not officially closed but in practice are not accepting applications.

Immigration Concessions

- Counting has been suspended for the length of stay of foreign non-resident technical experts providing services to government projects, to avoid the establishment of residence for tax purposes.

- All DIRE (residence permits) and temporary visas, drivers' licenses, identity cards, and car vehicle import clearances are automatically extended until 30 June.
- In relation to foreign citizens holding Residence Permits who are out of the country, they will be allowed to renew their DIRE when they return, provided that they prove that they were unable to return to the country before the documents expired, due to the restrictions resulting from COVID-19.

MYANMAR

Entry Restrictions

- The suspension of international passenger flights, the suspension of issuance of visas on arrival and e-visas, and the suspension of already-issued visas, are extended until 30 September.
- Myanmar's land borders are closed to foreign nationals.
- **Fast-lane** routes are available for key business executives from certain countries (so far China, Japan and Malaysia) on urgent official or business assignments, supported by the relevant ministry. Key business travellers are required to:
 - Present a negative COVID-19 test result issued no more than 36 hours before boarding;
 - Quarantine in an approved facility for five days and then obtain a negative result in another test.
- Generally, foreign national arrivals are required to:
 - Present documentary proof that they completed a 7-day self-quarantine in their country of origin.
 - Present a negative COVID-19 test result issued no more than 72 hours prior to the date of travel before boarding any flight to Burma.
 - Quarantine on arrival in a government facility for 7 days then self-quarantine for another 7 days.
 - Undergo COVID-19 testing at the end of the government quarantine and at the end of the self-quarantine.

Immigration Restrictions

- All immigration offices are open, operating as usual and accepting new and renewal applications for applicants already in Myanmar.

NAMIBIA

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 18 September, international travel is permitted.
- Effective 1 September, foreign travellers are permitted to enter via the Windhoek Hosea Kutako International Airport (WDH)
 - Travellers are required to present a negative result from a COVID-19 PCR test taken within 72 hours before boarding.
 - Travellers will also have to stay at a registered accommodation facility for at least 7 days and then obtain a negative PCR test result.
 - Namibian missions abroad are accepting and processing visa applications.

NEPAL

Entry Restrictions

- International flights are scheduled to resume and land borders reopened from 17 August.
- Border with India and China are closed until further notice.
- Entry is suspended for those with travel or transit history to Europe, Gulf Arab countries, Iran, Turkey, Malaysia, Japan, and South Korea.

Immigration Concessions

- Foreign nationals already in Nepal will receive a free visa extension until restrictions are lifted.

NETHERLANDS

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 21 September, entry is permitted for business visitors whose visits make an important contribution to the Dutch business community, if all the following conditions are met:
 - The business visitor has an invitation for a confirmed appointment with or visit to a company registered in the Netherlands or with the NFI;
 - The visit is urgent and it is necessary that the appointment takes place in person;
 - The visit meets one of the following 3 requirements:
 - The visit involves a potential direct foreign investment in the Netherlands of a significant size:
 - the creation of at least 5 jobs, or
 - an investment of at least €500,000.-.
 - The visit involves a potential direct foreign investment in the Netherlands that contributes to
 - the strengthening of the Dutch innovation capacity, or
 - the sustainability of the Dutch economy, or
 - the digitalisation of the Dutch economy.
 - The visit is of significant economic importance for a specific organisation located in the Netherlands:
 - This organisation must have at least 10 full time employees and/or an annual turnover of 2 million.
 - The importance of the visit becomes apparent, for example, when the visit is essential for the continuation of the daily functionality and/or preservation and/or creation of jobs or the preservation and/or growth of the turnover of the company.
 - Review of the application and fulfilment of the conditions will be executed by the Netherlands consulate in the country of residence of the applicant. In addition to a 'Note Verbale' from the Netherlands consulate (stating that permission is granted for the intended business visit) and a valid passport, the

business visitor needs to hold a return ticket, a hotel reservation and - in the case of a visa national - a valid Schengen visa.

- **Entry is permitted** from the European Union member states, including the UK, and the rest of the Schengen countries (Switzerland, Norway, Liechtenstein, Iceland), Australia, Canada, China, Georgia, Japan, New Zealand, Rwanda, South Korea, Thailand, Tunisia and Uruguay.
- **Entry is permitted** for EU citizens resident in the Dutch Caribbean islands of Aruba, Curaçao, Sint Maarten, Bonaire, St Eustatius and Saba.
- **Entry is permitted** for EU citizens (including UK nationals) and their family members, nationals of Norway, Iceland, Switzerland, Liechtenstein and their family members, third-country nationals holding a residence card or permit, right to residence long-stay visa or temporary residence permit (MVV), transit passengers, cross-border workers and others working in essential functions.
- **The suspension of entry remains for non-essential travel of persons from other non-EEA countries.**
- **Highly-skilled migrants** (including holders of Blue Cards, ICT Permits or researcher permits), and their family members, are exempt from entry restrictions.
 - They must fly direct to Netherlands (no transit);
 - If they arrive from a high-risk area, they must submit a health declaration and undergo a 10-day self-quarantine;
 - They must present the IND approval letter (kennisgeving) stating that they will receive a residence permit.
- Entry is permitted for stays of up to 90 days within an overall period of 180 days for **partners** from third countries engaged in a long-distance, durable relationship with someone from the Netherlands.
 - The couple in question must be able to demonstrate that they have been in a relationship of at least three months, during which the couple must have seen one another 'regularly', in a manner as would currently be the case. In addition, the persons in question must sign a handwritten statement in which they state that they are indeed in such a relationship, under penalty of perjury.
 - The statement must also list the personal details, place of residence and contact details in the Netherlands, as well the contact details of the foreign partner.
 - Prior to their trip to the Netherlands, foreign partners must be able to demonstrate that they have a return ticket in their possession.
 - Foreign partners subject to visa requirements must be able to comply with all the conditions in force, including having sufficient funds available for their trip and stay and guarantees with regard to a timely return. This may also take the form of a sponsor declaration from the partner residing in the Netherlands. Any decision regarding the visa application will involve the possibility of return.
 - In accordance with current regulations, stays may not exceed the maximum period of 90 days. In the event that a longer stay should be deemed necessary, this will require the submission of an application for a long stay. If the foreign partner should remain in the Netherlands beyond the maximum 90-day period and has not requested an extension of his or her stay or applied for a long stay, then the immigration procedures relating to 'overstays' will apply under the current legal framework.
 - If a foreign partner is travelling from a country for which the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has issued orange travel advice for health reasons, coupled with an urgent recommendation of home self-isolation, then the person involved must self-isolate for 10 days upon arrival in the Netherlands.

- The supporting documents listed in the above, such as the statements, return ticket and any sponsor declarations, must be submitted to the border authorities upon arrival in the Netherlands.
- People outside Europe with a positive decision on a residence permit application but without an MVV, or with an expired residence permit, cannot enter the country.
- Dutch consular representations are gradually reopening abroad, and long-term entry visas (MVV) are being processed and approved at a growing number of locations.
- Anyone aged 13 years and over flying from or to the Netherlands must fill in a [Health Screening Form](#).
- The following have been added to the list of countries and regions with an **orange travel advice**:
 - Czech Republic (Prague);
 - Denmark (Copenhagen and Odense);
 - France (Côte-d'Or, Seine-Maritime, Nord, Corse-du-Sud, Haute Corse, l'Ain, Ille-et-Vilaine, Isère, Loire, Loire-Atlantique, Maine-et-Loire, Pas de Calais, Puy de Dôme, Pyrénées Atlantiques, Pyrénées Orientales and Tarn-et-Garonne).
- Arrivals from areas with an orange travel advice should undergo a 10-day **self-quarantine**.
 - Currently, this applies to the following:
 - Andorra;
 - Aruba;
 - Belgium (Antwerp and Brussels-Capital Region);
 - Bulgaria;
 - Croatia;
 - Czech Republic (Prague);
 - Denmark (Copenhagen and Odense);
 - France (Paris and the départements of Bouches-du-Rhône, Seine-Saint-Denis, Val-de-Marne, Hauts-de-Seine, Seine-et-Marne, Essonne, Val-d'Oise, Yvelines, Sarthe, Rhône, Gironde, Haute-Garonne, Gard, Var, Vaucluse, Hérault, Alpes-Maritimes, Loiret, Côte-d'Or, Seine-Maritime, Nord, Corse-du-Sud, Haute Corse, l'Ain, Ille-et-Vilaine, Isère, Loire, Loire-Atlantique, Maine-et-Loire, Pas de Calais, Puy de Dôme, Pyrénées Atlantiques, Pyrénées Orientales and Tarn-et-Garonne);
 - Greece (all Greek islands only);
 - Hungary (Budapest);
 - Malta;
 - Monaco;
 - Portugal (Area Metropolitana de Lisboa and Lezíria do Tejo);
 - Romania;
 - Sint Maarten;
 - Spain (including the Balearic Islands of Majorca, Menorca, Ibiza and Formentera and the Canary Islands of Tenerife, Fuerteventura, Gran Canaria, Lanzarote, La Palma, La Gomera, El Hierro and La Graciosa among others);
 - Switzerland (cantons of Geneve, Freiburg and Vaud);
 - Any other country outside the EU, the Schengen area and the UK other than Australia, Canada, China, Georgia, Japan, New Zealand, Rwanda, South Korea, Thailand, Tunisia and Uruguay.
 - Travellers should self-quarantine even if they were tested before arrival with a negative result. This also applies if they were tested immediately after arriving

in the Netherlands, at Schiphol Airport for instance, and the test result was negative.

- Certain travellers are **exempt from self-quarantine** unless showing symptoms:
 - Transit passengers who are travelling via the Netherlands and do not leave the airport's international transit zone;
 - people who have travelled through a region to which the self-quarantine advice applies, in a private vehicle, without stopping for any amount of time, even just for fuel;
 - seafarers with a seaman's record book (apart from those on commercial yachts and pleasure craft)
 - people with compelling reasons to visit their family in the Netherlands. This is only possible in exceptional cases, such as visiting a terminally ill family member or attending a funeral. Family member is understood here to mean a first- or second-degree family member. Partners and children are first-degree family members, and grandchildren are second-degree
 - people in certain professions providing essential services, and people travelling for work:
 - healthcare professionals, only if they are travelling to the Netherlands for work (including medical researchers and elderly care workers)
 - cross-border commuters if they are travelling for work
 - transport workers if they are travelling for work
 - diplomats if they are travelling for work
 - staff and invitees of international organisations if they are travelling for work
 - members of the armed forces if they are travelling for work
 - humanitarian aid workers if they are travelling for work
 - civil protection personnel if they are travelling for work.

Immigration Restrictions

- Until further notice, the Dutch Immigration Services (IND) is only allowing appointments for collection of first regular residence document. The IND will contact the applicant to schedule an appointment. Applicants who have received a positive decision on a first residence permit and entered Netherlands without a temporary residence permit (MVV) should call the IND to schedule an appointment to provide biometrics.
- While it is possible to apply to the IND for a temporary residence permit (MVV), and the application may be approved, MVVs will not be issued and cannot be collected (except in urgent cases for employees, researchers or highly-skilled workers in essential professions or vital processes). MVVs can be collected within 3 months of issuance.
- Civic integration exams at Dutch embassies abroad will not take place until after 19 May.
- Employers must report to the IND if their employees cannot come to the Netherlands due to measures against coronavirus.

Immigration Concessions

- Foreign nationals whose regular provisional residence permit (MVV) has been approved but are currently in the Netherlands and cannot travel to their country of

origin to collect the MVV due to coronavirus do not have to collect the MVV if they meet all the following 5 conditions.

1. They were in their country of origin or country of continuous residence when they or their sponsor applied for an MVV. (Continuous residence means that they can lawfully reside in that country for more than 3 months. They have a valid residence permit there or are waiting for a decision on their application for a residence permit.);
 2. They travelled to the Netherlands with a short-stay visa. Or, if they did not need a visa, in the permit-exempt term;
 3. They entered the Netherlands between 1 January 2020 and (before) 1 June 2020;
 4. Their MVV application was approved when they were already in the Netherlands;
 5. They could not return to their country of origin or continuous residence before 15 June due to travel restrictions.
- Foreign nationals whose regular provisional residence permit (MVV) has been approved but are currently in the Netherlands and cannot travel to their country of origin to collect the MVV due to coronavirus do not have to collect the MVV if they meet all the following 5 conditions.
 - The Dutch government will be more lenient in controlling people who have overstayed their visa-exempt term of 90 days out of 180 days if they cannot leave the Netherlands on time but are trying to leave.
 - Holders of issued MVVs which have expired and who could not travel to the Netherlands in time can apply to the consulate once it reopens for reissuance of their MVVs.
 - Foreign nationals in the Netherlands who have received a positive residence permit decision (via a letter to their sponsor) but who have not yet received a residence sticker, have the rights associated with their residence permit (including the right to work if applicable).
 - The Dutch government will be more lenient in controlling people whose residence document has expired if they cannot extend it or leave the Netherlands on time.

NEW ZEALAND

Entry Restrictions

- Effective early October, two new border exceptions are planned. Both will include managed isolation or quarantine:
 - Temporary work visa holders.
 - Work to residence visa or essential skills visa (mid-skilled or higher).
 - Visa does not expire before the end of 2020 – if the essential skills visa expires before the end of 2020, the holder must have applied for a new visa to remain in the same job when they left, and before 10 August 2020.
 - Must have been resident in New Zealand for at least two years, departed New Zealand on or after 1 December 2019 and are returning to do the same job or run the same business.

- Temporary visa holders who were ordinarily living in New Zealand in the last 12 months, and who left New Zealand on or before 19 March 2020 will not have to pay isolation or quarantine charges. Individuals who left after 19 March 2020 will be charged for their time in managed isolation.
 - Partners of NZ citizens and residents.
 - Holders of a passport from Australia or a visa waiver country.
 - Evidence of a genuine and stable relationship.
 - Dependent children can be included in the same border exception request.
 - Australian partners will be charged NZ\$45 for the travel request and will typically be granted a resident's visa on arrival.
 - Partners from visa waiver countries will be charged NZ\$45 for the travel request fee, along with a subsequent partnership visa application fee.
- Effective 12 August, all transit passengers must transit New Zealand in less than 12 hours, must remain airside, and cannot enter New Zealand. They can only transit Auckland International Airport.
- Effective 10 August, new fees apply to border exception Expression of Interest (EOI) requests.
 - NZD 380 for employers who request exceptions for 'other critical workers' (or organisations or agencies that sponsor requests); and
 - NZD 45 for individual requests under all critical purpose categories.
 - Employers will be able to request an exception for 'other critical workers' online, rather than manually.
- Effective until 10 November 2020, Immigration New Zealand (INZ) is no longer accepting any offshore visa applications via the INZ online portal, unless an individual has been granted one of the limited exceptions to the border closure.
 - Exceptions include: Relationship-based visas for dependants of NZ citizens or residents; Visas for diplomats, consular and official staff, and their dependent family members; Antarctic work and traveller visitor visas; and Recognised Seasonal Employer (RSE) limited visas.
- Partners and dependents of New Zealand citizens and residents who are ordinarily resident in New Zealand or hold a visa based on their relationship no longer need to travel with their New Zealand citizen or resident family member to be granted an exception to the border closure.
- A new category of "other essential worker" is exempt from the suspension of entry. Applications will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
 - This applies to short-term (less than six months), time-critical roles where the worker has a unique and technical or specialist skill that is not obtainable in New Zealand, or is involved in a major infrastructure project, an even to of national or regional importance, a government-approved programme, a government-to-government agreement or something that will have a significant benefit to the national or regional economy.
 - It also applies to long-term (more than six months) roles where the worker meets one of the criteria above and earns twice the median salary (\$106,000) or has a role that is essential for the completion of a government-funded science programme, the delivery or execution of a government-approved event or a role in a programme that is of major significance to New Zealand such as the America's Cup.

- An individual applying under this category may also request approval for their partner and dependent children to come to New Zealand with them.
- Strict quarantine rules remain for anyone coming into New Zealand. The worker and their family must secure a place in managed isolation or quarantine for 14 days, and the worker or their employer must cover the costs.
- Entry is suspended for all non-resident foreign nationals.
 - The following are exempt:
 - NZ citizens and residence visa holders (if they have previously travelled to New Zealand on this residence visa);
 - NZ residents with valid travel conditions; the immediate family of NZ citizens or residents, if travelling together with their NZ citizen or resident family member;
 - Australian citizens and permanent residents who normally live in NZ; aircraft and marine crew.
 - Exceptions will be considered for humanitarian reasons, health and other essential workers, citizens of Samoa and Tonga for essential travel to NZ, and holders of visitor visas who are the dependent family member of a temporary or student visa holder currently resident in NZ.
 - Exception requests may be submitted via the [INZ website](#). Importantly, exceptions are being granted very rarely. If granted, an invitation will be issued to apply for a visitor visa, or to vary an existing visa (as applicable).
- Anyone allowed to enter must still be isolated from other people for at least 14 days and must then test negative for COVID-19 before they can go into the community.
 - If people do not have symptoms of COVID-19 on arrival, they will be placed in a managed isolation facility. They may not leave their facility unless they have applied for and received an exemption from isolation from health officials. However, they can go for walks under the condition they do not have contact with other people in the community;
 - If people do have symptoms of COVID-19 on arrival, or test positive after arrival, they will be placed in a quarantine facility. These people will be unable to leave their room.
 - People in mandatory isolation or quarantine facilities can be required to have a COVID-19 test at any reasonable time on arrival and during their stay.
 - People should be tested at least twice unless it would be inappropriate for them to be tested. The testing should be on or around day 3 and on or around day 12 of their stay.
 - If a resident does not consent to be tested early in their stay (on or around day 3) or agrees to only one test, it will be difficult to be sure they meet the low-risk criteria by day 14, and they may then be required to stay for longer and potentially up to 28 days.
 - If a person does not meet low-risk criteria after 28 days, they might be placed in other facilities, a hospital or other arrangements.
 - If a resident tests positive, they cannot be considered “low risk”, and if they are in a managed isolation facility, they should be transferred to a quarantine facility. They should not be given permission to leave until they meet the low-risk indicators.
 - There are exemptions (rarely granted) from managed isolation for people who require a medical transfer, people with medical or physical needs which can't be managed in the accommodation provided, people in transit through New Zealand and people entering the country as essential health workers.

- Transit through NZ is only permitted for Australian or New Zealand citizens or residents (including immediate family) with a final destination of Australia.
- Visa waiver travel for tourism or business is suspended.

Immigration Restrictions

- Under Alert Level 2, Immigration offices will process more visa applications, according to a new priority scheme.
- For residence visas, first priority is given to applicants already in NZ with a job offer who earn an hourly wage equivalent to or higher than twice the median wage (currently \$51.00 per hour or \$106,080 per year); or who hold current occupational registration (where required).
- For temporary entry visas, first priority is given to applications for critical work to support the COVID-19 response, applications with an urgent humanitarian need, applications to travel under the APEC travel programme, diplomatic visas and all other applications where the applicant is already in NZ.
- Second priority is given to residence and temporary entry visas applications where applicants are not already in NZ.

Immigration Concessions

- Visitor visa holders who are currently in New Zealand with visas due to expire between 4 September and the end of October will have their visas extended by five months.
 - The following visitor visa categories will not be extended:
 - Critical purpose visa holders;
 - Guardians of students;
 - Partners or dependents linked to a work visa holder whose visa was previously extended.
- From around mid-September, a new short-term visitor visa will be introduced with the purpose of granting more time for migrants stuck in New Zealand to arrange their travel home.
 - Successful applicants will be granted a two-month visitor visa.
 - Applicants must show they have a current valid passport, proof they meet character requirements, a genuine reason for staying in New Zealand and genuine reason they cannot leave New Zealand but will at the end of their stay.
 - Applicants do not need to show they have enough money, existing travel arrangements, good health or whether they have met any previous time limits for their stay in New Zealand on a visitor visa.
- Effective 17 August, partners and dependent children whose visas expire between 17 August and 31 December will have their visas automatically extended by six months.
 - If a dependent partner or child has already made an application for a dependent visa, they can withdraw this application and request a refund.
 - Visa holders or their advisors will receive an email from INZ by 25 August, confirming their visa extension.
 - INZ provides an online Visa Verification Service [here](#).
- Temporary workers in New Zealand whose visas were due to expire between 10 July and 31 December will have their visas automatically extended by six months.
 - This includes those visas previously extended to 25 September.

- INZ will email workers confirming any automatic extensions by 14 July.
- The automatic extension did not initially apply to partners or dependent children who hold visas based on their relationship with a worker. Instead, partners and dependent children were required to make a further application to INZ to extend their status in line with the principal worker visa holder.
- The stand-down period for low-skilled workers will be delayed for impacted essential skills work visa holders. This means that lower-skilled migrants who were subject to the stand-down period between August 2020 and 31 December 2020 are now able to stay in NZ for a further six months after their stand-down would have taken effect.
- The duration of low-paid essential skills work visas will be reduced from 12 months to six months. This applies to any application received by INZ from 10 July 2020 and will be in place for at least the next 18 months.
- Applicants for Skilled Migrant and Investor 2 category visas now have 10 months (rather than the usual two months) from the date the applicant is invited to apply to submit their residence application. This only applies to applicants who were invited to apply under these categories between 1 November 2019 and 15 April 2020.
- Applicants who have received a Potentially Prejudice Information (PPI) letter before 25 March now have until 12 June to respond. Applicants who received a PPI letter on or after 14 May now have an additional four weeks to respond. Applicants who received a Request for Information now have ten working days in total to respond.
- Temporary visa holders already employed in an essential service may vary their hours and work other roles in their current workplace while NZ remains at Alert Level 3 or 4 and six weeks after these lockdown levels are lifted.
- Student visa holders already employed in an essential service may work more than 20 hours a week while NZ remains at Alert Level 3 or 4 and six weeks after these lockdown levels are lifted. This includes anyone working at a NZ supermarket. Students must continue to meet their study requirements during this time.
- Holders of temporary visas (including visitor visas and NZETAs) due to expire between 2 April and 9 July 2020, who are in New Zealand on 2 April, will automatically have their visa extended until 25 September 2020 with no fee. Extension emails will be sent to all visa holders.
- Those whose visas have already expired should email s61@mbie.gov.nz to explain their circumstances.
- Lower skilled temporary healthcare workers that are currently in New Zealand will be able to work in New Zealand for an additional 12 months before they are subject to the stand down period. This will allow those who have worked in NZ for three years already, an additional 12 months before they are subject to a stand down period where they must leave New Zealand. This extension will also apply to partners and dependents of affected workers.
- For work visa holders who cannot enter or return to New Zealand, their visa will remain valid until the travel restrictions are lifted, unless the job is no longer available.

NIGER

Entry Restrictions

- All international flights are suspended, and land borders are closed, until further notice.

NIGERIA

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 5 September, international flights resume at Lagos and Abuja airports, and the issuance of visas on arrival and electronic visas resumes.
- Travellers entering Nigeria from any country must:
 - test negative for COVID-19 in their country of departure within 2 weeks before departure, and preferably not less than 5 days before boarding;
 - complete a Health Declaration/Self-Reporting form and a Sample Collection Time Allocation form on board the flight;
 - undergo health screening on arrival;
 - self-isolate for at least 14 days at home – their passports will be retained until after successful completion of the self-quarantine;
 - present themselves, at an appointed time within 72 hours of arrival, at the Sample Collection centre in Lagos or Abuja for a repeat COVID-19 test;
 - Remain in Lagos or Abuja during self-quarantine until their repeat test is negative and they have provided public health officials with their contact details;
 - Undergo a quarantine exit interview and collect their passports.

Immigration Restrictions

- Employers can submit temporary work permit applications via email

Immigration Concessions

- All Migrants in Nigeria whose permits expired from 23 March to 5 September have an extension.
- All migrants with evidence of confirmed return tickets scheduled to travel out of the country are to be issued with free extensions to depart on or before 15 September.
- All Migrants whose permit or visitor's pass expired before 23 March must pay overstay penalties for the number of days stayed before the lockdown started on 23 March.
- Visitors and migrants whose permits expired outside Nigeria on or after 23 March are permitted to enter until 25 September. The returning holder of any expired permits or their dependents should renew their permits within 30 days of arrival to avoid sanctions.
- All migrants who processed payments for visa on arrival and other visa categories from the Nigerian consulates before 23 March are to apply for revalidation not later than 15 September.
- All migrants who obtained visa on arrival pre-approval letters and other categories of visas from the Nigerian consulates before 23 March and whose approvals/visas expired before 5 September are also to apply for revalidation not later than 15 September.
- Migrants who obtained a Temporary Work Permit (TWP) approval and the consulate where such visas were to be issued is closed should submit a complaint through cis-evisa@immigration.gov.ng.

NORTH MACEDONIA

Entry Restrictions

- The borders have reopened, airports have resumed services and entry is permitted. Travellers arriving in North Macedonia are no longer required to present a PCR test or to self-isolate.

NORWAY

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 19 September:
 - Estonia and the region of Södra Savolax (Etelä-Savo) in Finland, as well as the regions of Zealand and North Jutland in Denmark, are added to the red list of EEA/Schengen countries and regions with a higher infection rate, from which travellers may enter Norway but are subject to a ten-day quarantine. This means that all of Denmark is now on the red list.
 - Iceland and Liechtenstein and the regions of Kalmar and Blekinge in Sweden, as well as the Kajanaland (Kainuu) region in Finland, are removed from the red list.
 - The **red** list is as follows: *Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and parts of Finland and Sweden.*
- Entry is permitted for foreign nationals from outside the EU/EEA (i.e. third-country nationals) who have family or an established romantic relationship in Norway.
 - No exemption is granted from the ten-day quarantine duty, or from the standard immigration rules;
 - “Family members” includes spouses, partners, cohabitants, children under the age of 21 and stepfamily;
 - Visa-free family members are once again able to enter Norway to apply for a residence permit;
 - Visa-required family members may be granted an entry visa;
 - Third-country nationals may visit their family members in Norway;
 - Parties to a romantic relationship must have been in the relationship for at least nine months and must have physically met each other;
 - The person who lives in Norway must submit a self-declaration which the relationship partner must present on arrival in Norway, confirming that the two requirements have been met.
- Travellers from **EEA/Schengen countries** can enter Norway, without quarantine, provided that they live in a country or region where the infection level is acceptable.
- Healthcare professionals, including new employees and substitutes, who have been in “red” regions and countries during the past 10 days, are, like others, covered by quarantine obligations. In addition, it is recommended that health personnel who during the past 10 days have stayed in or been travelling in green regions and countries outside Norway, to inform the employer before returning to work. These employees should be tested once for SARS-CoV-2 and wait until a negative test is available before returning to clinical work. For employees not having clinical work

tasks the employer may decide if testing is necessary before the employee returns to work.

- Entry is permitted for **skilled workers holding work and residence permits, students and workers with technical competence that is exempt from the residence permit requirement.**
 - Home quarantine for ten days is required.
 - The deadline for entry in the decision letter still applies.
 - If the holder cannot enter before the deadline, an extended entry deadline must be requested from UDI.
 - If the decision letter was issued after 20 April and stated that the holder cannot travel to Norway yet, they can travel to Norway from 1 July if they are visa-free, or if they require a visa and have a valid visa. If they require a visa and do not yet have one, they must book an appointment to submit a visa application at a VFS visa centre (if it is open). If they have already submitted their visa application, they only need to wait until contacted by VFS.
- **EEA/Schengen residents going to Norway to work** are allowed to leave quarantine early if they test negative for COVID-19.
 - This exception also applies to workers from regions of Europe with a higher infection level.
 - Two tests will be required after arrival in Norway, the second at least 48 hours after the first. The second test can be taken at the earliest on day five after arrival. Until a negative test result is received, a person must follow the quarantine rules.
 - If the first test is negative, the person may work in Norway but must follow quarantine rules outside working hours. If the second test is also negative, the person is exempted from the quarantine rules both while at work and outside working hours.
 - A person who receives a positive test result is required to go into isolation, and their employer or client is required to notify the municipality so that it can start tracking and tracing contacts.
 - The employer in Norway is responsible for organising, carrying out and paying for these tests.
 - It is up to employers to decide whether to make this system for shortening the quarantine period available to people who will be arriving from abroad to work for them.
- People who, as part of their working conditions, must cross a border to travel from residence to a workplace between Norway, Sweden, Finland, Denmark, Iceland, Faroe Islands, Greenland and the Åland Islands are exempt from quarantine when commuting to and from work. The exemption from quarantine duty does not apply for people who are in transit from non-Nordic countries.
- Entry remains suspended for most third-country nationals without a residence permit, and a 14-day quarantine is required for all arrivals, with some exceptions.
 - Entry is permitted for all Norwegian citizens and EEA citizens and their family members resident in Norway.
 - Entry is permitted for holders of family immigration permits with a Norwegian or foreign citizen residing in Norway.
 - Entry is permitted for family members of EEA citizens and EEA citizens who are family members of Norwegian citizens. EEA-citizens who own property in Norway, including holiday properties, can now visit Norway.
 - Entry is permitted for persons who were granted a residence permit before 20 April 2020 and have visa-free status or a valid entry visa. If travel to Norway is

impossible within the validity of the visa or before the given entry date, a letter can be sent to the immigration authority (UDI) requesting an extension.

- Entry is permitted without quarantine for commuters from the Nordic countries (Denmark, Finland, Iceland and Sweden).
- Entry is permitted without quarantine for travellers entering Norway from all Nordic countries/regions except all parts of Sweden.
- Some Norwegian missions and visa application centres abroad have resumed limited services.
- The UDI are processing applications for residence permits from persons who are abroad after these cases have been delayed for a few weeks. However, most people who receive a residence permit from 20 April onwards cannot travel to Norway yet, unless otherwise stated in the decision letter for the residence permit. Those who may be permitted to enter include minor children (under 18 years old) without necessary care outside Norway; and spouses or cohabitants of Norwegian citizens, and any children, if the family has lived together in an established family life abroad.

Immigration Restrictions

- EU/EEA citizens who need an appointment with the Police related to registration must complete the online registration form and book an appointment in the application portal.
- It is not possible to issue residence permits, submit applications for residence permits or order residence cards. The police's Immigration Office currently offers a limited service. Citizens of the EEA will not be able to register or have the registration certificate issued by the police. In-country biometrics recording is not possible; however, work permit applications will still be processed if immigration authorities keep working and no closure is implemented. Digital solutions are being implemented where possible.
- All paper applications (that cannot be delivered electronically) for temporary residence permit must be submitted by mail, rather than in person.

OMAN

Entry Restrictions

- The authorities will permit international passenger flights to resume from 1 October, subject to government approval of each flight.
- Entry is suspended by land sea and air for all individuals, except citizens of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries. All individuals entering Oman will be required to undergo a 14-day quarantine.
- Oman has suspended all tourist visas, including those already issued, for all nationalities for one month.

PAKISTAN

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 9 August, international flights are permitted to resume from all airports, including Gwadar and Turbat. Travellers will be tested for COVID-19 on arrival and

will be quarantined in a government facility or self-paid private accommodation until the test results are processed. Those testing negative must self-isolate for 14 days.

Immigration Concessions

- Visas held by foreign nationals in Pakistan, which expired after 15 March, re extended until 30 June.

PANAMA

Entry Restrictions

- Entry is suspended to all individuals other than citizens and foreign residents of Panama.
- The suspension of commercial international flights to and from Panama continues, other than for transit, departure and the controlled entry of citizens and foreign residents.
- Effective 17 August, all passengers must present a negative COVID-19 test certificate issued no more than 48 hours prior to boarding, sign an agreement to comply with the government's health protocols and provide contact details.

Immigration Restrictions

- The Labour Immigration Department has resumed operations:
 - Lawyers can submit consultations and affiliations, conduct marriage interviews and obtain the issuance of previously paid-for work permit cards from already notified work permit decisions, and carry out online notifications, payments, issuance of digital work permit cards and reconsideration motions;
 - The public is served only by appointment.
 - From 15 July, all processes for new work permit applications and renewals must be carried out via the "Panama Digital" platform.
- For an in-person process, an appointment should be requested through the Ministry of Labour website.
- Documents expiring between March and 21 October will remain valid until 30 October.
- The National Immigration Department will continue in-person services for lawyers and the public.
- The Notifications Department of the National Immigration Authority will allow lawyers to receive notice on their ongoing immigration processes provided they show (i) a copy of the relevant temporary ID card, and (ii) a copy of the relevant passport pages (data page, registration stamp, last entry stamp and multiple entry visa), therefore, it is not required that they submit originals of either the temporary ID or passport.

Immigration Concessions

- Effective immediately and during the State of National Emergency, the pre-registration and submission of the application for a residence permit as an employee of a multinational company (SEM Visa) are now authorized prior to the arrival of the executive and their dependents in Panama.

- Once the application is pre-registered, all fees paid and the application submitted, the executive and their dependents are considered residents and are thus permitted to enter Panama.
- Once the executive enters Panama, they have a period of 45 days to complete the application.
- The validity of all residence permits (temporary ID-cards, provisional ID-cards, non-resident visas, judicial stay ID-cards and “Crisol de Razas” ID-cards) that expire between 13 March and 31 July is extended until 31 October.
- Deadlines between 13 March and 7 June for submitting additional documents to the immigration authorities are extended for an additional three months.
- The validity of all work permits that expired between March and September is extended as follows:
 - Work permits that expired in March are extended until 30 September;
 - Work permits that expired in April are extended until 31 October;
 - Work permits that expired in May are extended until 30 November;
 - Work permits that expire in June are extended until 31 December;
 - Work permits that expire in July are extended until 31 January 2021;
 - Work permits that expire in August are extended until 28 February 2021;
 - Work permits that expire in September are extended until 31 March 2021.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Entry Restrictions

- Entry is suspended until further notice.

PARAGUAY

Entry Restrictions

- Until further notice, all international flights into and out of the country are suspended and the borders are closed. Only authorized Paraguayan citizens and resident foreign nationals are permitted to enter, following a 14-day quarantine in designated facilities.

Immigration Restrictions

- Some government offices have resumed operations but are not operating as normal.

Immigration Concessions

- All documents and deadlines that expire between 13 March and the official reopening of government offices are considered valid.

PERU

Entry Restrictions

- The State of Emergency has been extended until 30 September, and all international passenger transport by air, sea, land and river is suspended during this period, except for humanitarian reasons.
- All arrivals are subject to 15-day quarantine.
- In exceptional circumstances, visa applications may be processed.

Immigration Restrictions

- Effective 3 June, Migraciones offers more than 15 procedures online, including change of immigration status, residence renewal and special travel permit. Fingerprinting will no longer be required for these services until the COVID-19 restrictions allow fingerprint capture. It will thus be possible to initiate all previously-suspended scheduled procedures. However, users of the new system have experienced several problems with its functionality.
- The suspension of administrative deadlines and overstay penalties for administrative procedures is lifted.

Immigration Concessions

- Foreign nationals who have registered for issuance of a Foreign Card or Temporary Stay Permit (PTP) Card but have not been issued a card due to coronavirus restrictions, can download a certificate from www.migraciones.com.pe. The certificate will have the same validity as the card until the issuance of the card.
- The Ministry of Labour and Employment Promotion authorises the use of digital signatures for signing addenda for the renewal of employment contracts expiring during the current mandatory social isolation period.
- *Migraciones* has authorised the rescheduling of appointments for after the State of Emergency is lifted. Regularization is permitted until 45 days after the lifting of the state of emergency.

PHILIPPINES

Entry Restrictions

- Effective until 31 December, foreign nationals with visas approved by the Bureau of Immigration (BI) are permitted to leave the country before they have been issued their Alien Certificate of Registration Identity Card (ACR I-Card), and without an ACR I-Card waiver order.
- Foreign national parents of minor Filipino nationals are now permitted to enter the country, provided they secure or possess the appropriate visas.
- Effective 1 August, entry will be permitted for foreign nationals holding valid and existing long-term visas.
 - Eligible visa categories include immigrant visas under section 13 of Commonwealth Act No.613; immigrant visas issued under Republic Act No. 7919 or the Alien Social Integration Act of 1995; immigrants under Executive Order 324; and native-born foreign nationals;
 - No new entry visa applications will be accepted;
 - The foreign national must secure a pre-booked COVID-19 testing provider and accredited quarantine facility;

- Entry is subject to the maximum capacity of inbound passengers at the port and date of entry.
- The suspension of non-essential outbound travel for Philippines citizens has been lifted, and a terminal at Ninoy Aquino International Airport in Manila has been reopened.
- Travellers arriving at Francisco Bangoy International Airport (DVO) are required to submit a negative reverse transcription-polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) test, taken within 48 hours of their departure. Those arriving at DVO without the required test will not be permitted to leave the airport until testing has been arranged.
- The Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) is considering requests for exemption from the entry ban imposed on foreign nationals. PEZA advises that PEZA endorsement of a request for exemption should only be requested by PEZA-requested companies for essential and emergency reasons.
- The suspension of visa issuance and visa-free privilege, and the suspension of entry for holders of most previously issued visas, including permanent residence visas, continues until further notice, despite the easing of community quarantine requirements. Entry is allowed for foreign crew members of airlines, overseas Filipino workers (OFWs), foreign spouses and dependents of Filipino citizens, and foreign diplomats.
- All arrivals are subject to 14-day home quarantine and testing.
- Those arriving from a high-risk place of origin or lay-over (as identified by the latest WHO guidelines) and those identified as having influenza-like symptoms by a Quarantine Medical Officer at the port of entry are subject to RT-PCR COVID-19 testing and stringent quarantine under the supervision of the Bureau of Quarantine until the test results are released. If negative they are subject to 14-day home quarantine. If positive, they are subject to hospital treatment followed by 14-day home quarantine.
- Other foreign nationals are subject to Rapid Antibody testing and mandatory 14-day quarantine at an Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA)-designated facility.
- Holders of 9(e) visas and their dependents who are classified for mandatory quarantine may undergo RTR-PCR testing at their own expense at a DOH-licensed facility at the port of entry or at a BOQ-approved hotel quarantine facility of their own choice and expense. If the result is negative, they will be allowed to undergo a 14-day home quarantine, rather than a quarantine at an OWWA-designated facility.
- All foreign nationals classified for mandatory quarantine who have not been subjected to RT-PCR COVID-19 testing shall undergo Rapid Antibody Testing at the end of the 14-day mandatory quarantine.
- The suspension of international commercial passenger flights is extended until further notice.
- All inbound Filipino citizens including any foreign spouse and children, holders of Permanent Resident Visas, and holders of 9(e) Diplomat Visas issued by the Philippines Government will be allowed entry, subject to applicable quarantine procedures if coming from certain countries.

Immigration Restrictions

- Effective until 30 September:
 - The National Capital Region (NCR), Bacolod City, Batangas, Bulacan and Tacloban City will remain under General Community Quarantine (GCQ).

- Iligan City is placed under Modified Enhanced Community Quarantine (MECQ) which is stricter than GCQ;
- The rest of the country will be under Modified General Community Quarantine (MGCQ) which is less strict than GCQ.
- DOLE NCR requires that only the following forms, duly received and verified by the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) are accepted as proof of issuance of Tax Identification Numbers (TIN).
- DOLE NCR has stated that Order of Payment Slips (OPS) are only valid for 7 days.
 - After the 7-day validity period and if OPS is unpaid, the transaction number of the AEP application shall be cancelled accordingly and company or its authorized representative shall re-file the application because it will be deleted from the AEP system. Further, this may also entail submission of valid visa or business permit, Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR) accreditation and Philippine Contractors Accreditation Board (PCAB) registration which expired at the time of payment.
 - Applications are deemed accepted upon payment of fees and its processing shall commence accordingly.
 - A penalty may be imposed if payment was accepted beyond the fifteen (15) days allowable period of filing without penalty.
- DOLE NCR has published new guidelines for online company or establishment registration.
- The PEZA Visayas IT Zone Office has resumed onsite operations in Cebu City.
 - Applicants are encouraged to send scanned copies of all required documents for pre-screening;
 - Once the scanned documents are confirmed to be complete and correct, the local representative can submit the original documents and pay the corresponding fee.
 - For any in-person transactions, a prior appointment should be booked.
- Foreign nationals with approved and implemented visas but awaiting release of their Alien Certificate of Registration Identity Card (ACR I-Card) who wish to leave the Philippines must once more present an ACR I-Card Waiver Order, instead of receipts for ACR I-Card Waiver application fees.
- Effective 15 August, the Bureau of Immigration – Philippine Economic Zone Authority (BI-PEZA) Extension Office will implement an online appointment system.
- The Bureau of Immigration (BI) accepts application submission with an appointment booked online. Applicants must present the appointment code and a valid ID and wear a face mask. BI-accredited travel agencies and law firms may book appointments and transact business on behalf of the applicant.
- DOLE NCR has published new guidelines for online company registration, online submission of new and renewal Alien Employment permit (AEP) applications, and courier delivery of AEP cards.
- The Department of Labour and Employment (DOLE) in Region IV-A has published a revised online procedure for application for Alien Employment Permit (AEP).
- The Bureau of Immigration has resumed the acceptance of Special Work Permit (SWP) and Provisional Work Permit (PWP) applications for sectors allowed to operate under MECQ. Additional documents are required in support of PWP applications for Philippine Offshore Gaming Operators (POGOs). The Tourist Visa Section and support offices will accept applications for updating/extension of authorised stay for tourist/temporary visitors who will apply for SWP or PWP.
- Consular Offices (CO) in Metro Manila, Parañaque City and ASEANA Business Park have suspended operations. Consular Offices in the Visayas and Mindanao will be

operating with skeletal workforces and will provide services only to individuals with urgent consular needs, such as Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) and those with medical emergencies, until further notice. Applicants who have no urgent need for consular services, including those with confirmed passport appointments or seeking authentication and civil registration services, are requested to defer their visits to these COs until the community quarantine period ends.

Immigration Concessions

- Effective until 31 December, the Bureau of Immigration (BI) will temporarily allow foreign nationals with approved and implemented visas to depart the country without an ACR I-Card or an ACR I-Card waiver order.
 - On exit, they must present their passport with visa implementation stamps and official receipts of payment for their ACR I-Card waiver application fee, Emigration Clearance Certificate (ECC)/Re-entry Permit (RP) or Special Return Certificate (SRC).
 - The foreign national passenger is advised to safe keep the copies of the official receipts as the same should be presented upon return to the Philippines.
- These foreign nationals should, upon their return to the Philippines, proceed immediately to the main BI office to apply for revalidation and implementation of the visa on their passport.
- Holders of temporary visitor's visas who have stayed in the country less than one year and who are departing the Philippines are temporarily allowed to acquire their Emigration Clearance Certificate (ECC) at the international airports. ECCs for those leaving for good must still be obtained from the Bureau of Immigration Main Office or Satellite Offices which are open.
- Foreign nationals whose visas will expire during the duration of the ECQ are allowed to submit their applications for extension without penalties, provided that they submit their applications within thirty days from the lifting of the Enhanced Community Quarantine.
- Biometrics capturing and fingerprinting, and the issuance of Special Security Registration Numbers (SSRNs) as requirements for processing of ECC are temporarily suspended. The Bureau of Immigration (BI) will still conduct derogatory records checking before issuing the ECC to ensure that any foreign national who wishes to leave the country has no pending case or has no pending obligation with the Philippine government.
- Departing passengers with pending extension applications of their immigrant or non-immigrant visas will no longer be required to secure a Grace Period Order. In lieu of the Grace Period Order, the subject foreign nationals shall submit certain documents to the Immigration Officer (during departure formalities). The requirement for a National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) clearance for an Order to Leave is temporarily suspended.
- Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs), balikbayans, and foreign nationals leaving for abroad through any of the ports in Luzon shall be allowed to leave the Philippines at any time for the duration of the Enhanced Community Quarantine, provided they meet certain criteria.
- Travel restrictions are lifted for Balik-Manggagawa overseas Filipino Workers returning to mainland China except for Hubei province.

POLAND

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 2 September, the mandatory quarantine period on arrival is reduced from 14 days to 10 days (also applies to those whose quarantine has already started).
- Effective 16 September until 29 September, the list of countries from where international flights are suspended has been updated.
 - **France** has been added to the list.
 - *Albania, Armenia, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eswatini, India, Kazakhstan, Kosovo, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Malta, Mexico North Macedonia and Romania* have been removed from the list.
 - Flights are now suspended from *Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, France, Guatemala, Honduras, Iraq, Israel, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Maldives, Moldova, Montenegro, Namibia, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Qatar, Spain, Suriname, United States of America.*
- International flights are permitted from EU, EEA and EFTA countries and microstates not on the above list, as well as from Algeria, Australia, Canada, Georgia, Japan, Morocco, New Zealand, Rwanda, South Korea, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, Uruguay.
- Entry is permitted from EU member states.
- Entry is permitted from outside the EU for the following:
 - Polish citizens and their spouses or children;
 - Citizens and legal residents of EU/EFTA/EEA states, Switzerland or the UK;
 - Nationals or residents of Australia, Canada, Georgia, Japan, New Zealand, Rwanda, South Korea, Thailand, Tunisia;
 - Holders of a Pole's Card;
 - People who have the right of permanent or temporary residence in Poland or a work permit;
 - Foreign nationals who run a means of transport designed for the transport of persons or goods, and whose transit takes place as part of their professional activities consisting in the transport of goods or persons,
 - Pupils and students receiving education in Poland;
 - Athletes, journalists and staff entering to attend sports competitions in Poland,
 - Persons who cross the border of Poland based on a national visa for the purpose of repatriation in order to arrive in Poland as the repatriated person's closest family member;
- All travellers who are permitted to enter Poland, except for the categories mentioned below, must undergo a mandatory 10-day **quarantine** at their place of stay in Poland. The following travellers are exempt from the quarantine requirement:
 - Travellers arriving on flights originating from countries not subject to the international flight suspension (except for passengers on flights arriving from Belarus, Russia or Ukraine);
 - Citizens of Poland and their spouses and children;
 - Citizens of the EU, EEA and Switzerland and their spouses and children;
 - Residents of the EU, and their spouses and children, for the purpose of transit through Poland to their place of residence.
 - Pupils and students enrolled in Polish educational institutions (and their guardians);

- Service members of the Polish Army or allied military service members, police officers, border guards, customs officers, fire brigade members, State Security Service members, Road Transport Inspection officers, or sea administration inspectors;
- Crew members on airlines, trains, shipping vessels, or offshore drilling platforms;
- Persons performing certain work in the oil and energy sectors;
- Drivers of commercial vehicles transporting goods or passengers;
- Diplomats and their family members assigned to Poland;
- Maritime administration inspectors,
- Also exempt are holders of an employer's declaration on entrusting work to a foreign national and EU citizens holding EU registration certificates, foreign spouses or children of Polish citizens, Pole's Card holders, Polish diploma holders and diplomatic staff.
- Employees in the EU or the EEA who travel to Poland from another EU country (i.e. without crossing the external EU border) in connection with work will be exempt from the obligatory quarantine post entry. To benefit from the exemption, the employee will have to prove professional activity in the EU/EEA country.
- Some Poland visa application centres have resumed services.

Immigration Restrictions

- Immigration offices are again allowed to issue negative decisions in immigration applications.
- It is possible once more to submit acceleration requests to a higher authority (ponaglenie).
- Countdowns to the deadlines to complete immigration formalities (e.g., to submit missing documents in pending applications or to submit obligatory notifications) have resumed.
- The countdown to the deadline to submit EU registration applications has resumed. It is recommended to submit EU registration applications by post before Immigration offices reopen.
- In-person submission of residence permit applications is suspended at immigration offices. All previously-booked appointments are cancelled, and further appointments will not be made until further notice. Application and document submission by post is welcomed.

Immigration Concessions

- Anti-crisis measures made available to employers (ordering home office, unilateral reduction of working time, unilateral reduction of remuneration during stoppage) may be applied to foreign nationals without triggering non-compliance with immigration law.
- Citizens of Ukraine, Russia, Belarus, Armenia, Georgia and Moldova will be able to apply for Polish national visas in their countries without personal visit to consulate. The exact process of remote submission will be determined by each consulate.
- Remote submission does not apply to Short-term (Schengen) visas for up to 90 days of stay.
- Eligible seasonal workers are exempt from the requirement to hold a work permit until 30 days after the end of the state of emergency, provided they already held a proper work authorisation after 13 March 2020.

- The validity of already-issued work permits and declarations of entrusted work are automatically extended until 30 days after the end of the state of emergency, if they expire during the state of emergency.
- The right to stay in Poland of foreign national holders of Schengen visas, residence permits or long-term visas issued by other Schengen countries, and foreign nationals staying visa-free, is extended until 30 days after the cancellation of the state of emergency, provided that they were already in Poland on 14 March 2020. Those who were not in Poland on 14 March will also have their right to stay in Poland extended until 30 days after cancellation of the state of emergency, provided that they submit a residence permit application by the end of the extension period. If they do not submit a residence permit application, but e.g. simply leave Poland after cancellation of the state of emergency, then they will be considered to have stayed in Poland illegally.
- The validity of Polish national visas and residence permits which expire during the state of emergency is automatically extended until 30 days after the cancellation of the state of emergency.
- Foreign nationals whose residence cards (plastic identity card with a photo) expire before 30 days from the end of epidemic state, will not be obligated to exchange their cards to avoid a fine – the cards' validity will be automatically extended.
- Pole Cards (Karta Polaka) which expire during the state of emergency are automatically extended for three months beyond the end of the state of emergency, during which period the holder should apply for a new card.
- Residence cards of family members of EU citizens that would expire during the state of emergency will be automatically extended until 30 days after the end of the state of emergency.
- Immigration offices now have the right to deliver letters to applicants electronically. This manner of delivery is temporarily introduced until 30 September 2020 and applies only to applicants who agreed to such delivery – the default option for delivery of official letters is still traditional paper form.
- Immigration offices now have the right to allow applicants to review their case file electronically. The files can be sent to the applicant to an e-mail address provided to the authority.
- Immigration offices now have the right to substitute a mandatory personal visit to the office with a video chat or teleconference (e.g. in case of an obligatory interview during dependent residence permit proceedings). Please note that obligatory fingerprint submissions will still have to be done in person.
- Moreover, deadlines for foreign nationals to leave Poland are postponed.
- Permanent residence permits and long-term EU residence permits are indefinite, so an expired residence card based on these permits does not render the stay illegal. An application for a new residence card can be submitted after immigration offices resume regular operations.

PORTUGAL

Entry Restrictions

- Flights are permitted from and to the EU, the non-EU Schengen countries (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland) and the UK, and the following non-EU/Schengen countries: Australia, Canada, China, Georgia, Japan, Morocco, New Zealand, Rwanda, South Korea, Tunisia and Uruguay.

- Passengers on these flights are not required to present a negative COVID-19 test result certificate.
- Flights are also permitted from other countries for essential purposes only. Essential journeys are defined as those undertaken by citizens of EU member states and Schengen states and their family members, and non-EU nationals resident in EU member states, as well as non-EU nationals travelling for work, study, family reunion, health or humanitarian purposes.
 - Passengers on flights from other destinations for essential purposes must present a negative result certificate from a COVID-19 test carried out in the previous 72 hours.
- Passengers flying to Madeira must present a negative result certificate from a COVID-19 test carried out in the previous 72 hours or take a test on arrival.
- Passengers flying to the Azores must either provide proof of a negative COVID-19 test taken 72 hours prior to arrival or take a test and await the results in isolation. Arriving passengers may await the test results in a private residence or contracted lodging of their choice. The results are expected to take no more than 12 hours. Travellers who wish to remain in the Azores for more than 7 or 14 days, will be required to test again on the 6th and 13th days.
- Land borders remain open.

Immigration Restrictions

- The Immigration Service (SEF) are now rescheduling new appointments for those that were scheduled during the state of emergency, between 18 March and 2 May.

Immigration Concessions

- All visas, immigration documents, and drivers licences, criminal records and other certificates that have expired since 24 February or are due to expire are now automatically extended until 30 October 2020.
- Foreign nationals who have registered an expression of interest for obtaining a residence permit under Articles 88, 89 and 90-A can prove their immigration status with a document downloaded from the relevant online platform.
- Foreign nationals with pending applications for new or renewal residence permits can prove their immigration status with an application receipt or documentary evidence of an appointment booking.

QATAR

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 1 September, Andorra and Malta have been removed from the list of low-risk countries and Uruguay has been added to the list.
- Foreign national travellers from the following “Low Risk” countries (as defined by the Qatari Ministry of Public Health) will be allowed to enter Qatar without providing a negative COVID-19 test pre-departure:
 - *Algeria, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, China, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Malaysia, Morocco, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia,*

South Korea, Spain, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, United Kingdom, Uruguay and Vietnam.

- “Low Risk” travellers entering Qatar will be required to take the following steps:
 - Undergo a COVID-19 test upon arrival in-country.
 - Self-quarantine for 1 week.
 - Undergo a second COVID-19 test at the end of the self-quarantine period. Any travellers with a positive COVID-19 test at the end of this period will be transferred to a government-run isolation facility.
- All non- “Low Risk” travellers entering Qatar are required to take the following steps:
 - Provide proof of a certified negative COVID-19 test result from an accredited testing facility within the previous 48 hours of travel.
 - Self-quarantine for 1 week upon arrival in Qatar.
 - Undergo a second COVID-19 test at the end of the self-quarantine period. Any travellers with a positive COVID-19 test at the end of this period will be transferred to a government-run isolation facility.
 - Note: if non-“Low Risk” travellers are unable to provide a certified test result, they will be tested upon arrival in Qatar and required to quarantine at a government-approved hotel for 1 week at their own expense.
- Qatari citizens, their spouses, and their immediate family members will be subject to the same regulations as foreign nationals; however, they are free to leave and return to Qatar at any time.
- Foreign residents of Qatar will be permitted to return in Phase 3.
- Effective 1 August, employers of foreign residents of Qatar can apply online for an Exceptional Entry Permit for re-entry.
- Qatari Nationals, their travelling companions, those with a Permanent Resident Card or other exceptionally approved Visa holders, travelling out of Doha, and returning before 15 September, and all passengers entering Doha on or before 15 September, must have a confirmed reservation for fourteen days in one of the designated quarantine hotels in Qatar on their return. The booking must be pre-paid against a non-refundable voucher obtained from the hotel through the “Discover Qatar” website.

Immigration Restrictions

- Immigration offices are closed to the public and only online applications are accepted. Applications for Qatar ID renewal and business visa extensions are being processed. However, new residence or transfer of visa applications are not being accepted.

Immigration Concessions

- Residents stranded abroad due to COVID-19 who have missed the deadline to register their National Address (26 July 2020) will have to register as soon as they re-enter Qatar.

ROMANIA

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 29 August:
 - Eswatini, Kazakhstan and South Africa have been **removed** from the list of countries/areas with a high epidemiological risk.
 - Andorra, Gibraltar, Namibia, Paraguay and the Spanish regions of Castilla La Mancha, Castilla y Leon and La Rioja have been **added** to the list.
 - The list now includes: *Andorra, Argentina, Aruba, Bahamas, Bahrain, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Faroe Islands, Gibraltar, Guam, Iraq, Israel, Kosovo, Kuwait, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro, Namibia, Palestine, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Puerto Rico, Qatar, Sint Maarten, Spain (Aragon, Castilla La Mancha, Castilla y Leon, Catalonia, La Rioja, Madrid, Navarra, the Balearic Islands, the Basque Country) Suriname, Turks and Caicos Islands, USA, US Virgin Islands.*
 - Entry is permitted from these countries for citizens of EEA member states, Switzerland and UK, and to Romanian citizens and their family members, holders of long-stay visas or residence permits, family members of nationals of an EEA member state, Switzerland or UK, with a residence in Romania or those moving for professional purposes as evidenced by a visa or residence permit.
 - A 14-day quarantine is required for all arrivals from these countries.
- The list of countries from which asymptomatic travellers are eligible to enter Romania without quarantine or self-isolation includes:
 - *Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Cyprus, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Monaco, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, (parts of) Spain, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, the Vatican; and Algeria, Australia, Canada, Georgia, Japan, Morocco, New Zealand, Rwanda, South Korea, Thailand, Tunisia and Uruguay.*
 - To qualify for the quarantine exemption, travellers arriving from these countries must have spent the previous 14 days in these countries.
- Entry is permitted for citizens of EEA member states, Switzerland and UK, and to Romanian citizens and their family members, holders of long-stay visas or residence permits, family members of nationals of an EEA member state, Switzerland or UK, with a residence in Romania or those moving for professional purposes as evidenced by a visa or residence permit.
- Passengers who show no symptoms and arrive from countries not on the list of exempted countries are recommended to self-isolate.

Immigration Restrictions

- The immigration authorities are only accepting work permit applications, and only with appointments booked online.
- The immigration authorities are not currently accepting applications for permanent residence.
- The Ministry of Education is only receiving requests for acknowledgement of foreign qualifications by post.

Immigration Concessions

- Expiring documents, including residence and work permits and EU registration certificates and residence cards, will be automatically extended until the end of the state of emergency, and can then be exchanged within 90 days of the end of the state of emergency.
- The Romanian immigration authorities are only accepting pre-booked appointments based on the prior online submission of application files. This will trigger around 2-3 weeks' delay in the immigration process.

RUSSIA

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 2 September, entry restrictions are lifted for Egypt, Maldives and the United Arab Emirates.
- Russia has now lifted entry restrictions for citizens and permanent residents of Egypt, Maldives, Switzerland, Tanzania, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates and the United Kingdom.
 - These individuals are eligible to obtain invitations and visas of all types.
 - Entry to Russia is **not** permitted for citizens and permanent residents of these countries travelling from other countries.
 - Note that the decree does **not** lift the current restrictions to obtain a work permit for foreign citizens who are currently abroad (including citizens/permanent residents of these three countries).
 - Entry into Russia remains limited to air travel.
- Foreign nationals permitted to enter Russia must present a negative COVID-19 PCR test result from a test done no more than 72 hours prior to arrival.
 - The post-arrival COVID-19 testing option has been removed.
 - If it is impossible to present test results in English or Russian language, they can be issued in the official language of the country where the medical institution is registered. In this case the translation must be certified by a Russian consular officer.
 - Before crossing the border, foreign nationals are required to complete the questionnaire for arrivals. A questionnaire example is available on the official website of *Rospotrebnadzor*.
 - **14-day quarantine is still required for all persons arriving in Russia for work.**
 - Employers are required to inform their foreign employees of these requirements and ensure that they comply.
 - Russian citizens must undergo examination within 3 days of their return to the country and upload the results to the official *State Services website*.
 - Russian citizens must register as arrivals on the official *State Services website* (before flight check-in), and also complete a paper application (before crossing the border).
- Entry is now permitted for highly qualified specialist (HQS) employees.
 - Employers must prepare a list of foreign-national HQS employees, which must be approved by the respective Ministry and by the Federal Security Service and Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia.

- It is now possible to obtain a work permit and visa invitation letter for HQS employees approved in this way.
- Visa invitation letter issued before 18 March 2020 are no longer accepted by Russian consulates.
- HQS employees must present a valid labour or services contract with a Russian employer or customer on entry and will be subject to health requirements on entry.
- Effective 27 June, an applicant for a work permit, work patent, temporary residence permit (TRP) or permanent residence permit (PRP) (but not for an HQS work permit) will have to submit negative COVID-19 test results (in addition to the test results that are already required).
- 14-day quarantine is mandatory for everyone entering from regions with bad COVID-19 figures, and for those testing positive for COVID-19.
- Effective 6 June, foreign nationals can enter Russia to receive medical treatment or to take care of their sick close relatives. Also, Russian citizens can exit Russia to receive medical treatment or to care for sick close relatives, to visit foreign national family members who live permanently abroad, to work or study abroad. It is possible to benefit from these new entry and exit permissions once only.
- The Russian government has opened borders for foreign nationals who are highly qualified specialists in sport, holding a valid ID, valid entry visas or visa-free status and a valid employment contract, as long as they are include in the list approved by the Ministry of Sport and the Federal Security Service.
- The suspension of entry is extended indefinitely.
- Entry is permitted for:
 - Highly-qualified specialist (HQS) employees approved to enter by the respective Ministry and by the Federal Security Service and Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia.
 - Foreign national close family members (spouses, parents, children), guardians or trustees of Russian citizens on presentation of proof of relationship, travelling with their Russian citizen family member;
 - Permanent residents;
 - Diplomats and other officials and their family members;
 - Persons holding private visas related to the death of close relatives;
 - Persons transiting through air border checkpoints without crossing the Russian border;
 - Participants in the state program for relocation of compatriots living abroad, provided they have valid ID documents recognized as such by Russian Federation as well as a certificate of participation (and their family members);
 - Persons, participating in installation and technical support of foreign equipment, listed in an application made to the respective government agency, which then has to be approved by the Federal Security Service.
- The following categories of Russian citizens are now exempt from the closure of land borders:
 - Diplomats and officials and their family members;
 - Drivers and crew members;
 - Russian citizens exiting Russia, in connection to the death of a close relative;
 - Those permanently residing on the territory of Kaliningradskaya region, travelling by train through Russia to Kaliningradskaya region and back, provided they can demonstrate permanent registration in Kaliningrad (stamp in their passport);

- Those permanently residing on the territories of Donetsk and Lugansk, provided they have Russian passport;
- Military personnel;
- Employees of organizations, which are involved in the building of crucial energy infrastructure on the territories of foreign countries in accordance with international agreements of Russian Federation in the sphere of nuclear power.
- Those who have citizenship or permanent residence in a foreign country for a one-way trip to their place of permanent residence.
- All international flights are suspended.
- Foreign nationals are permitted to exit Russia but will not be allowed to re-enter.
- Visa issuance is suspended at Russian consulates, except for diplomats, officials, transport crews and those travelling with their Russian citizen family members. Previously lodged applications may be issued or may be returned without issuance, depending on the consulate and the date of submission. Electronic visa issuance is also suspended.

Immigration Restrictions

- Employees are required to inform their employers about certain chronic illnesses, pregnancy and COVID-19 symptoms, and must in these cases remain at home. All employees must wear masks (respirators) and gloves at their place of work, unless alone in a separate room.
- Employers must measure the body temperature of employees at least once every 4 hours, and by 31 May must test 10% of employees for coronavirus at a government-authorized medical organization.
- Employers must notify the Moscow authorities via email about employees who continue to work as usual, or are working from home, or are put on mandatory leave.
- In Moscow, the Migration offices responsible for work authorisation (Sakharovo and Greenwoods) accept work permit and patent applications and issue documents (only for foreign nationals already in Russia and accept notifications. The Migration office responsible for visas (Petrovka) is not accepting or issuing any applications or documents (including invitation letters for entry and work visa extensions) with the exception of exit (transit) visas. District migration offices have ceased in-person acceptance of applicants. The head Migration office of the MIA (Boyarsky Pereulok) is accepting notifications and work permit correction applications and issuing corrected work permits.
- Address registration can be currently done only through the post office, Extension is possible in a few local migration offices and multi-functional government centres in Moscow – this must be verified for each case.
- Migration authorities in St. Petersburg and other regions continue to accept applications as per latest reports. District migration departments continue to accept documents on the basis of preliminary online appointment. It is necessary to check in advance the regime of work of the particular office.
- Work permits cannot be collected until the applicant has completed a mandatory 14-day quarantine period from their date of entry.

Immigration Concessions

- Companies in Russia owning or using foreign equipment may apply for an invitation letter for foreign specialists to enter with the purpose of “technical support” (the

installation and technical servicing of foreign equipment). For foreign nationals already in Russia on a technical support visa, the inviting company can submit an application for a work permit (highly qualified specialist or standard) for the foreign specialist.

- The following types of migration documents expiring between 15 March and 15 September are extended for 184 days from the expiry date: visa (all types), address registration, migration card, temporary residence permit (TRP), permanent residence permit (PRP), documents, confirming refugee status, status of the “mandatory moved persons, and participants in the state program for relocation of compatriots living abroad.
- This automatic extension no longer applies to the following documents: Highly Qualified Specialist (HQS) work permit; standard work permit; corporate work permit; work patent. Holders of these immigration documents and their employers have to submit an extension application in the standard manner.
- During the period 15 March to 15 September, the flow of the following periods is suspended: the 6-month period of permitted stay abroad for PRP and TRP holders and participants in the state programme for relocation of compatriots living abroad; and the period for voluntary exit for deportation, readmission and administrative removal cases.
- Effective 16 June, employers are no longer permitted to hire foreign nationals without a work permit or patent.
 - Foreign nationals, who entered Russia without a visa (CIS citizens) will have to apply for the patent. They will be able to do this irrespective of the set deadlines for submitting such applications and irrespective of the purpose of the visit indicated in their migration card;
 - Employers of foreign nationals who entered Russia from visa-required countries will have to apply for work permits for them. Applications will be accepted irrespective of the purpose of visit with which foreign national entered the country indicated in their migration card and visa. This will only apply to employers which have valid corporate employment permits. The validity of the permit cannot exceed the 15th of September 2020;
 - HQS work permits are extended in a standard manner as well as HQS work visas.
- During the period 15 March to 15 September, decisions will not be taken on undesirability of stay, administrative removal, deportation, readmission or annulment of immigration status in relation to foreign citizens.
- The Ministry of Internal Affairs will accept extension applications for work permits, visas and visa-free stays for up to 90 days, even if already expired, and initial work permits, for foreign nationals already in Russia before 18 March. Administrative penalties will not be applied. Exit visas will also be issued if required. Also accepted are applications for highly-qualified specialist work permits, work visa extensions, employment contract and salary notifications, address registration, work patents, temporary and permanent residence permits and citizenship.
- Foreign nationals with valid visas can apply for extension to the Office of the Internal Affairs Ministry in Moscow: Pokrovka str. 42.
- Foreign nationals with visas that expired after 18 March, or who entered visa-free, should apply at the local police office in Moscow and will receive address registration for 90 days. Once the border is opened, they should apply to the same police office for issuance of a transit visa for exit.

- Foreign nationals with visas that expired before 18 March will have to wait until the district courts reopen and will be fined according to the law. Foreign nationals in this position can complete address registration for up to 90 days.
- Biometric capture will be required for extensions of stay.

RWANDA

Entry Restrictions

- Scheduled international passenger flights will resume from 1 August. All passengers, including those in transit, will be required to present a negative COVID-19 test result taken within 72 hours of arrival, and those staying in Rwanda will have to take a second test upon arrival and stay in approved hotels at their own cost, until the result is confirmed. They will also have to fill out a Passenger Location Form before arrival.
- All borders are closed to foreign nationals.
- Rwandan citizens and foreign residents will be subject to a compulsory 14-day government quarantine.

SAINT LUCIA

Entry Restrictions

- The government plans to allow tourism to resume from 4 June.
- Borders are closed and all commercial flights are suspended.

SAUDI ARABIA

Entry Restrictions

- International travel will remain suspended until after 1 January 2021 – the exact date for the lifting of the suspension of entry and exit for Saudi citizens will be announced 30 days before 1 January 2021.
- Effective 15 September, as exceptions to the above, entry is permitted through all ports of entry for the following categories of citizens and residents:
 - GCC and other non-Saudi citizens with valid work, residence or visit visas;
 - Saudi citizens who are government employees, including diplomats and their families; employees of public, private or non-profit establishments outside Saudi Arabia; business travellers; patients requiring treatment abroad; certain categories of students and humanitarian cases; resident abroad; participants in regional and international official sporting events.
 - Both citizens and residents must provide a negative result from a COVID-19 test taken not more than 48 hours prior to travel.
- Foreign national residence permit holders who are outside Saudi Arabia will not be permitted to re-enter until further notice. The mechanism for extending the exit and re-entry visa will be announced after the end of the pandemic.
- Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) nationals including KSA nationals are required to use their passports instead of their ID Cards for entry to and exit from Saudi Arabia, and to demonstrate no infection over 14 days before entry.

Immigration Restrictions

- Immigration offices are closed to the public. New residence permit applications are not being accepted, processed or issued until further notice. Renewals can be completed online.

Immigration Concessions

- Holders of business, tourist, medical treatment, trading or family visit visas can request a visa extension upon payment of a fee.
- If a residence permit holder is outside Saudi Arabia and therefore cannot renew their permit, it will be automatically renewed for three months.

SENEGAL

Entry Restrictions

- Some international flights, under certain conditions, will be permitted to land from 15 July.

SERBIA

Entry Restrictions

- All COVID-19 entry restrictions are lifted, and foreign nationals may enter Serbia without undergoing or submitting a negative PCR test or undergoing a 14-day quarantine.
- Air Serbia has restarted limited scheduled passenger air traffic.
- The land border with Hungary reopened on 23 April for commuting agricultural employees.

Immigration Concessions

- Foreign citizens whose legal status in Serbia expired during the state of emergency can request the approval/renewal of the status (e.g. temporary residence permit) until 6 June 2020 and will be considered to legally reside in Serbia until the decision based on the request is issued.

SEYCHELLES

Entry Restrictions

- The suspension of commercial flights will be lifted from 1 August for visitors from approved countries.

SIERRA LEONE

Entry Restrictions

- International flights arriving at Sierra Leone's Lungi International Airport have resumed as of 22 July. All travellers must adhere to the following requirements:
 - Obtain a travel authorization from the Sierra Leone authorities, which can be obtained via the following link: <https://www.travel.gov.sl/>
 - Present a negative COVID-19 PCR test result issued within the previous 72 hours of departure.
 - Undergo both health screenings (temperature checks, health screening questions, etc.), walk-through disinfectant channels, and two (2) mandatory COVID-19 tests upon arrival (pre-payment for this test completed via the travel authorization process). The tests will consist of PCR and Rapid Diagnostic Test (RDT) tests.
 - If the RDT result is negative, the passenger will be allowed to depart the airport while they await the results of their PCR test. If the RDT result is positive, the passenger will be isolated at a hotel in Lungi while awaiting their PCR test result (accommodation costs borne by the passenger).
- If the PCR test is positive, the individual will be contact by public health authorities and taken to a treatment centre.
- All international commercial flights are suspended.
- Travellers who visited an affected country in the previous 14 days are subject to a mandatory 14-day quarantine.

SINGAPORE

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 17 September, all Long-Term Pass and In-Principle Approval (IPA) holders (non-Singaporean citizens and permanent residents) who have visited India in the 14 days prior to travelling to India are required to present a valid negative COVID-19 PCR test result from a test taken within 72 hours prior to departure to Singapore.
 - This is in addition to the existing requirements of Entry Approval, a 14-day Stay-Home Notice (SHN) at dedicated facilities and a negative COVID-19 test result before the end of the SHN.
- Effective immediately, the Entry Approval granted by the Ministry of Manpower (MOM) must be cancelled if the pass holders (including their dependents) are unable to enter Singapore within the approved period.
 - The request for cancellation of MOM Entry Approval must be submitted at least seven days before the approved entry period expires, otherwise the requestors must still pay the full cost of the pass holders' COVID-19 test and stay at the dedicated Stay-Home Notice (SHN) facility (if applicable).
 - The MOM will email the outcome of the request for cancellation of Entry Approval to the requestor within three working days.
 - The requestors should wait for the outcome before submitting a new MOM Entry Approval request for the pass holders, otherwise the new request will be rejected.

- Employers (authorised employee with CorpPass access) may submit the request to cancel MOM Entry Approval for their pass holders or dependents via [this link](#).
- Personalised Employment Pass (PEP) holders who do not have an employer, EntrePass holders and Work Holiday Pass holders should submit the request to cancel their or their dependent's Entry Approval via [this link](#).
- MOM may request supporting documents to explain why the pass holders or their dependents are unable to enter Singapore within the approved entry period.
- Effective 18 September, Singapore and **Japan** will reopen the border between the two countries to residents of each country for short-term essential business and official purposes via a **Reciprocal Green Lane (RGL)**. Further details are yet to be published.
- Effective 4 September, Singapore and **South Korea** have reopened the border between the two countries to residents of each country for short-term essential business and official purposes via a **Fast Lane**.
 - Travellers of any nationality resident in South Korea who have remained in South Korea for at least 14 days prior to departure for Singapore must be sponsored by a Singapore government agency or Singapore-based company which will file an application for a SafeTravel Pass.
 - Once the SafeTravel Pass is issued:
 - Visa-required applicants can apply for a visa through the usual channels;
 - Visa-exempt applicants do not need to obtain a visa;
 - If the applicant already has a valid visa, the visa suspension will be lifted when the SafeTravel Pass is approved.
 - Pre-departure, the approved SafeTravel Pass traveller will have to:
 - electronically submit pre-trip health and travel history declarations and declare his/her accommodation in Singapore via the SG Arrival Card, before departing for Singapore.
 - Take a COVID-19 PCR test within 72 hours prior to departure.
 - On arrival, the traveller will undertake a COVID-19 PCR test at their own expense and remain in accommodation sourced by the receiving enterprise or government agency for 1 or 2 days until they receive their test results.
- Effective 1 September, Singapore and **Brunei Darussalam** have reopened the border between the two countries to residents of each country for short-term essential business and official purposes via a **Reciprocal Green Lane (RGL)**.
 - Travellers of any nationality, resident in Brunei, who have remained in Brunei for at least 14 days prior to departure for Singapore, must be sponsored by a Singapore government agency or Singapore-based company, which will file an application for a SafeTravel Pass.
 - Once the SafeTravel Pass is issued:
 - Visa-required applicants can apply for a visa through the usual channels;
 - Visa-exempt applicants do not need to obtain a visa;
 - If the applicant already has a valid visa, the visa suspension will be lifted when the SafeTravel Pass is approved.
 - Pre-departure, the approved SafeTravel Pass traveller will have to:
 - electronically submit pre-trip health and travel history declarations and declare his/her accommodation in Singapore via the SG Arrival Card, before departing for Singapore.

- Take a COVID-19 PCR test within 72 hours prior to departure.
 - On arrival, the travellers will undertake a COVID-19 PCR test on arrival at their own expense and remain in accommodation, sourced by the receiving enterprise or government agency, for 1 or 2 days until they receive their test results.
- Effective 1 September:
 - Travellers entering Singapore who have remained in either **Brunei** or **New Zealand** in the last consecutive 14 days prior to entry will not be required to serve a Stay Home Notice (SHN).
 - Instead, they will undergo a COVID-19 test upon arrival at the airport and only be allowed to go about their activities in Singapore after receiving a negative test result.
 - Prior to travelling to Singapore, visitors from Brunei and New Zealand will need to apply for an **Air Travel Pass (ATP)** between 7 and 30 days before their intended date of entry into Singapore.
 - They will be responsible for their medical bills should they require medical treatment for COVID-19 while in Singapore.
 - Returning Singapore Citizens, Permanent Residents and Long-Term Pass holders will similarly not have to serve SHN and will undergo a COVID-19 test upon arrival. They do not need to apply for an ATP. However, Long-Term Pass holders will still need to apply for Entry Approval / Approval Letter of Entry (ALE) as currently.
 - Travellers from other low-risk countries/regions will be required to serve a reduced SHN of 7 days at their place of residence.
 - This applies to travellers arriving from Australia (excluding Victoria State), Macau, Mainland China, Taiwan, Vietnam and Malaysia.
 - A COVID-19 test will continue to be administered before the end of the 7-day SHN.
 - All other incoming travellers will continue to serve their 14-day SHN at dedicated SHN facilities and will be subject to a test before the end of the SHN.
 - Existing travel conditions, including adherence to SHN requirements and applying for relevant approvals before entering Singapore, continue to apply.
 - Travel conditions under specific travel arrangements (such as Green/Fast Lane arrangements and Periodic Commuting Arrangement with Malaysia), will also continue to apply.
- Effective 29 August, all incoming travellers who have visited South Korea in the previous 14 days are required to serve their 14-day Stay Home Notice (SHN) at dedicated facilities instead of at their own place of residence (as currently).
- The Ministry of Manpower (MOM) has confirmed that unless a medical examination is required, passes may be issued (activated) while the pass holder is serving their Stay Home Notice (SHN). However, if they are required to attend the registration of biometric data, they first need to complete the SHN and be tested negative for COVID-19.
- Effective 10 August, all incoming travellers, including Singapore Citizens, Singapore PRs, Student Pass holders, Work Pass holders and their related dependants (including IPA holders) entering Singapore, and who will be serving their SHN outside of SHN dedicated facilities (SDFs) will need to wear an electronic monitoring device throughout the 14-day SHN.

- This applies to travellers who have spent the last 14 days in Australia (except for the State of Victoria), Brunei, China, Germany, Macao, New Zealand, Taiwan or Vietnam.
- Those aged 12 and below will be exempted from this requirement.
- Effective 10 August, Singapore and **Malaysia** have reopened the border between the two countries to certain types of travellers:
 - The Reciprocal Green Lane (RGL) will enable cross-border travel for essential business and official purposes for up to 14 days.
 - Travellers of any nationality sponsored by a Singapore government agency (from 10 August) or Singapore-based company (from the end of August), which will file an application for a SafeTravel Pass.
 - Once the SafeTravel Pass is issued, visa-required applicants can apply for a visa through the usual channels.
 - If the applicant already has a valid visa, the visa suspension will be lifted when the SafeTravel Pass is approved.
 - The Periodic Commuting Arrangement (PCA) will allow holders of long-term immigration passes for business or work in the other country to cross the border.
 - Eligible travellers utilizing the PCA should remain in the other country for work for at least 90 days, after which they are permitted to return to their home country for a short period of time, and then re-enter their country of work for at least an additional three months - no daily commuting is allowed.
 - The entry and exit between Singapore and Malaysia must be via Woodlands Checkpoint or Tuas Checkpoint in Singapore.
 - Singapore work pass holders approved under the PCA scheme will serve at least 7-day Stay-Home Notice (SHN) and undertake a COVID-19 PCR test.
 - Travellers crossing the border through either of these routes will be subject to entry health screening and testing requirements, including undergoing a COVID-19 PCR test.
- Residents in **China** of all nationalities who are seeking to make essential business or official travel to Singapore may apply for a **SafeTravel Pass**, allowing fast-lane entry and quarantine rules.
 - The SafeTravel Pass is valid for a single entry within the stipulated week.
 - The host company in Singapore can self-sponsor and submit the application for a SafeTravel Pass on behalf of the traveller directly or through a sponsoring government agency, between 20 and 5 working days before the day of the traveller's planned departure.
 - If approved, an approval letter will be issued to the applicant as well as to the sponsor (company or Singapore government agency) within 3 working days. With this letter, an approved applicant who is a visa-required passport holder will proceed to apply for a visa for travel to Singapore through the usual channels at least 4 working days before departure. If the applicant already has an existing valid visa, the visa suspension will be lifted when the SafeTravel Pass is approved, and he or she need not apply for a new visa. The applicant can check his/her visa status through <https://eservices.ica.gov.sg/esvclandingpage/save>. Those who do not require a visa prior to the COVID-19 pandemic will not need to apply for a visa for fast lane travel. These include passport holders from countries and

regions with which Singapore has visa-free arrangements, as well as diplomatic and official passport holders.

- The approved applicant will also have to electronically submit pre-trip health and travel history declarations via the SG Arrival Card, within 3 days prior to the date of arrival in Singapore.
- Approved applicants must monitor their health status before departure, take a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test within 48 hours before departure and obtain a certificate of having tested negative for COVID-19.
- The sponsoring company or government agency should log onto the SafeTravel Pass portal one to two days before the traveller's departure to submit the traveller's negative COVID-19 test result and controlled itinerary in Singapore.
- Users of the fast lane between China and Singapore will bear the cost of the pre-departure PCR test.
- In addition, applicants travelling from China to Singapore must have remained in any of the sending Chinese fast lane regions for the last seven days prior to departure for Singapore.
- The applicant is required to produce a valid SafeTravel Pass, a negative PCR test result, a return air ticket and a valid visa (for visa-required passport holders) for pre-boarding checks. Otherwise, the applicant can be refused boarding.
- An approved applicant travelling from China to Singapore will undergo a PCR test after arrival in Singapore.
- Upon entry into Singapore, the applicant must remain in isolation at a self-sourced declared accommodation (non-residential address only) for one to two days until the test result is known. The host company or government agency will transport the traveller directly from the airport to the declared self-sourced accommodation, adhering to prevailing health measures. Travellers will bear the costs of the post-arrival PCR test in Singapore and stay in the declared accommodation. If the result indicates that the traveller has tested negative for COVID-19, the host company or government agency will ensure that the traveller is transported directly from the declared accommodation to the workplace, and back. If tested positive for COVID-19, the traveller will undergo medical treatment at his/her cost. The host company or government agency shall ensure that the travellers to Singapore use the TraceTogether app for the duration of their stay. If a traveller does not have a TraceTogether-compatible device, the host company or government agency should provide one to the traveller.
- Travellers must adhere to a controlled itinerary that is supervised by the host company or government agency for the first 14 days. The traveller may not use public transportation for this purpose, with the exception of private hire cars/taxis or cohorted company transport
- Effective 7 August, exit declaration and cancellation request forms are no longer required for the cancellation of a Malaysian employee's pass.
- All inbound and outbound travellers who enter Singapore and leave Singapore will be required to pay for their COVID-19 tests (up to SGD 200), where applicable.
 - Incoming travellers who are not Singapore Citizens or Permanent Residents who enter Singapore from 17 June will be required to pay for their stay at dedicated SHN facilities (SGD 2000), where applicable;
 - Long Term Pass holders granted Entry Approval prior to 15 June 2020 may serve the 14-day SHN at a dedicated facility, and will not be charged for their

- stay, nor for the COVID-19 test, but only if they did not leave Singapore from 27 March 2020;
 - The cost of SHN accommodation and COVID-19 test for Work Pass holders who left Singapore for work reasons must be borne by the employer;
 - The cost of SHN accommodation and COVID-19 test for Work Pass holders who left Singapore for personal reasons, those affected by Malaysia's Movement Control Order (MCO), and those entering Singapore with an In-Principle Approval for a new Work Pass, can be borne by either the employer or the employee or both by mutual agreement.
- All Long-Term Pass holders continue to require prior approval before entering Singapore.
- Entry remains suspended for all short-term visitors, except those coming in under the Green / Fast Lane arrangements or with special prior approval.
- Any travellers (including Singapore citizens, permanent residents, long term pass holders) arriving into Singapore must first submit a Health Declaration via the new *SG Arrival Card e-Service* on the Immigration Checkpoint Authority 'ICA's' website at *SGAC e-Service* up to 3 days in advance of their travel to Singapore. Singaporeans and long-term pass holders will need to select "Residents" on the SGAC e-Service page.
- The Ministry of Manpower (MOM) will only allow the entry/return of work pass holders, including their dependents, for those providing essential services, such as in healthcare and transport.
- MOM will revoke the license of any Employment Agents who encourage or assist a person to breach their SHN. If the SHN is breached, MOM will take action against the employer and the employee.
- Any Singaporean or Long-Term Pass holder who leaves Singapore in disregard of the prevailing travel advisories will be charged at un-subsidised rates for their inpatient stay at public hospitals, if they are admitted for suspected COVID-19 and have onset of symptoms within 14 days of returning to Singapore.
- Any work pass holder or his/her dependent who leaves Singapore will be de-prioritised for MOM entry approval and could see significant delays before they are allowed to return to Singapore if they persist in travelling abroad and return infected.

Immigration Restrictions

- Effective 12 July, the AccesCode of employers and workers who have not been approved to resume work will be displayed as red instead of grey on the SGWorkPass portal.
 - The status may be red if the worker's health status or place of stay has not been cleared, or they have not been approved to start work by the Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI) or the Building and Construction Authority (BCA).
 - From 12 July 2020, a new Safe@Work eService will enable employers to download the AccessCode details. At first, employers will be able to download the AccessCode details of their workers who hold a Work Permit or S Pass. Subsequently, the service will be rolled out for Employment Pass holders.
- Counter services at the ICA Building have resumed in a limited and controlled manner, strictly for selected services and by appointment only. Members of the public should continue to use ICA's e-Services available at [MyICA](#). Please refer to section "Services offered online" below for the list of available e-Services.
- ICA will arrange delivery of identity cards and passport to residents who have registered an IC under mandatory/optional IC re-registration or applied for a passport

to replace an expiring passport after receiving ICA's notification letter, between 1 January and 31 May 2020, and have not collected their IC or passport because of the Circuit Breaker. This will help to minimise the number of visitors to the ICA Building. Applicants will not be charged for this one-off delivery service.

- Employers of pass holders due for card registration can make an appointment for them to visit the Employment Pass Services Centre or MOM Services Centre (Hall C). Appointments should not be made yet for pass holders who first need to undergo a medical examination for card registration (clinics will likely resume this service in Phase 2 (Safe Transition)); or for those currently staying in dormitories gazetted as isolation areas. If pass holders are unable to obtain an appointment, the expiry date of their notification letter will be automatically extended.
- Card delivery services have resumed. Authorised recipients will be notified of delivery by SMS two days before delivery.
- Pass holders can remain in Singapore with their notification letters or card replacement letters. Those who telecommute or work in permitted services approved by the Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI) may use the letters as proof of the validity of their passes.
- All Malaysian nationals in Singapore intending to return to Malaysia by land will need to apply for an "entry permit" from the Malaysian High Commission, in addition to the exit requirements of the Singapore authorities.
- In line with MOM's advisory to defer bringing pass holders into Singapore due to COVID-19, employers should plan ahead for the impact of upcoming salary threshold changes on postponed work pass applications.
- Employers cancelling the Singapore work pass of any Malaysian national employee must ensure that the employee completes an exit declaration form, prints the acknowledgement and presents it on departure; advise the employee that they may need to present a medical certificate certifying that they do not display COVID-19 symptoms; and notify MOM online to cancel the work pass.
- The Ministry of Manpower (MOM) has announced that all employers are strongly urged to defer bringing pass holders into Singapore. MOM will continue to accept online application submissions of new and renewal work and dependent pass applications. However, approvals will be very limited, and processing delays are expected. MOM may issue passes to foreign nationals already in Singapore.
- Employers or Employment Agents acting on behalf of the hiring company will not be allowed to proceed with the issuance of work passes for employees during their SHN period. After the SHN, the usual procedures for issuance of work pass i.e. send workers for medical examination, fingerprinting, attend the Settling-In Programme and safety courses, may then proceed.
- Employers (with at least 10 employees) implementing cost-saving measures during the Circuit Breaker period that reduce your foreign employee's salary temporarily by more than 25%, must make a mandatory notification to the MOM here within 7 calendar days of implementing the measures. The cost-saving measures are to adhere to the Tripartite Advisory for Managing Excess Manpower and Responsible Retrenchment and also the Advisory on Salary and Leave Arrangements during Circuit Breaker.
- Employers (with at least 10 employees) are to notify the MOM here, of retrenchments within 5 works days after notifying employees if the employer has notified at least 5 employees of their retrenchment within any 6-month period.
- The Ministry of Manpower (MOM) requires all new and existing Singapore long-term pass holders planning to enter or return to Singapore from any country to obtain MOM entry approval before commencing their journey. Employers are to make this

MOM Entry Approval request at least 3 days before their intended travel into Singapore using this online facility. Applications submitted by 12pm will receive the outcome on the same day (after 12pm will receive the outcome the next day). Applications are processed on a 'first-come-first-served' basis. Approval is not guaranteed but it is important that the approval is received before arranging for the pass holder to enter Singapore. If the approval is rejected, a fresh approval request is to be submitted.

- MOM requires all new and existing work pass holders (including dependants) planning to enter Singapore from Malaysia to obtain MOM's entry approval before they commence their journey. This is applicable regardless of the mode of travel into Singapore. Only those Malaysians and work pass holders conveying essential services or supplies (e.g., lorry, vegetable, frozen supply truckers) via land and sea crossings will be exempted from this MOM entry approval and SHN requirement. MOM will reject all new work pass applications for foreign workers from mainland China until further notice. Renewal applications for existing pass holders will not be affected.
- Holders of Long Term Visit Passes (LTVP) issued by the Immigration Checkpoint Authority (ICA) or Student Passes issued by the Ministry of Education (MOE), including those granted In-Principle Approval (IPA), need to request and obtain Entry Approval from the relevant authority before they commence their journey to Singapore (preferably before they make a travel plan). If permission is granted, applicants will be issued an approval letter of entry valid for 2 weeks, which must be presented to airline staff on check-in and to the immigration officer at the checkpoint on arrival.

Immigration Concessions

- The deadline for collection of all uncollected passports and identity cards (ICs) has been extended to 30 September 2020.
- For Singapore Citizenship, Permanent Residence and Long-Term Visit Pass applicants who were unable to complete their applications during the Circuit Breaker period, the validity of their in-principle approvals has been extended till 30 June 2020.
- Passes expiring from 6 May to 5 June will be automatically extended until 1 July. This applies to Employment Pass, S Pass, EntrePass and passes for their dependents, Work Permits for foreign workers employed by businesses, and Work Permits for Malaysian foreign domestic workers (FDWs) and FDWs who are 50 years old and above. It does not apply to Work Permits for Performing Artists, Training Work Permits, Training Employment Passes, Personalised Employment Passes and their dependents, Work Holiday Passes, confinement nannies, non-Malaysian foreign domestic workers (FDWs) below 50 years old.
- MOM will automatically extend the validities of all new in-principle approvals (IPAs) by an additional 2 months. This means the IPA holder has 8 months (instead of 6) to enter Singapore and complete the post-arrival process in Singapore. IPA holders approved a new S Pass now have 4 months (instead of 2 months). It is recommended that the validity is checked on a case-by-case basis using the Employment Pass Online (EPOL) portal to verify the exact IPA expiry date.
- MOM will give all pass holders up to 3 more months to complete medical examinations (if applicable). Please note that passes can continue to be issued or renewed without medical results. If a pass has been cancelled and a longer stay is required for the pass holder, a request for an 'extension of stay' can be made via an

online facility. The extension of stay is only to be submitted if the pass holder's short-term visit pass is expiring within 7 days.

- MOM will automatically extend Short-Term Visit Passes by 14 days and, on request, extend the work pass issuance deadline.
- Employers who have cancelled a pass and the foreign national is unable to return home due to travel restrictions, should request for an extension of the foreign national's stay using the relevant online form.

SLOVAKIA

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 18 September:
 - **Czech Republic** has been added to the list of high-risk countries:
 - **Bulgaria, Canada** and **Sweden** have been moved from the list of high-risk countries to the list of low-risk countries.
- Travellers arriving from a risky country are required to self-quarantine at their hotel or other accommodation until they obtain a negative COVID-19 PCR test result or for 10 days.
 - On the fifth day after entry at the earliest, arrivals from high-risk countries can take a COVID-19 test. If the test is negative, they can end their quarantine early.
 - Those who have visited a **high-risk EU country** are only obliged to take a test before the end of the ten-day period if they are symptomatic.
 - Those who have visited a **high-risk non-EU country** are obliged to take a test on the fifth day, whether or not they are symptomatic.
 - Exemption from the requirement of a negative test will apply to arrivals from EU member states who are unable to obtain a COVID-19 test appointment before their 10-day quarantine is over – in this case they can start work.
 - Arrivals from non-EU countries are only permitted to leave quarantine and start work after completing a 10-day quarantine and obtaining a negative COVID-19 test result.
- Entry is permitted without presenting a negative COVID-19 test or undergoing a 10-day quarantine for travellers who have only been in the following “low-risk countries” in the previous 14 days: Australia, Austria, China, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Monaco, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Slovenia, South Korea, Switzerland and the United Kingdom. All transport links with these countries are restored, and mandatory quarantine is abolished.
- Foreign nationals who have visited a country not listed as a low-risk country within the previous 14 days may enter Slovakia but are subject to a 10
- -day self-isolation until they receive a negative COVID-19 PCR test result. They are required to contact the competent regional public health authority to arrange a test not earlier than the fifth day of self-isolation.
- Entry is also permitted for, among others:
 - Third-country nationals who are relatives of permanent or temporary residents of Slovakia;
 - Third-country nationals with a valid Slovak residence permit;
 - Residents of Australia, China, Croatia, Cyprus, Ireland, Japan, New Zealand, South Korea or the United Kingdom.

- Third-country nationals in transit to their EU member state of residence;
- EU/EEA citizens transiting through Slovakia;
- Cross-border workers.

Immigration Restrictions

- Foreign police offices will operate a restricted service.

Immigration Concessions

- The validity of temporary, permanent or tolerated residence, which is due to expire during the period of crisis or within one month of the end of the period of crisis, is automatically extended for two months after the end of the period of crisis.
- Third-country nationals who legally entered Slovakia but have no legal residence are permitted to stay in Slovakia until 1 month after the end of the period of crisis.
- Third-country nationals currently outside Slovakia can submit consular applications for permanent residence or for renewal of temporary residence.
- The police department can accept documents which have become older than 90 days during the crisis period in support of residence applications, as long as the third country national has not travelled outside of the territory of the Slovak Republic before the date of application for initial residence or renewal of residence (note that this does not apply to the documentation of foreign nationals meeting certain criteria).
- Some legal periods will be extended for the duration of the crisis situation, e.g. obligation to enter Slovak Republic and begin residence within 180 days from date the residence was granted. Some legal periods will not continue to expire until the declaration of the end of the crisis situation, e.g. deadline for notification of change of address, deadline for submission of medical check or health insurance. The execution of decisions on administrative expulsion will be postponed for the duration of the crisis situation. The Ministry of Interior can further pardon the expiration of other legal periods.
- Conditions regarding financial coverage of third country nationals who apply for renewal of residence permit for business purposes may not apply if the foreign national can declare that business was impacted by the crisis situation.

SLOVENIA

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 13 September:
 - The mandatory quarantine imposed on arrivals from the red and yellow lists is reduced from 14 days to 10 days;
 - The validity of negative COVID-19 tests is extended from 36 hours to 48 hours;
 - The 24-hour limited time period for the exceptions from the quarantine requirement for arrivals from countries on the yellow list for attending a funeral of a close relative or visiting close family members is removed. Instead, a negative test result is required.
- The **red list** currently includes *Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Chile,*

China, Columbia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eswatini, Faroe Islands, Gabon, Gambia, Gibraltar, Guam, Guatemala, Honduras, India, Iraq, Iran, Israel, Kazakhstan, Kosovo, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Libya, Luxemburg, Maldives, Malta, Mexico, Moldova, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, North Macedonia, Oman, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Puerto Rico, Qatar, Romania, Russia, São Tomé and Príncipe, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Singapore, Sint Maarten, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Turks and Caicos Islands, Cape Verde, Ukraine, UAE, USA, US Virgin Islands and Venezuela.

- The **green list** currently includes *Austria, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Netherlands, Norway, Rwanda, San Marino, Slovakia, United Kingdom, Uruguay and Vatican.*
- The **yellow list** includes all countries not on the red or green lists.
- A 14-day quarantine is required for travellers who enter Slovenia from a country on the **red list** and travellers with a temporary or permanent residence in a country on the red list.
 - No quarantine is required for travellers from the red-list countries invoking an exemption under points 3-8, 10, 16 and 18-21 of the ordinance). However, travellers entering Slovenia as exceptions under points 3, 8, 10, 16, 19 and 21 also have to show a negative test for Covid-19 that is not older than 36 hours and must be taken in an EU/Schengen Area member state.
 - These exceptions include:
 - persons engaged in economic activities,
 - persons engaged in transport operations to and from Slovenia, and in transiting freight transport,
 - holders of diplomatic passports,
 - persons in transit,
 - persons providing services by authorisation issued by the competent ministry,
 - members of foreign police or judicial authorities,
 - professional athletes, their accompanying team members, sports delegates or referees to participate in official sports competitions of international sports federations,
 - persons who are members of foreign official delegations,
 - persons transported to Slovenia in an ambulance.
- A 14-day quarantine is required for travellers arriving from a country on the **yellow list**.
 - No quarantine is required for Slovenian citizens or foreign residents of Slovenia travelling from an EU or Schengen member state on the yellow list if they submit proof that they are not traveling from a country on the red list.
 - No quarantine is required for travellers from yellow-list countries under the exceptions referred to in *points 1 through 21 of Article 10 of the Ordinance*. However, travellers entering Slovenia as exceptions under points 2, 3, 8-10, 16, 17 and 19-21 also have to show a negative test for Covid-19 that is not older than 36 hours and must be taken in an EU/Schengen Area member state.
 - These exemptions include:
 - daily cross-border migrant workers,
 - weekly cross-border migrant workers,
 - persons engaged in economic activities,
 - persons providing services for which they have been issued a certificate by the competent ministry,

- holders of proof of a scheduled health examination,
- persons crossing the border because of education and schooling,
- persons crossing the border to attend a funeral,
- persons maintaining relations with close family members,
- persons with urgent personal matters,
- persons who have booked accommodation in Slovenia,
- professional athletes, accompanying personnel of professional athletes, sports delegates or sports referees to participate in official competitions of international sport associations,
- persons who are members of foreign official delegations,
- persons who have been brought to Slovenia in an ambulance,
- persons (with an accompanying person) who have proof of a planned urgent* medical examination or procedure in the Republic of Slovenia, another EU member state or member of the Schengen Area.
- No quarantine is required for travellers who enter Slovenia from a country on the **green list** and have a permanent or temporary residence in a country on the green list.
- A person in transit is:
 - required to leave Slovenia within 12 hours without making any unnecessary stops or deviations;
 - permitted to stop for refuelling or to meet their basic needs but cannot stay overnight;
 - required to carry a travel document (including a visa or residence permit if required) and (for non-EU residents) a document proving their purpose and destination.

SOLOMON ISLANDS

Entry Restrictions

- Entry is suspended for all non-citizens. Residents returning from countries with COVID-19 cases will be permitted to enter but will be subject to mandatory 14-days quarantine.

SOMALIA

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 3 August, some international flights have resumed.

SOUTH AFRICA

Entry Restrictions

- Borders will reopen from 1 October for travellers from all but certain (as yet undefined) high-risk countries.

- Travellers will only be able to use one of the land border posts that have remained operational during the lockdown or one of the three main airports: King Shaka, OR Tambo and Cape Town International Airport.
- On arrival, all travellers must present negative PCR test results dated within 72 hours prior to boarding. Those without an adequate negative test result or showing symptoms will have to self-quarantine for 14 days at their own cost.
- All travellers must install the COVID Alert South Africa mobile app.
- South African missions abroad will reopen for visa applications and all long-term visas will be reinstated.
- Entry may be allowed, once the necessary permission has been obtained, for:
 - Persons involved in the transportation of fuel, cargo, and goods.
 - Foreign sea crew for the purposes of exchange of sea crew within South Africa.
 - Daily commuters from neighbouring countries who attend school in South Africa.
 - A person who requires emergency medical attention for a life-threatening condition. Permission for admission or departure is requested from the Immigration Officer who will request authorisation from the Department of Home Affairs (“DHA”).
 - South African citizens or permanent residents who are being repatriated to South Africa. Permission for admission must be requested from the South African Mission abroad with jurisdiction at least 72 hours prior to travel, who in turn will request authorisation from the DHA.
 - A foreign national who is being repatriated to their home country from South Africa. Arrangements must be made by the Embassy/Consulate of the country concerned at least 72 hours prior to their intended date of departure.
 - South African citizens who, at their own costs and subject to availability of international flights, are required to depart from the country for the purposes of employment, study or residence abroad, subject to, amongst others, proving their immigration status for the country abroad. Permission for departure must be requested from the DHA at least 5 business days prior to travel.
 - Officials of international organisations and other resident diplomats and their families, including movement for the purposes of providing consular support to foreign nationals. Permission for admission or departure must be requested through diplomatic channels from the Department of International Relations and Coordination (DIRCO).
 - Persons not falling within the categories listed above who are able to demonstrate exceptional circumstances supporting their request for admission into South Africa. Permission must be requested and obtained from the DHA prior to making travel arrangements.
- The DG may exempt the following categories of persons from the requirement for quarantine (they will still be subject to screening, medical examination and daily monitoring) Self-quarantine is at the expense of the employer or applicant.:
 - Persons arriving in the country to attend the funeral of an immediate family member;
 - persons who, for medical reasons, are unable to undergo quarantine;
 - cross border truck drivers; and
 - commuting cross border school learners, students, educators and persons transporting them.
- A travel ban applies to individuals of all nationalities travelling from high-risk countries.

- Foreign nationals who have visited high-risk countries since 15 March do not qualify to be issued with temporary visas until further notice.
- All temporary visas issued to nationals of high-risk countries who were outside South Africa on or after 15 March have been revoked, whether the holder had already travelled to South Africa and then exited again or has not yet entered South Africa with the visa.
- South African citizens returning to South Africa will be confined to their hotels for a 14-day quarantine.
- Citizens of high-risk countries who are resident in countries which are not deemed to be high risk and who have not visited a high-risk country on or after February 15, 2020 may apply for a visa to visit South Africa once the lockdown has been lifted.
- Visa waivers/exemptions for citizens holding passports of the aforementioned high-risk countries and Hong Kong, Singapore and Portugal, which are deemed medium-risk countries, remain suspended.
- During the lockdown period, unless repatriation has been arranged by a foreign State with the South African Government, all foreign nationals who are currently in South Africa may not depart.
- The consular services sections of the South African missions abroad also remain closed for the processing of visa and permit applications.

Immigration Restrictions

- Effective 20 September, South Africa's lockdown is downgraded to level 1.
- The Department of Home Affairs will resume normal operations, which implies the full resumption of the processing of all visa, permit and related applications at the central permitting hub in Pretoria. It is also anticipated that the Visa Application Centres will resume accepting applications within the next two weeks.

Immigration Concessions

- The special permit and visa dispensation introduced to address the difficulties arising from the Covid-19 lockdown has been extended to the end of October.
- A person whose visa has expired since 15 March and has remained in South Africa during the state of disaster period will not be declared an undesirable person upon leaving the country up to and including 31 October. Any declaration of undesirability that has been issued to any person who departed South Africa since 15 March is set aside.
- The visas of foreign nationals already within South Africa are not revoked; they remain valid for the period for which they have been issued. All foreign nationals originating from countries affected by the COVID-19 outbreak, or those who have to transit through an affected country to return home, and whose visas have or will expire are allowed to re-apply for the same visa which may be issued for a period not exceeding 31 October, subject to meeting all legal application requirements; however, this does not include applications to change status from one visa category to another or to change the conditions endorsed on an existing visa.
- Those whose visas expired after 15 February will be allowed to reapply for their visa via VFS Global without first having to apply to regularise their stay using "Form 20" (Authorisation for an illegal foreign national to remain in the country pending the outcome of an application for status.) Currently VFS Global is still closed but has opened its online booking system from the 4 May onward.

- Alternatively, foreign nationals currently in South Africa whose visa has expired after 15 February can leave South Africa (during an unknown period after the lockdown period) without being declared undesirable.
- Holders of work, business or study visas that have expired during the lockdown who have already submitted an extension application, are allowed to continue to work, conduct business or study.

SOUTH KOREA

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 4 September, South Korea and Singapore have reopened the border between the two countries to residents of each country for short-term essential business and official purposes via a Fast Lane.
 - Travellers of any nationality resident in Singapore who have remained in Singapore for at least 14 days prior to departure for South Korea must be sponsored by a South Korean government agency or South Korea-based company which will apply to the relevant government agencies in South Korea, on behalf of the applicant, for an isolation exemption certificate (processing time at least 4 days).
 - Once the application is approved:
 - The South Korean embassy in Singapore will issued a letter that will allow the approved applicant to take a pre-departure COVID-29 PCR test in Singapore.
 - The approved applicant will thereafter submit a visa application, supported by a letter of invitation from the South Korean host company, to the South Korean embassy in Singapore.
 - The approved traveller will have to take a COVID-19 PCR test within 72 hours prior to departure.
 - On arrival, the traveller will undertake a COVID-19 PCR test and remain in government-designated accommodation for 1 or 2 days until they receive their test results.
 - The traveller must keep to the controlled itinerary that is supervised by the receiving enterprise or government agency in the ROK for the first 14 days.
- Effective 17 August, stricter social distancing rules in the greater Seoul area include possible fines of up to USD 2450 for not wearing a face mask in public – note that unpaid fines or taxes can disqualify ARC holders from applying for ARC extension.
- Those found to have violated quarantine rules who are confirmed to be COVID-19 positive, the government will not only suspend support for medical fees, but also impose heavy penalty fees, immigration restrictions, and lodge a complaint with the court.
- Effective 12 August, India and Russia are also considered to have a high COVID-19 infection rate.
- All foreign nationals boarding flights from countries with a high COVID-19 infection rate - currently *Bangladesh, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Philippines, Russia and Uzbekistan* - are required to submit a negative COVID-19 PCR test result, issued within 48 hours. Even with a negative test result, they will need to self-quarantine for two weeks at designated facilities or at home, depending on their visa status, and undergo another test within three days of their arrival.

- Effective 10 August, the ban on travellers arriving from Hubei province in China is lifted, along with related visa restrictions.
- Effective 23 June, visa issuance is suspended for nationals of Pakistan and Bangladesh, after a surge in new cases imported from these countries. Flights from these countries are also suspended. In addition, E-9 visa holders who do not have accommodation for a 14-day mandatory quarantine will not be allowed entry.
- All arrivals must undergo free COVID-19 testing, submit a Health Condition Declaration Form and contact details, and download a smartphone app allowing them to log their symptoms for 14 days.
- All short-term visitors must undergo free COVID-19 testing **at the airport** on arrival. For the first two weeks in South Korea, they are not allowed to stay at any other accommodations except the quarantine facility designated by the government.
- Employers of long-term visa holders (who do not yet have an ARC) should contact the district health centre, before the long-term visa holder travels to Korea, to either pre-book district government-approved quarantine accommodation or arrange for company accommodation to be pre-authorized by the district government.
- Long term-visitors with a quarantine exemption certificate, and South Korean citizens who visited China under the special-approval track and who stayed in China for 1-7 days must undergo free COVID-19 testing **at the airport** on arrival. Those who confirmed to be COVID19 negative can leave airport and not required to do 2 weeks of self-isolation. However, it is mandatory to answer all phone call checks by KCDC (which will be once or twice a day) and also need to upload their physical conditions on the app on a daily basis.
- South Korean citizens and long-term visitors boarded from US/Europe without a quarantine exemption certificate need to get COVID-19 tested **within 3 days of arrival**.
 - Those who stay at one of the government quarantine facilities will get tested while staying at the facility.
 - Those who stay at their direct family member's own residence or host-company accommodation will be advised to visit the nearest public health centre to get tested.
- South Korean citizens and long-term visitors boarded from other countries without a quarantine exemption certificate, and South Korean citizens who visited China under the special-approval track and who stayed in China 8 days or longer need to get COVID-19 tested **within 14 days of arrival**.
 - Those who stay at one of the government quarantine facilities will get tested while staying at the facility.
 - Those who stay at their direct family member's own residence or host-company accommodation will be advised to visit the nearest public health centre to get tested.
- A quarantine exemption certificate can be requested for important and urgent business purposes (contact, investment, technical advisory) or academic or public purposes.
- The government will impose heavy penalties for those who do not follow quarantine procedures and health guidelines, which may include up to three years in prison, a fine of up to KWW 20 million, a compensation claim lodged by the city government, visa and ARC cancellation, deportation and entry ban.
- Visa waiver entry is suspended, until further notice, for nationals of countries which prohibit the visa-free entry of South Korean nationals. Nationals of these countries must obtain a visa before travelling to South Korea. This applies to nationals of Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Austria, Australia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Belgium,

Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Eswatini, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hong Kong, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Kuwait, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macau, Malaysia, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Micronesia, Montenegro, Morocco, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Oman, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Russia, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, UAE, Uruguay.

- Consular visa applicants may have to undergo a medical test at a designated hospital and an interview within 48 hours after application submission. Exact procedures and requirements will depend on the consulate of application.
- It is recommended that all nationals seeking to enter the country, including visa waiver nationals, obtain a visa issuance number and a visa in advance of travel.
- All arrivals entering via United States (or from Europe as previously) are required to take a COVID-19 test within three days of entry, as well as undergoing a 14-day self-quarantine.
- All entrants from overseas, regardless of nationality, departure city and residential status in South Korea, are subject to mandatory 14-day quarantine. This includes short-term visitors, South Korean citizens and ARC holders and long-term visa holders from all countries, regardless of nationality, if an inbound passenger does not have a suitable residence in South Korea, the government will provide a designated residential facility for 2 weeks of quarantine and will charge KRW 100,000 per day, or the foreign national will be repatriated.
- C1 and C3 visas issued at any Korean consulate worldwide before 5 April are cancelled if the holder has not yet arrived in South Korea. Those whose C type visa has been invalidated need to contact the South Korean Embassy in their country of residence to check the re-application process.
- Online applications for visa issuance confirmation have been suspended, as the system did not require a health or COVID-19 status check. A visa issuance confirmation application can still be submitted at a South Korean immigration office.
- The government will impose heavy penalties for those who do not follow quarantine procedures and health guidelines, which may include up to one year in prison, a fine of up to KRW 10 million, a compensation claim lodged by the city government, visa and ARC cancellation, deportation and entry ban.
- The visa waiver for Japanese nationals is suspended. All Japanese nationals, including diplomatic and government official passport holders, intending to visit South Korea for any purpose, need to obtain a valid visa before entry. Visas issued in Japan before 9 March have been cancelled. An additional health report form must be submitted and visa processing is likely to take at least two weeks.
- All issued and effective visas issued at the Korean consulate in Wuhan before 4 February are invalidated. All foreign nationals applying for South Korean visas at the Korean Consulates in China must fill out a 'Health Report Form' by hand.
- The visa waiver program for Chinese citizens and foreign nationals arriving from China via Jeju Island is temporarily suspended.

Immigration Restrictions

- ARC holders who will travel out of South Korea for a maximum of 3 weeks for the purpose of business activities, journalism, or academic activities can apply for a Medical Examination Exemption Certificate when they apply for their Re-entry Permit. A Medical Examination Exemption Certificate does not exempt the holder from the self-isolation requirement.
- Effective 1 June, the waiver of re-entry permits for Alien Registration Certificate (ARC) holders is temporarily suspended until further notice. From that date, all ARC holders with visas other than A1, A2, A3 or F4 visas must apply for a re-entry permit through a local immigration office before leaving Korea if they wish to maintain their status and period of stay. Leaving Korea without a re-entry permit will result in cancellation of their alien registration, and they will have to obtain a new long-term visa to re-enter Korea. During June, an ARC holder temporarily leaving Korea must apply for a re-entry permit at the district immigration office (with an appointment booked online at www.hikorea.go.kr) or at the airport immigration office on the day of departure. From mid-June, an online application will also be available. ARC holders who return to South Korea from overseas are subject to two weeks of self-isolation
- ARC holders who are granted a re-entry permit and wish to re-enter Korea must undergo a medical examination not earlier than 48 hours prior to the date of their departure for Korea, and present a written diagnosis, written in English or Korean, signed by a medical examiner and issued by an authorised medical institute, when requested by a transport operator and/or an immigration officer. The diagnosis must include the date of examination and the presence or absence of fever, cough, chills, headache, difficulty of breathing, muscle pain or pulmonary symptoms. It does not have to include a COVID19 test result. However, a medical certificate listing a COVID19 negative result will be also considered as a valid diagnosis if the test was conducted within 48 hours before boarding their flight to South Korea. ARC holders with a valid Medical Examination Exemption Certificate issued by local immigration offices before departure from South Korea, and holders of A1, A2, A3 or F4 visas, are exempt from the medical examination and written medical diagnosis requirement.
- Holders of short-term visas (B-1, B-2, C-1, C-3, C-4) who cannot exit South Korea before their visa expires, due to cancelled flights, must apply for a maximum 30-day extension at the immigration office.
- Issuance of Visa Issuance Numbers (VIN) is now taking 3-4 weeks compared to the previous 2-3 weeks. Issuance of Alien Registration Certificates (ARCs) is now taking 4-6 weeks compared to the previous 2-3 weeks.

Immigration Concessions

- South Korea will not impose any penalty fee on foreign national visitors and residents who are COVID-19 patients for exceeding the period of stay until they are recovered and officially confirmed by the medical institutions.
- For Alien Registration Card (ARC) holders who are currently in South Korea as of 9 April, and whose current ARC expiry date is between 9 April and 31 May 2020 (both dates inclusive), their visa and ARC expiry date has been automatically extended for three months from their current expiry date.
- This policy is applied to all visa holders except E-9 and E-10 visa holders. For E-6-2, H-2, F-1-11, F-1-5 visa holders, the extended period could be less than three months depending on the permitted period of stay in each case.

- ARC holders who fall under this automatic extension policy do not need to visit their district immigration offices to apply for ARC extension. Instead, they can check their extended expiry date via *this website*.

SPAIN

Entry Restrictions

- Spain permits entry for travellers from Australia, Canada, Georgia, Japan, New Zealand, Rwanda, South Korea, Thailand, Tunisia and Uruguay. It will also lift entry restrictions from China when China reciprocally permits entry from Spain.
- The temporary restriction on non-essential travel from European Union and Schengen associated countries and the UK is lifted.
- An exception to the entry restrictions is established for those who are going to stay in Spanish territory for any other exclusively labour-related reason, including seasonal workers, as long as documentary proof is provided.
- Exceptions to the entry ban continue for Spanish citizens and residents; nationals and residents of an EU or Schengen member state, and their family members; holders of a long-term visa issued by an EU or Schengen member state in transit to their EU/Schengen residence; holders of a temporary residence and/or work permit which has expired during the state of emergency; highly-qualified workers whose work is necessary and cannot be postponed or performed remotely; cross-border workers; healthcare or elderly care professionals in the performance of their duties; transport of goods personnel; diplomats, international organizations, military personnel and members of humanitarian organizations in the performance of their duties; those traveling for imperative family reasons duly accredited; and those who can prove reasons of force majeure or situation of need, or whose entry is permitted for humanitarian reasons.
- The 14-day quarantine requirement for international arrivals is lifted.
- All international arrivals are required to complete an [online health declaration form](#) no more than 48 hours in advance of travel and present the issued QR code to the authorities on entry.
- Consular services are suspended.

Immigration Restrictions

- The state of emergency has been lifted. Government services and offices have reopened and some immigration services can be accessed online.
- The authorities will continue working behind doors on any new or renewal applications but the legal processing time of 20 working days will not apply and may be exceeded.
- Services for foreign nationals at police stations are suspended, except for emergency or urgent cases.

Immigration Concessions

- The validity of all National ID cards which have expired since the beginning of the state of emergency, will be extended until 13 March 2021.
- Absences from Spanish territory as a result of COVID-19 restrictions will not be counted when considering continuity of residence to be accredited.

- Certain automatic extensions of residence authorisations will be granted. Temporary residence and/or work permits, and residence permits for study, student mobility, non-working practice or voluntary services, as well as any accompanying identity cards, whose validity expires during the state of emergency, or in the 90 days prior to the declaration of the state of emergency, are automatically extended, starting from the day after expiry until six months after the end of the state of emergency. This also applies to permits with pending applications for renewal, extension or modification. These permits can then be renewed, extended or modified at any time during the term of the automatic extension or within 90 days of the end of the automatic extension.
- The residence cards of family members of EU citizens whose validity expires during the state of emergency, or in the 90 days prior to the declaration of the state of emergency, are automatically extended, starting from the day after expiry until six months after the end of the state of emergency.
- Schengen visas and visa-free stays of up to 90 days which expire during the state of emergency are automatically extended for three months, with validity limited to Spanish territory only. The extended period will be taken into account for the purpose of calculating the maximum time authorised for future stays.
- Long-stay visas issued under a Youth Mobility Agreement, and visas for study stays of up to 180 days, whose validity expires during the state of emergency, are automatically extended until three months after the end of the state of emergency.
- Deadlines are suspended for the expiration of stays by third-country nationals whose return is not possible due to coronavirus.
- Applications submitted to the Large Business Unit (UGE) before 14 March which have been approved will be processed and the approvals issued. Applications received before 14 March and unresolved after 20 days will also be approved, and declaratory certificates of approval issued. For refused or archived applications, the legal timeframe for appeals will be suspended. Deadlines for providing additional documentation will be suspended.
- Applications submitted after 14 March will be admitted and processed.
- Documents which are required in support of applications and which expire during the State of Emergency will be accepted.
- Issued documents which expire during the State of Emergency will be extended if the holder cannot exit Spain due to travel restrictions.
- The authorities will continue working behind doors on any new or renewal applications but the legal processing time of 20 working days will not apply and may be exceeded.
- For applications to be processed by local immigration offices (Not UGE) the application processes will be facilitated.
- Where presence of the legal representative or applicant is required, this can be replaced by the corresponding applications and legal documents authenticated electronically via any of the electronic signature processes accepted by the administration. The specific procedures to follow during the state of emergency will need to be reviewed with the relevant Immigration office on a case by case basis.
- Where applications require personal appearance (renewals, amendments, students and others) it may be possible to submit an online application instead (although the administration reserve the right to suspend until the end of the state of emergency any specific applications where it is determined that the personal presence of the applicant is required).

SRI LANKA

Entry Restrictions

- All international commercial and passenger flights into Sri Lanka are suspended until further notice.
- The suspension of entry for all nationalities will be lifted on 1 August.
- Currently, entry is suspended for all nationals other than tourists staying in a certified hotel.

Immigration Restrictions

- All types of electronic travel authorizations (ETA), entry visas, landing endorsements, multiple entry visas and residence visas already granted to all foreign nationals not yet arrived in Sri Lanka have been temporarily suspended and the holders will not be allowed to enter Sri Lanka.
- The issuance of all types of visa has been suspended until further notice.
- The ETA exempt countries (Maldives, Singapore and Seychelles) are temporarily not exempt from requiring an ETA.

Immigration Concessions

- The extension of the validity period of all types of visa held by foreign nationals already in Sri Lanka by 14 March has been extended again until 11 July. the automatically extended visa should be regularized on or before the aforementioned period ends (i.e. the applicable fee paid and the passport endorsed). In the event an applicant is to leave Sri Lanka before the scheduled date of expiry, they will need to pay the applicable fee at the airport on departure. In the event an extension to the visa is required, the necessary application may be made to the Department of Immigration and Emigration (DOIE) on or before the scheduled expiry of the automatic extension (11 July). All applications to the DOIE should be made via the new online portal in order to secure an appointment to visit the DOIE.
- Applicants with acknowledgements issued for visa applications already submitted to the DOIE can visit the DOIE on the date given on the acknowledgement. If a curfew has been imposed on this date, the applicant should instead email DOIE, attaching the acknowledgement, to request a new appointment.

SUDAN

Entry Restrictions

- Khartoum International Airport has reopened for passenger flights from Egypt, Turkey and the United Arab Emirates. Other international flights are suspended until at least 12 July.

SURINAME

Entry Restrictions

- Borders remain closed until further notice.

Immigration Restrictions

- Immigration offices remain closed and services unavailable. Pending processes are suspended.

SWEDEN

Entry Restrictions

- The suspension of entry from outside the EU, the EEA, the microstates, the UK and Switzerland is extended until 31 October 2020.
- Exemptions from the entry ban include:
 - Swedish citizens and their family members;
 - Citizens of EEA member states (including UK), Switzerland, Andorra, Monaco, San Marino or the Vatican, and their family members;
 - Individuals with a long-term residence status, a residence permit or a national visa (3+ months) from Sweden or from another EEA state, and their family members;
 - Residents of Australia, Canada, Georgia, Japan, New Zealand, Rwanda, South Korea, Thailand, Tunisia and Uruguay.
- Exemptions from the entry ban can also be made for foreign nationals with particularly urgent personal needs or who are to perform essential functions in Sweden, such as:
 - Healthcare professionals;
 - Frontier workers;
 - Seasonal workers in agriculture, horticulture and forestry;
 - transport workers;
 - People travelling for urgent family reasons;
 - transit passengers;
 - seafarers;
 - people who work in international organisations or are invited by such organisations and whose presence is necessary for the organisations' activities, military personnel, aid workers and civil defence staff;
 - people in need of international protection or for other humanitarian reasons;
 - people travelling for the purpose of studying;
 - highly-skilled workers, if the job cannot be postponed or performed remotely.
- Effective 27 August, Sweden has removed its advice against non-essential travel to Bulgaria, Netherlands and Romania.
 - Sweden previously removed the advice against non-essential travel to the following countries: Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Monaco, Norway, Poland, Portugal, San Marino, Spain, Switzerland and Vatican City.
 - For other countries in the EU, the EEA and the Schengen area, and the United Kingdom, the advice against non-essential travel is extended up to and including 9 September 2020.
 - The advice against non-essential travel to third countries (outside the EU, the EEA and the Schengen area and the UK) is extended until 15 November

Immigration Restrictions

- The Swedish Migration Agency will not accept work permit applications with start dates during the travel ban.
- Work permit holders who require entry visas are required, and those whose nationality is visa-exempt are recommended, to submit biometrics in the home country so they can show the residence card at the border. It is currently very difficult to have biometrics done at Swedish missions abroad, as many of them are closed due to national lockdowns. For visa-exempt nationals, it is very difficult to get appointments to provide biometrics in Sweden. This can delay the possibility of registering residency locally and hence be part of the Swedish Public Welfare Insurance scheme, Försäkringskassan, which allows medical care.
- Individuals (other than medical professionals and other essential workers) who recently received their work permit approval but have not yet moved to and registered as a resident in Sweden are not permitted to enter until the travel restrictions are lifted.
- It is mandatory to start work within 4 months of a work permit start date. A start date later than 4 months is grounds for rejecting an application for permanent residence (PR), and later applications for a work permit extension may be affected by absence from work in Sweden due to coronavirus issues. If a person does not report to work within 4 months then the permit should be cancelled and the person should reapply for a permit that corresponds to the actual period.

Immigration Concessions

- Foreign nationals in Sweden who are unable to return home due to borders being closed or flight cancellations can apply to extend their entry visa, if their combined stay in the Schengen countries does not last longer than 90 days during a 180-day period. However, it is advised to instead apply for a visitor's residence permit, valid for 90 days, as the applicant has the right to stay in Sweden until the Swedish Migration Agency has made a decision. Visa exempt nationals can also apply for a visitor's residence permit.
- Short-time working schemes or short-term layoffs in line with Swedish labour laws and the government support package do not affect work permits, provided the reduced income is in line with collective bargaining agreements and is enough for the individual to support themselves (i.e. at least SEK 13,000 gross per month). An explanatory letter from the employer should be attached to applications for work permit renewal or permanent residence.
- It is possible for employees to work remotely for a short time. This delay to their arrival in Sweden will not affect their work permit when it is time for renewal. However, the longer they delay their arrival in Sweden, the higher the risk of rejection when they apply for PR. The Migration Agency cannot grant any exceptions to delayed arrivals caused by the current travel restrictions.

SWITZERLAND

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 14 September, the Federal Office of Public Health (FOPH) has updated its list of countries considered to be "high risk". Anyone entering Switzerland who has in

the previous 14 days spent time in these countries is subject to a **mandatory ten-day quarantine** and must report their arrival to the cantonal authorities within two days:

- **British Virgin Islands, Czech Republic**, certain areas of **France** and the federal state of Vienna in **Austria** are **added** to the list of high-risk countries.
- **Ecuador, Faroe Islands, Guatemala** and **South Africa** are **removed** from the list.
- The list now includes Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Austria (federal state of Vienna), Bahamas, Bahrain, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, British Virgin Islands, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czech Republic, Dominican Republic, France (Centre-Val de Loire, Corse, Hauts-de-France, Île de France, Normandie, Nouvelle-Aquitaine, Occitanie, Pays de la Loire, Provence-Alpes-Côte d’Azur, French Guyana, Guadeloupe, French Polynesia, La Réunion, Martinique, Mayotte, Saint-Barthélemy, Saint-Martin), Gibraltar, Guam, Guyana, Honduras, India, Iraq, Israel, Kosovo, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Maldives, Malta, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Namibia, North Macedonia, Palestine, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Qatar, Romania, San Marino, Sint Maarten, Spain (with the exception of the Canary Islands), Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Turks and Caicos Islands, Ukraine, the United Arab Emirates and the United States (including Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands).
- Travellers from countries other than the following “safe” countries are generally not permitted to enter Switzerland:
 - All states in the Schengen area; Andorra, Australia, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Georgia, Ireland, Japan, Monaco, New Zealand, Romania, Rwanda, San Marino, South Korea, Thailand, Tunisia, Uruguay and the Vatican.
- Travellers from high-risk countries can be permitted to enter Switzerland if they meet at least one of the following requirements:
 - They also have Swiss citizenship.
 - They hold a travel document (e.g. a passport or identity card) and
 - a residence permit, i.e. a Swiss residence permit (L / B / C / Ci permits);
 - a cross-border permit (G permit; only for work-related purposes),
 - an FDFA legitimization card;
 - a D visa issued by Switzerland;
 - a C visa issued by Switzerland after 16 March 2020 in a valid exceptional case or in order to work on a short-term contract;
 - an assurance of a residence permit from a cantonal migration authority or an entry permit with a visa issued by Switzerland (an employment contract is not sufficient to cross the Swiss border. Persons with an assurance of a residence permit may enter Switzerland at the earliest three days before the date on which assurance becomes valid.)
 - They hold a refugee’s or stateless person’s travel document issued by Switzerland, a passport for foreign nationals issued by Switzerland, a valid residence or permanent residence permit or an F-Permit.
 - They have rights of free movement. If they require a visa, a valid Schengen C-visa, a valid D-visa or a valid Schengen residence permit;
 - They are transporting goods for commercial purposes and have a goods delivery note.

- In certain cases: They are simply travelling directly through Switzerland with the intention and possibility of entering another country. See “Is it still possible to travel through Switzerland?” under ‘Questions on travelling through and leaving Switzerland’.
- They are in a situation of special necessity (see below). The border control authority will assess the necessity of the situation.
- They are specialists in the healthcare sector who need to enter Switzerland for important work-related reasons and who hold a confirmation of notification, an assurance of a residence permit or an entry permit with a visa issued by Switzerland.
- In cases of special necessity, it is possible to enter Switzerland despite the entry ban. Persons who require a visa must apply for one at the Swiss foreign representation where they live, explaining why they are a case of special necessity. In certain cases, the foreign representation may be able to provide documents confirming the situation. For persons who do not require a visa, the border control officers at the Schengen external border (i.e. at the airport) decide whether the requirements of necessity have been met. They will allow entry in the following cases in particular:
 - Entry because a close family member in Switzerland has died or is dying; in particular a spouse, life partner, parent, brother or sister, child, grandchild, or sister- or brother-in-law). You may be accompanied by close family members, i.e. your husband/wife, registered partner and minor children;
 - Entry to continue essential medical treatment that began in Switzerland or abroad;
 - Entry by the foreign spouse and foreign minor children of a Swiss citizen who wish to return to Switzerland with that Swiss citizen from their present home abroad because of the current situation, for example in the case of evacuation;
 - Entry on essential official visits in terms of Switzerland’s international commitments;
 - Entry by crew members of scheduled and charter flights and crew members on cargo, aerial work and air-ambulance flights, flights for maintenance checks and private flights (business and general aviation) carrying persons authorised to enter Switzerland;
 - Entry in order to care for close family members (children, grandchildren, parents, siblings) in a medical emergency. If there is no medical emergency, childcare by family members is not considered to be an absolute necessity and so a work permit is required. The usual admission requirements apply;
 - Entry with one accompanying person in order to exercise rights of access to your children; this also covers the entry of your child into Switzerland;
 - Entry to visit immediate family members (i.e. husband/wife, registered partner and minor children) who are living in Switzerland;
 - Entry for court appearances, business appointments that cannot be postponed or meetings that require personal presence; for example, to negotiate or sign a contract, business-related inspections or other essential assignments;
 - Entry by foreign nationals from third countries who are providing a cross-border service, for up to eight days in any calendar year or who are working temporarily in Switzerland for a foreign employer from a third country, provided their personal presence is essential;

- Entry to accompany persons entering or leaving Switzerland where their entry is permitted under Art. 3 COVID-19 Ordinance 3 and the persons concerned require special support, e.g. children, elderly people, disabled people, sick people;
- Entry by the immediate family members of a Swiss citizen registered with a Swiss foreign representation who are entering Switzerland with that Swiss citizen for a stay here that does not require authorisation. Immediate family means the Swiss citizen's spouse or registered partner and minor children (including step-children). In certain circumstances it also includes unmarried partners.
- Entry to visit a partner to whom one is not married or in a registered partnership with and with whom one does not have children is possible if:
 - the person wishing to enter the country has an invitation from the partner living in Switzerland and the partner is a Swiss citizen or has a short-stay permit, temporary or permanent residence permit;
 - confirmation of the existing partnership is submitted;
 - proof can be given that at least one face-to-face visit or meeting took place in Switzerland or abroad before entry restrictions were imposed.
- Entry is not permitted on the basis of a mere holiday acquaintance. Proof must be given that a relationship has already lasted for some time and is regularly cultivated. The persons concerned must provide credible evidence that they were in regular contact before and during the corona crisis
- Workers from third countries who already have an authorization to work in Switzerland, but who were not issued a visa before 18 March because of the restrictions imposed on entry, are permitted to collect their visas and enter the country.
- Family reunification for family members of Swiss citizens is again possible. The same applies for family members of people from EU/EFTA states living in Switzerland.
- Flights from abroad are only able to land at Zurich, Geneva or Basel airports.

Immigration Restrictions

- The cantons have begun processing new applications for family reunion for family members of non-EU national C/B/L permit holder and new permit applications and online registrations from workers currently residing in the EU/EFTA states.
- Regarding work permit applications not governed by the AFMP, admission is currently possible only if the work assignment is of public interest (e.g. health sector, economic supply, etc.) or if a company urgently requires specific highly skilled workers from an economic perspective when the employment start date cannot be postponed nor the work be performed abroad. Applications for persons already residing in Switzerland are normally possible.
- The temporary suspension of the obligation to notify job vacancies has been lifted.
- Applications for third country nationals submitted before the restrictions came into effect (19 March) are once more being processed. They are approved provided the provisions of the Foreign Nationals and Integration Act are met and the person can actually take up the position.

Immigration Concessions

- People on a visitor status, or holders of expired visas or permits are tolerated in Switzerland as long as the restrictions are in force and they cannot regularize their situation or leave Switzerland. Depending on nationalities, new or extended visas can be granted by the cantonal authorities. Overstay will not be sanctioned by the Swiss authorities.

TAIWAN

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 26 August:
 - South Korea has been removed from the list of medium-risk countries;
 - Sri Lanka has been moved from the list of low-risk countries to the list of medium-risk countries;
 - East Timor, Mauritius and Nauru have been added to the list of low-risk countries.
- Effective 11 August, Vietnam has been moved from the list of low-risk countries to the list of medium-risk countries.
- Effective 5 August 2020, Japan has been removed from the list of medium-risk countries.
- Effective 26 July, travellers arriving in Taiwan from the Philippines must undergo COVID-19 testing at the airport and are subject to quarantine.
 - Taiwanese nationals and holders of an ARC or residence visa, migrant workers, foreign students and diplomats must undergo a test on arrival.
 - Symptomatic individuals will be transported to a group quarantine facility to await their test results;
 - Asymptomatic individuals are subject to 14-day home quarantine.
 - Foreign nationals without an ARC must present a certificate of a negative COVID-19 test result issued within three days prior to boarding, before they are permitted to board their flight or transit flight, or to enter Taiwan. Those entering Taiwan must undergo home quarantine for 14 days.
- Certain short-term (up to three months) business travellers, of any nationality, entering Taiwan may apply for a reduced home quarantine period:
 - They must be arriving from a country or region with a **low risk** of infection (currently Bhutan, Brunei, Cambodia, East Timor, Fiji, Laos, Macau, Mauritius, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nauru, New Zealand, Palau, Sri Lanka and Thailand) or a **medium risk** of infection (currently Malaysia, Singapore and Vietnam);
 - They must have no travel history outside these regions in the previous 14 days before boarding;
 - They must be intending to stay for no more than three months for business activities such as inspection, after-sales service, technical guidance and training, contract signing, etc.
 - Qualifying business travellers should prepare relevant supporting documents at the time of visa application, schedules and epidemic prevention plans at the time of application and must present a COVID-19 negative nucleic acid test report issued less than 3 **working** days before boarding.
 - For travellers who do not meet the above application conditions, if there are special business needs or other necessary activities, a special case can be submitted;

- A traveller arriving from a low-risk area can apply to the local health authority where the epidemic prevention hotel is located for self-paid COVID-19 screening on the fifth day; A traveller arriving from medium-low risk area can screen at their own expense on the seventh day after entry.
- After obtaining a negative test result report, the traveller can apply to the local health authority to change to self-health management until 21 days after entry.
- Note that, although Macau is in the list of low-risk countries, the online EEP is still suspended and therefore holders of passports from Macau are still prohibited from entering Taiwan.
- The requirement for ARC holders returning to Taiwan to present a negative COVID-19 test certificate taken within the previous 3 days has been lifted. For other foreign national arrivals, the test must now have been performed in the previous 3 working days, rather than 3 calendar days, as previously.
- Foreign nationals may apply for **special entry permits** to enter Taiwan for reasons other than tourism, general social visits and study. These newly permitted purposes of travel include internship, training, participation in international conferences and exhibitions, international exchange, volunteering, missionary work, working holidays, youth exchange and job seeking. Other permitted purposes are visiting relatives, fulfilling contractual obligations, inspection, after-sales service, technical guidance and training and contract signing.
- Also effective 29 July, Hong Kong and Macao residents may apply to enter Taiwan for special humanitarian reasons or emergency situations; to fulfil contractual obligations; as part of internal transfers within multinational enterprises; when they are the spouse or child of an R.O.C. national and possess an R.O.C. Resident Certificate; for commercial and trade exchanges; or when they hold an R.O.C. Resident Certificate related to employment, investment, or entrepreneurship
- **Special entry permits** may be issued regardless of the traveller's nationality, country of origin or travel history. Foreign nationals and Hong Kong and Macao residents who have received permission to enter Taiwan, when checking in with the airline for the flight to Taiwan, must present an English-language certificate of a negative COVID-19 RT-PCR test taken within three **working** days of boarding. They must also undergo a 14-day home quarantine period. They must also log into the [Quarantine System for Entry](#) and fill out a health declaration form.
- All travellers that are allowed to enter are required to undergo 14-day home quarantine.
- Taiwanese nationals and foreign national ARC holders are not required to present a negative COVID-19 RT-PCR test certificate before boarding. All other travellers are required to do so.

Immigration Restrictions

- The office hours at the various Taipei Economic & Cultural Offices (TECO) have been affected due to the COVID-19 outbreak. Some TECO offices have been closed temporarily. Travellers must check with TECO in their respective countries first if requiring services.
- Foreign nationals who have been issued a work permit but have not yet entered Taiwan and have not been issued an Alien Resident Card (ARC) can apply for a visa at the relevant Taipei Economic & Cultural Office (TECO), but must also obtain a "Special Entry Permit" stamp in their passport, also from the TECO. Without both a valid entry visa and a Special Entry Permit stamp, entry will not be allowed.

- When applying for a visa, foreign nationals must provide additional documents, including: a full travel history for the previous 14 days; a certificate of a health check-up conducted in the previous seven days showing that the applicant does not have a fever of 38 degrees Celsius or higher and is not suffering from respiratory tract or lung infections; and a signed affidavit stipulating that the applicant shall immediately notify health authorities in Taiwan when experiencing any symptoms detailed above.
- Applications for temporary entry stays (landing visas and online visas) and the online application system for foreign nationals for Hong Kong and Macau residents have been suspended.

Immigration Concessions

- Foreign nationals who entered Taiwan on or before 21 March on a visitor visa, landing visa or visa waiver and who have not overstayed their legal stay period will be granted a **fourth** automatic 30-day extension (the duration of stay has thus far been extended to 180 days in total). No application is required. The total period of stay cannot exceed 180 days. The day after the entry date will be counted as the first day of stay.
- Foreign nationals who have overstayed their legal stay period and turn themselves in between 20 March and 30 June are entitled to penalty relief measures: They will not be detained or receive an entry ban and will be given only a minimum fine.
- As of 21 March, initial and renewal work permit applications and Alien Registration Card (ARC) applications are not affected.
- In case of exceptional circumstances, Taipei Economic & Cultural Offices (TECO) abroad may accept and process applications on presentation of Entry and Exit Certification Records issued by the Hong Kong and Macau governments to prove no travel history to mainland China within the previous 14 days.

TAJIKISTAN

Entry Restrictions

- Entry is suspended for all nationalities. All arrivals are subject to a 14-day quarantine.

TANZANIA

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 1 August, all travellers are required to complete a health form and present negative COVID-19 test results issued within 72 hours prior to boarding. Passengers showing symptoms on arrival will be subject to further testing and possible government quarantine.
- Effective 1 August, flights from Kenya have been suspended until further notice.
- Borders are open and international flights have resumed.

Immigration Restrictions

- The Department of Immigration is fully operational.

THAILAND

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 4 August, entry is permitted for permanent residents and work permit holders and their spouses and children, foreign nationals permitted to enter under a special arrangement (including Thailand Elite Visa holders) and migrant workers whose employers are allowed to bring in workers. Quarantine and other health requirements apply. Qualifying foreign nationals must contact a Thai consulate at least 10 days before departure to apply for a “Certificate of Entry” (COE) supported by a work permit and health insurance policy. The foreign national should ensure that their full name that appears on all issued documents, including the Health Insurance Policy, matches the name that appears in their passport.
- Effective 1 July, limited numbers of foreign national work permit holders, business travellers, permanent residents and foreign national teachers may be permitted to enter Thailand. Quarantine and other health requirements apply. Qualifying foreign nationals must contact a Thai consulate at least 10 days before departure to apply for a “Certificate of Entry” (COE) supported by a work permit and health insurance policy. The foreign national should ensure that their full name that appears on all issued documents, including the Health Insurance Policy, matches the name that appears in their passport.
- Effective 1 July the suspension of international passenger flights has been lifted for flights carrying certain categories of passengers (quarantine and other health requirements apply), including:
 - Thai national;
 - Foreign national spouse, parent or child of a Thai national;
 - Foreign national with residence certificate of permission for Thailand;
 - Foreign national with valid work permit or other work permission, and their spouse or children;
 - Foreign national student of educational institution approved by Thai authorities, and their parents or guardians;
 - Foreign national in need of medical treatment in Thailand (not for COVID-19) and their attendants);
 - Individual in a diplomatic mission, consular affairs, international organizations, government representatives, foreign government agencies working in Thailand, or individual in other international agencies as permitted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, including their spouse, parents, or children.
 - Foreign national permitted to enter the Kingdom under a special arrangement with a foreign country.
- BOI companies still need to submit a special request to bring in a foreign national employee, regardless of whether that employee has already obtained a work permit through the BOI special process.
- Upon check-in, all travellers, of all nationalities, must present a health certificate certifying that they pose no risk of being infected by COVID-19, issued no more than 72 hours previously and a health insurance policy showing minimum medical coverage of USD 100,000, covering Thailand and COVID-19. Passengers who do not present the required documents, will be denied boarding. On arrival, all travellers will have to present their health certificate, health insurance policy and completed form T.8 “AOT Airport of Thailand Application”. They must also download an Airports of Thailand mobile app to provide information about themselves and where they will be staying. All arrivals are subject to a 14-day quarantine in a government

designated Alternative State Quarantine (ASQ) at their own expense and comply with all health regulations under the Thailand's Emergency Decree.

- Any person found to be in breach of the quarantine will face a fine of 20,000 baht.
- Until 30 September, the 15-day Visa on Arrival facility is suspended for nationals of Bulgaria, Bhutan, China, Cyprus, Ethiopia, Fiji, Georgia, India, Kazakhstan, Malta, Mexico, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Romania, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Taiwan, Uzbekistan and Vanuatu.
- Until 30 September, the 30-day visa exemption is suspended for nationals of Hong Kong, Italy and South Korea.
- Consular visa applicants may be required to submit a health certificate.

Immigration Restrictions

- The Immigration office is open for visa renewals and applications as normal.
- Foreign nationals with **Board of Investment (BOI)** work authorization must wait 14 days from the date of their arrival in Thailand before their on-line application can be made on the BOI website to apply for ALL types of applications including new and renewal/extension applications. As a result of this policy, Foreign nationals will have to wait at least 3-4 weeks after entering Thailand before they will obtain their Digital Work Permit and long-term visa. The application can only be made on day 15 after arrival and will take 5 to 10 days or more for processing.
- Until further notice, issuance of approval of pre-work permit approval (PWPA) is suspended at all Employment Department offices. In cases where the PWPA approval letter has been issued, the Employment Department must contact and coordinate with the employer concerning the State of Emergency. In such cases, the foreign national employee will need to postpone entry to Thailand until the government officially revokes the entry ban.
- The Employment Department will accept new work permit applications from the restricted countries if the applications are made by an authorized representative of the foreign national, holding a Power of Attorney. Upon receipt of the work permit booklet the authorized representative can bring it to the foreign national for signature at home while they are in self-quarantine.

Immigration Concessions

- Foreign nationals holding all types of visas including non-immigrant visas for employment (BOI, non-BOI, IEAT, DMF), dependent, retirement or study, and tourist visa, visa-on-arrival and visa exemption, whose permission to stay in Thailand expires from 26 March onwards, are eligible for an automatic visa extension until 26 September. The deadlines for filing 90-day reports due from 26 March onwards are also extended until 26 September. This is the second extension to the visa amnesty period.
- Permanent Residence (PR) holders who are holding Departure Endorsements and re-entry permits that will expire from 26 March onwards and who intend to return to Thailand can continue to use their existing Departure Endorsement and re-entry permits to maintain their right to hold PR status. However, when the outbreak situation improves, these PR holders should return to Thailand before this permission period expires (date to be announced later. Failure to do so, could prejudice their Permanent Residence.

- Visitors from neighbouring countries who hold a temporary border pass will be allowed to stay in Thailand until the borders are re-opened. They will be required to leave Thailand within seven days after the borders reopen.
- It is recommended to apply for extension of long-term visas and to submit 90-day reports during this period while government offices remain open. However, it is recommended to exercise the right to the automatic visa extension if the holder resides in a lockdown area and needs to retain their passport, and for tourist visa, visa-on-arrival and visa exemption.
- If a current BOI work permit and visa are soon expiring and the 14-day wait is too long, the applicant can raise the issue of expiration date to the BOI online and request special permission NOT to wait for 14-days.

TOGO

Entry Restrictions

- Permitted travellers entering Togo must adhere to the following requirements:
 - Complete a pre-departure online application form: <https://voyage.gouv.tg/login>
 - Provide a negative COVID-19 test taken within previous 72 hours prior to departure.
 - Undergo an in-country COVID-19 test upon arrival. Any traveller who tests positive will be admitted to a government-run COVID-19 medical facility and must bear the costs of any medical treatment.
 - Install the government COVID-19 tracing app, “Togo Safe”.
- All commercial international flights are suspended to and from highly-affected countries (including most European countries). Entry is suspended for all non-residents travelling from or transiting through these countries.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Entry Restrictions

- Borders remain closed until further notice.
- No citizens or permanent residents of Trinidad and Tobago are permitted entry, via seaports or airports, without first obtaining an exemption.
 - An exemption request can be submitted *by email* to the Minister of National Security, along with a copy of the biodata page of the applicant’s passport and (for permanent residents only) a copy of the applicant’s permanent residence stamp or certificate;
 - Requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- No foreign nationals will be permitted entry, via seaports or airports, into Trinidad and Tobago.
 - Exemptions are being granted, on a case by case basis, to persons employed in the oil and gas industry;
- Citizens and foreign national crew members, on board those vessels, will not be granted shore leave therefore they will be restricted to the vessel;
- Crew sign off will not be permitted;
- All vessels’ cargo operations (loading/offloading) can continue as normal;

- Foreign nationals currently in Trinidad and Tobago are permitted to exit the country;
- Cargo vessels are permitted inward and outward clearance from any port in Trinidad and Tobago.

Immigration Restrictions

- Immigration offices remain closed and services unavailable. Pending processes are suspended. Extension of stay can be managed via email.

TUNISIA

Entry Restrictions

- Land, sea and air borders reopened on 27 June. International flights have resumed.
- Entry is suspended for passengers arriving from Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Burundi, Cape Verde, Cayman Islands, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Cote d'Ivoire, Dominican Rep., Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, India, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, North Korea, Kosovo, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Isl., Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia, Moldova, Montenegro, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Fed., Rwanda, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Solomon Isl., Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, St. Lucia, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Syria, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, USA, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Virgin Isl. (USA), Yemen or Zimbabwe.
 - This does not apply to nationals and residents of Tunisia, and spouses of nationals of Tunisia.
 - They must have a medical certificate with a negative Coronavirus (COVID-19) PCR test result issued at most 72 hours before departure and are subject to quarantine in a hotel for 7 days and self-quarantine for an additional 7 days.
 - If they arrive without a medical certificate with a negative Coronavirus (COVID-19) PCR test result are subject to quarantine for 10 days. They must have a hotel reservation confirmation for 10 days.
- Entry is permitted for nationals and residents of Tunisia, and spouses of nationals of Tunisia, who have spent at least the last 14 days in Afghanistan, Armenia, Australia, Bahrain, Belarus, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Rep., Comoros, Congo (Dem. Rep.), Croatia, Czechia, Djibouti, Gabon, Georgia, Guam, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Indonesia, Jamaica, Lebanon, Morocco, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Niger, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Togo, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, Uruguay or Zambia.
 - They must have a medical certificate with a negative COVID-19 PCR test result issued at most 72 hours before departure and are subject to self-quarantine for 14 days.
 - Spouses must have a marriage certificate.

- If they arrive without a medical certificate with a negative Coronavirus (COVID-19) PCR test result are subject to self-quarantine for 10 days. They must have a hotel reservation confirmation for 10 days.

TURKEY

Entry Restrictions

- Entry is suspended for passengers arriving from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Benin, Burkina Faso, DR Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Mali, Mauritius, Niger, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Somalia, other than nationals and residents of Turkey.
- Turkey has reopened most of its international air, land and sea borders, and international flights have resumed to and from many destinations.
- All travellers out of Turkey must first obtain an HES (Hayat Eve Sigar) code.
- Foreign passengers who test positive for COVID-19 on arrival will be required to quarantine at a private hospital, whereas Turkish passengers will be referred to a state hospital.

Immigration Restrictions

- The Ministry of Labour is currently requesting employers submit an additional Letter of Undertaking (LoU) for all applications in progress **and new applications**. The required text to be signed (**which was updated on 14 May**) commits that the company will fully obey the occupational health and safety precautions of the Ministry of Labour and decisions and advice of the Ministry of Health Coronavirus Science Committee. It must be printed on company letterhead paper and signed and stamped by an authorised person in the company, with their name and surname, and dated. This document does not need to be notarized.
- The residence permit application files of foreign nationals who have applied for a residence permit in Istanbul and have an appointment between 1 June and 17 August must be submitted by post or courier during a specified date range (listed [here](#)).

Immigration Concessions

- Turkey will not impose overstay penalties for foreign nationals unable to depart due to COVID-19, if they depart within one month of the reopening of transportation to their home country.

UGANDA

Entry Restrictions

- The Ugandan COVID-19 Civil Aviation Authority has announced that the international airport will be reopened to commercial passenger flights on 1 October.
 - Arriving passengers will be required to present a certificate of a negative COVID-29 test result obtained in the previous 72 hours.
- All air, water and land arrivals are suspended until further notice.

UKRAINE

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 28 August until 28 September, the government has decided to close Ukraine's borders. Exemptions exist for certain foreign nationals:
 - First-degree relatives of Ukrainian citizens;
 - Holders of valid work permits;
 - Technical specialists with an invitation from a Ukrainian company;
 - Travellers transiting Ukraine within two days;
 - Those arriving for education purposes;
 - Those arriving to study or perform military service;
 - Holders of permanent or temporary residence permits;
 - Members of official delegations and employees of international organisations;
 - Drivers and crewmembers of aircraft, ships and trains;
 - Cultural workers with an invitation;
 - Participants in official sports competitions;
 - Those transporting hematopoietic stem cells for transplantation;
 - Those undergoing treatment at health institutions in Ukraine;
 - Refugees;
 - Diplomats;
 - Military instructors;
 - Travellers arriving at the invitation of the Ukrainian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- The latest list of red zone and green zone countries, effective 4 September, is available [here](#).
- Ukraine changed conditions for putting a country on the red zone list on 1 August. Countries will be added if they meet the following characteristics:
 - the number of new cases per 100 thousand of the population over the past 14 days exceeds the number of such cases in Ukraine; or
 - the increase in new cases in the country over the past 14 days compared to the previous 14 days is more than 30 percent.
- Effective 1 August, all arrivals from "red-zone" countries are subject to 14-day self-quarantine, OR a PCR test within 24 hours of arrival, or presentation of negative PCR test results from a test taken no more than 48 hours before entry.
- Arrivals from "red zone" countries can reduce the length of their self-quarantine by taking a COVID-19 test during self-quarantine. Once a negative result is obtained, they will be sent a notification, via a special app, that the self-quarantine requirement has been completed.
- Arrivals from "green zone" countries are not subject to quarantine or testing. A traveller entering from the green zone but in transit through the red zone is not subject to quarantine. Passengers in transit are not subject to quarantine.
- All arrivals must have an insurance policy covering 14-days of quarantine and COVID-19 treatment. Customers are required to submit a copy of their insurance policy covering the COVID-19 treatment along with their applications
- International flights are gradually resuming.
- Visa issuance has resumed.
- Some visa application centres have resumed operations.

Immigration Restrictions

- Immigration services are very limited during the quarantine period (until at least 22 June). Scheduled appointments are suspended. It is only possible to obtain a temporary or permanent residence permit in cases of urgent necessity.
- Work permit holders in Ukraine may not be able to obtain a tax code, and therefore may not be able to work legally.

Immigration Concessions

- Foreign nationals will not be penalised for violation of the terms of their immigration status during the quarantine period and within 30 days of the end of the quarantine period.
- Applications for issuance or extension of residence permits or for change of status from visitor to resident, which should have been submitted during the quarantine period can be submitted within 30 days of the end of the quarantine period.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Entry Restrictions

- Dubai residents travelling from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Iran, Pakistan, Philippines or Sri Lanka must check they are eligible to travel [here](#) (in addition to GDRFA approval).
- UAE residents travelling to India are no longer required to register with the Indian consulates in UAE before booking their tickets.
- UAE nationals travelling to European destinations (except Greece and the UK) are required to obtain approval in advance from the consulate of their destination country in the UAE.
- Indian citizens holding UAE visitor tourist visas are now permitted by the Indian government to return to UAE. It is recommended that these Indian citizens return to UAE as soon as possible to ensure they do not remain outside UAE for more than 6 months, or that they renew their visa in time.
- UAE residents no longer require an ICA travel permit to return to the UAE.
- Dubai residents intending to return to Dubai must first obtain a re-entry permit from the Dubai GDRFA by submitting a form online [here](#). Holders of valid Dubai residence visas and GDRFA approval may re-enter Dubai after more than 6 months abroad.
 - Dubai residents travelling from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Iran, Pakistan, Philippines or Sri Lanka must check they are eligible to travel [here](#) (in addition to GDRFA approval).
 - Entry must be via Dubai International Airport.
 - There is no requirement for a NOC letter issued by the employer or Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC) authority to apply for the entry permit.
 - The re-entry permit should be obtained before booking airline tickets.
 - Flights must be booked through official airline websites;
 - The GDRFA approval number must be entered on booking, and a copy of the GDRFA approval email must be presented on boarding;
 - Every passenger flying to Dubai needs to fill in a health declaration form and a quarantine declaration form. Both forms need to be printed, completed and handed over to the Dubai Health Authority staff at arrival;
 - All arrivals must register their details on the COVID-19 DXB app;
 - PCR test is mandatory for all passengers.

- Arrivals will be obliged to abide by the 14-day quarantine in case they test positive for COVID-19.
- No re-entry permit is required for other Emirates.
- All inbound passengers must hold negative COVID-19 PCR test results, issued at most 96 hours before departure. Testing on arrival is no longer an option.
 - All PCR tests are to be conducted at an accredited laboratory. Travellers arriving from countries without a listed approved laboratory should coordinate with their airline to determine the exact entry requirements.
 - Inbound passengers to Dubai will be required to undergo an additional in-country COVID-19 test, which will be granted free of cost to the traveller (subject to change).
- The UAE has relaxed its foreign travel guidelines, allowing citizens and residents to travel to all accessible destinations for 'general' reasons provided they adhere to all mandatory precautions and safety measures imposed to counter the spread of Covid-19.
 - Returning travellers must complete a health declaration form before landing, download and activate the Al Hosn app, and follow UAE quarantine guidelines and test procedures, depending on the country from which they are returning.
- In Abu Dhabi and Sharjah, medical screening is still only required for new visa applications.
- Applicants entering the country on employment or dependent entry permits need to upload the entry permit with an entry stamp from the airport in the portal, in order to start the visa stamping process. The applicant's original passport will be required only once the medical fitness test is completed and health insurance is uploaded.
- Effective 5 September, residents and visitors entering Abu Dhabi from Dubai must present the result of a PCR or DPI test taken within the previous 48 hours. Those who wish to stay more than one week must take an additional PCR test on the sixth day of stay in Abu Dhabi.

Immigration Restrictions

- UAE authorities have resumed the endorsement of visas in original passports. An applicant who has previously secured a soft copy of a renewed residence permit must submit their original passport to the immigration or free zone authorities to have the visa endorsed on the passport.
- Transfer of visa sponsorship between certain free zones has been reinstated, depending on the operational procedures of the releasing free zone. If the applicant and employer are in the same free zone then intra company transfer within the same free zone is being processed as per standard process and procedures.
- Employers who have obtained a new entry permit for an employee already in UAE should proceed with the change of status step within the grace period to avoid fines.
- Individuals with expired visas who are eligible for renewal (within 6 months of the current visa's expiry) and need to exit and re-enter the UAE are strongly advised to renew the visa before exiting the country.
- Any salary reduction with mutual consent from employee and employer should be notified to authorities by submitting a Contract Amendment application.
- The sponsor's original Emirates ID will be required for all dependent visa applications effective 3 August 2020.

Immigration Concessions

- Individuals in the UAE on an expired visit or tourist visa are able to leave the country or extend the visa (if the visa is extendable) without overstay fines until 11 September. After this date, overstay fines will start to apply with rates of AED 200 for the first day of overstay, and AED 100 for each subsequent day.
- Individuals in UAE holding residence visas that expired before 1 March now have until 17 November (previously 18 August) to leave UAE to avoid overstay fines and penalties.
- Individuals in UAE holding residence visas that expired between 1 March and 11 July have until 10 October to rectify their status without incurring fines or penalties.
- Individuals outside the UAE holding an active visa or a visa that expired after 1 March will be permitted to enter the UAE as soon as the airspace between the departing country and UAE is opened.
- In the event the airspace is not operational then the residence permit will be valid until 31 December. We strongly recommend that residence permit holders travel back to UAE within 30 days from the date the airspace is opened in the country of departure. Holders of active visas who have spent more than six months outside the UAE must ensure they enter the UAE as soon as possible provided airspace is open. Upon entering the UAE, holders of expired visas must renew their visas within 29 days to avoid fines.
- The sponsor's passport, in which the UAE visa is pasted, must be valid for more than three months to submit a dependent visa application. If the sponsor renews their passport, they must transfer the visa to the new passport before applying for dependent visas.
- UAE residents outside UAE whose visas have expired need to return within 30 days of flights restarting and apply for visa renewal. Overstay fines will apply within 30 days of arrival.

UNITED KINGDOM

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 4am on 19 September:
 - Guadeloupe and Slovenia are removed from England's travel corridor list and travellers from these locations are no longer exempt from the requirement to self-isolate for 14 days.
 - Singapore and Thailand are added to the travel corridor list. Travellers from these locations are exempt from the requirement to self-isolate for 14 days.
- Passengers arriving in England from one of the *travel corridor countries*, or one of the 14 British overseas territories, who have not been to or stopped somewhere that is not in one of those countries or territories in the previous 14 days, will not have to self-isolate on arrival. Ireland is also exempt, as part of the common travel area.
- Scotland also exempts from quarantine travellers entering from a very similar list of countries (although travellers from Spain are not currently exempted) and from the British Overseas Territories.
- Passengers of all nationalities arriving in the UK will have to self-isolate for 14 days and could be contacted regularly throughout this period to ensure compliance. Anyone failing to comply may face enforcement action. People should use personal transport, such as a car, to travel to their accommodation where possible. Once they arrive there, they should not leave their accommodation for 14 days.

- A breach of self-isolation would be punishable with a £1000 fixed penalty notice in England, or potential prosecution and unlimited fine. The devolved administrations will set out their own enforcement approaches.
- There are some exemptions to the quarantine requirement, including:
 - Road haulage and freight workers, to ensure the supply of goods is not impacted;
 - Anyone moving from within the Common Travel Area, covering Ireland, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man;
 - Seasonal Agricultural Workers who will self-isolate on the property where they are working.
- All registered health and care professionals must self-isolate when returning to England from a high-risk country. The previous exemption, in place since the beginning of June, has been removed.
- All arriving passengers will be required to complete and submit a contact locator form, including details of their self-isolation accommodation. If this does not meet the necessary requirements, they will have to self-isolate in facilities arranged by the government. Failure to complete the form is also punishable by a £100 fixed penalty notice.
- Many UK visa application centres abroad have resumed operations

Immigration Restrictions

- Some UK Visa and Citizenship Application Centres (UKVCAS) reopened for existing customers on 1 June. However, it is not yet possible to book a new appointment at a UKVCAS service point.
- Until further notice, Biometric Residence Permits (BRP) for Tier 2 migrants and their dependents are being produced but the National Insurance Number (NINO) field is blank. There will be no future requirement to amend this, and BRPs will continue to be valid for use until their individual expiry dates.
- Sopra Steria have suspended all services in the UK. Applicants can still submit the online application form but are unable to book and attend the biometrics appointment until services are resumed. Applicants must still submit their online form by the expiry of their existing leave.
- All priority and superpriority services have been suspended until further notice. Applicants can only submit under the standard route. Life in the UK test centres are currently closed so any Indefinite Leave applications submitted without evidence of a completed test will be held until this can be taken and the results published.
- Many UK visa application centres and English Testing Centres abroad are closed or offering limited services, and appointments (for e.g., biometric enrolment) may be cancelled. In some areas the UK cannot send visa vignettes across some borders and routes due to border restrictions.
- Applicants who have paid for courier return will receive their passport if courier routes remain open. TLScontact or VFS Global can be contacted directly to request courier return of passports.
- British nationals abroad who cannot apply for a passport can apply for an emergency travel document.
- UK NARIC (National Recognition Information Centre) is still operating services by email or internet. Temporary PDF statements will be issued by email, instead of printed paper statements.
- It is taking longer than usual to process citizenship applications because of coronavirus. This will not affect the decision. Extra time will be allowed to enrol

biometrics and provide additional information. Applicants have 6 months (rather than the usual 3 months) to book their citizenship ceremony after receiving an invitation from the Home Office. Applicants should not apply by post if they'll need their documents back by a specific date.

Immigration Concessions

- All NHS and care workers from abroad, including porters, cleaners, independent health workers and social care workers, will be exempt from the NHS Surcharge. The implementation date and further details have not yet been announced.
- In-country application forms are now deleted from the application system after an increased period of 240 days. If completed, paid for and submitted they are held on UKVI case working systems and can be downloaded by the applicant as a PDF for their records. If the closure of VACs/UKVCAS centres last for more than 240 days, in cases where the application has been lodged the customer will be advised when they can enrol their bios. If they do not enrol within the timescales advised before any rejection takes place, they will receive a reminder and be given a further period to enrol. To ensure that customers can book an appointment after 240 days, they must register for their UKVCAS account when they complete their on-line application so that their account is activated and so that Sopra Steria can contact them when the service resumes.
- Employees who have applied for a Tier 2 or 5 visa and are waiting for a decision can start work before receiving a decision if they have been assigned a Certificate of Sponsorship (CoS); show their sponsor evidence that they submitted their application before their current visa expired; and the job they start is the same as the one listed on their CoS. If the application is eventually rejected as invalid or refused the sponsor will stop sponsoring them and they must stop working for the sponsor.
- The Home Office will not take any compliance action against Tier 2/5 employees who are unable to attend their work due to the COVID-19 outbreak (i.e., illness, their need to isolate or inability to travel due to travel restrictions) or against sponsors which authorise absences and continue to sponsor employees despite absences for this reason. Absences do not need to be reported, Sponsorship does not need to be withdrawn if because of coronavirus an employee is absent from work without pay for more than 4 weeks.
- There is no need to report sponsored employees working from home due to coronavirus. Other changes to their working arrangements must still be reported as usual.
- Sponsors can temporarily reduce the pay of sponsored employees to 80% of their salary or £2500 per month, whichever is the lower. Any reductions must be part of a company-wide policy to avoid redundancies and in which all workers are treated the same.
- These reductions must be temporary, and the employee's pay must return to at least previous levels once these arrangements have ended.
- An employee may still apply for their visa if their Certificate of Sponsorship has become invalid due to coronavirus.

Right to Work Checks

- Right to work checks can be carried out over video calls; job applicants and existing workers can send scanned documents or a photo of documents for checks using email or a mobile app, rather than sending originals; and employers should use

the Employer Checking Service if a prospective or existing employee cannot provide any of the accepted documents. The check should be marked as “adjusted check undertaken on [insert date] due to COVID-19”. It remains an offence to knowingly employ anyone who does not have the right to work in the UK. Within 8 weeks of these measures ending, employers must carry out retrospective checks on existing employees who started work or required a follow-up check during these measures. This check should be marked as “the individual’s contract commenced on [insert date]. The prescribed right to work check was undertaken on [insert date] due to COVID-19.” If the check you have undertaken during the adjusted period was done in the prescribed manner, you do not need to undertake a retrospective check.

Right to Rent Checks

- Right to rent checks can be carried out over video calls; tenants can send scanned documents or a photo of documents for checks using email or a mobile app, rather than sending originals; and landlords should use the Landlord’s Checking Service if a prospective or existing tenant cannot provide any of the accepted documents. The check should be marked as “adjusted check undertaken on [insert date] due to COVID-19”. It remains an offence to knowingly lease premises to a person who is not lawfully in the UK. Within 8 weeks of these measures ending, landlords must carry out retrospective checks on existing tenants who started their tenancy or required a follow-up check during these measures. This check should be marked as “the individual’s tenancy agreement commenced on [insert date]. The prescribed right to rent check was undertaken on [insert date] due to COVID-19.” If the check you have undertaken during this period was done with original documentation, you do not need to undertake a retrospective check.

Extension/Conversion

- Applicants for a Global Talent visa whose endorsement from an endorsing body has expired due to coronavirus, may still be eligible for a visa if it was granted on or after 24 January 2020 and the visa application is submitted before 1 January 2021. Applications that do not meet these requirements will be considered on a case by case basis.
- Applicants for a Start-up visa or Innovator visa whose endorsement from an endorsing body has expired due to coronavirus, may still be eligible for a visa. All applications will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- Foreign nationals whose visa has expired between 24 January and 31 August who were not able to return home due to the coronavirus pandemic **can no longer request an extension of their visa on this basis**. Instead, they are expected either to leave the UK or apply to regularise their stay:
 - If their visa or leave expired between 24 January and 31 August, there will be no future adverse immigration consequences if they didn’t make an application to regularise their stay during this period. However, if they did not apply for an exceptional assurance by 31 August 2020, they must make arrangements to leave the UK
 - If they have a visa which expires between 1 September and 31 October and intend to leave the UK but have not been able to do so, they may request additional time to stay (known as “exceptional assurance”).
 - If they are granted ‘exceptional assurance’ it will act as a short-term protection against any adverse action or consequences after their leave has expired. If

conditions allowed them to work, study or rent accommodation they may continue to do so during the period of their exceptional assurance.

Exceptional assurance does not grant them leave.

- If they intend to stay in the UK, they should apply for the necessary leave to remain in the UK and will be able to submit an application form from within the UK rather than having to apply from their home country. They will have to meet all the requirements of the route they are applying for and pay the UK application fee. The terms of their leave will remain the same until their application is decided. They may be able to commence work or study if they are switching into these routes.
- If their visa or leave expires after 31 August they can submit an application form from within the UK rather than having to apply from their home country.
- Individuals will not be penalised for being unable to collect their biometric residence permits (BRPs) while COVID-19 measures are in place.
- More frontline workers, including midwives, radiographers, social workers and pharmacists, with visas due to expire before 1 October 2020 will receive an automatic one-year extension. It will apply to those working both in the NHS and independent sector and include their family members. Any NHS workers who have paid for an unresolved application will be offered the option of a refund
- Doctors, nurses and paramedics whose visa is due to expire before 1 October 2020, will have them automatically extended for one year, with no application, fee or Health Surcharge. This applies also to their family members.
- Holders of 30-day visas to travel to the UK for work, study or to join family which have expired, or are about to expire, can request a replacement visa with revised validity dates free of charge until the end of this year. This process will be in place until the end of 2020 but does not apply to other types of visa. Please contact a Newland Chase advisor for case-specific advice.
- Those who were not intending to apply to extend their leave and cannot leave the UK because of travel restrictions related to COVID-19 must submit a new online form. If eligible for an extension of leave, the Home Office will update their immigration records to reflect their circumstances.
- Those who already have leave in the UK and planned to extend their leave when it expires can continue to apply using the appropriate online application form.

UNITED STATES

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 14 September, the US government will remove requirements for all flights carrying passengers arriving from, or who have recently visited, certain countries to land at one of 15 designated airports, and will halt enhanced entry health screening for those passengers.
 - Currently, enhanced entry health screening is conducted for those arriving from, or with recent presence in, China (excluding the Special Administrative Regions of Hong Kong and Macau), Iran, the Schengen region of Europe, the United Kingdom (excluding overseas territories outside of Europe), Ireland, and Brazil.
- The US, Mexico, and Canada have each agreed to extend restrictions on non-essential travel across their shared borders until at least 21 September.

- The Department of State (DOS) has issued new *guidance* clarifying its interpretation of the national interest exceptions for H-1B and L-1 entry as follows:
 - **H-1B Specialty Occupation:**
 - For travel as a public health or healthcare professional, or researcher to alleviate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, or to conduct ongoing medical research in an area with a substantial public health benefit (e.g. cancer or communicable disease research). This includes those traveling to alleviate effects of the COVID-19 pandemic that may be a secondary effect of the pandemic (e.g., travel by a public health or healthcare professional, or researcher in an area of public health or healthcare that is not directly related to COVID-19, but which has been adversely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic).
 - Travel supported by a request from a U.S. government agency or entity to meet critical U.S. foreign policy objectives or to satisfy treaty or contractual obligations. This would include individuals, identified by the Department of Defense or another U.S. government agency, performing research, providing IT support/services, or engaging other similar projects essential to a U.S. government agency.
 - Travel by applicants seeking to resume ongoing employment in the United States in the same position with the same employer and visa classification. Forcing employers to replace employees in this situation may cause financial hardship. Consular officers can refer to Part II, Question 2 of the approved Form I-129 to determine if the applicant is continuing in “previously approved employment without change with the same employer.”
 - Travel by technical specialists, senior level managers, and other workers whose travel is necessary to facilitate the immediate and continued economic recovery of the United States. Consular officers may determine that an H-1B applicant falls into this category when at least two of the following five indicators are present:
 - The petitioning employer has a continued need for the services or labor to be performed by the H-1B nonimmigrant in the United States. Labor Condition Applications (LCAs) approved by DOL during or after July 2020 are more likely to account for the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the U.S. labor market and the petitioner’s business; therefore, this indicator is only present for cases with an LCA approved during or after July 2020 as there is an indication that the petitioner still has a need for the H-1B worker. For LCAs approved by DOL before July 2020, this indicator is only met if the consular officer is able to determine from the visa application the continuing need of petitioned workers with the U.S. employer. Regardless of when the LCA was approved, if an applicant is currently performing or is able to perform the essential functions of the position for the prospective employer remotely from outside the United States, then this indicator is not present.
 - The applicant’s proposed job duties or position within the petitioning company indicate the individual will provide significant and unique contributions to an employer meeting a critical infrastructure need. Critical infrastructure sectors are chemical, communications, dams, defense industrial base,

emergency services, energy, financial services, food and agriculture, government facilities, healthcare and public health, information technology, nuclear reactors, transportation, and water systems. Employment in a critical infrastructure sector alone is not sufficient; the consular officers must establish that the applicant holds one of the two types of positions noted below:

- Senior level placement within the petitioning organization or job duties reflecting performance of functions that are both unique and vital to the management and success of the overall business enterprise; OR
 - The applicant's proposed job duties and specialized qualifications indicate the individual will provide significant and unique contributions to the petitioning company.
 - The wage rate paid to the H-1B applicant meaningfully exceeds the prevailing wage rate by at least 15 percent (see Part F, Questions 10 and 11 of the LCA) by at least 15 percent. When an H-1B applicant will receive a wage that meaningfully exceeds the prevailing wage, it suggests that the employee fills an important business need where an American worker is not available.
 - The H-1B applicant's education, training and/or experience demonstrate unusual expertise in the specialty occupation in which the applicant will be employed. For example, an H-1B applicant with a doctorate or professional degree, or many years of relevant work experience, may have such advanced expertise in the relevant occupation as to make it more likely that he or she will perform critically important work for the petitioning employer.
 - Denial of the visa pursuant to P.P. 10052 will cause financial hardship to the U.S. employer. The following examples, to be assessed based on information from the visa application, are illustrative of what may constitute a financial hardship for an employer if a visa is denied: the employer's inability to meet financial or contractual obligations; the employer's inability to continue its business; or a delay or other impediment to the employer's ability to return to its pre-COVID-19 level of operations.
- **L-1A Intracompany Transferee (Executive/Manager):**
 - Travel as a public health or healthcare professional, or researcher to alleviate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, or to conduct ongoing medical research in an area with a substantial public health benefit. This includes those traveling to alleviate effects of the COVID-19 pandemic that may be a secondary effect of the pandemic.
 - Travel based on a request from a U.S. government agency or entity to meet critical foreign policy objectives or satisfy treaty or contractual obligations. An example of this would be supporting U.S. military base construction or IT infrastructure.
 - Travel by applicants seeking to resume ongoing employment in the United States in the same position with the same employer and visa

- classification. Forcing employers to replace employees in this situation may cause undue financial hardship.
- Travel by a senior level executive or manager filling a critical business need of an employer meeting a critical infrastructure need. Critical infrastructure sectors include chemical, communications, dams, defense industrial base, emergency services, energy, financial services, food and agriculture, government facilities, healthcare and public health, information technology, nuclear reactors, transportation, and water systems. An L-1A applicant falls into this category when at least two of the following three indicators are present AND the L-1A applicant is not seeking to establish a new office in the United States:
 - Will be a senior-level executive or manager;
 - Has spent multiple years with the company overseas, indicating a substantial knowledge and expertise within the organization that can only be replicated by a new employee within the company following extensive training that would cause the employer financial hardship; or
 - Will fill a critical business need for a company meeting a critical infrastructure need.
 - L-1A applicants seeking to establish a new office in the United States likely do NOT fall into this category, unless two of the three criteria are met AND the new office will employ, directly or indirectly, five or more U.S. workers.
 - L-1B Intracompany Transferee (Specialized Knowledge)
 - Travel as a public health or healthcare professional, or researcher to alleviate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, or to conduct ongoing medical research in an area with a substantial public health benefit. This includes those traveling to alleviate effects of the COVID-19 pandemic that may be a secondary effect of the pandemic.
 - Travel based on a request from a U.S. government agency or entity to meet critical foreign policy objectives or satisfy treaty or contractual obligations. An example of this would be supporting U.S. military base construction or IT infrastructure.
 - Travel by applicants seeking to resume ongoing employment in the United States in the same position with the same employer and visa classification. Forcing employers to replace employees in this situation may cause undue financial hardship.
 - Travel as a technical expert or specialist meeting a critical infrastructure need. The consular officer may determine that an L-1B applicant falls into this category if all three of the following indicators are present:
 - The applicant's proposed job duties and specialized knowledge indicate the individual will provide significant and unique contributions to the petitioning company;
 - The applicant's specialized knowledge is specifically related to a critical infrastructure need; AND
 - The applicant has spent multiple years with the company overseas, indicating a substantial knowledge and expertise within the organization that can only be replicated by a new employee within the company following extensive training that would cause the employer financial hardship.

- On 6 August, the Department of State (DOS) lifted the Global Level 4 Health Advisory, initially implemented on 19 March, which advised US citizens to avoid all international travel due to COVID-19. The Department has returned to its previous system of country-specific travel advice levels. Many countries remain at Level 4 (Do Not Travel), including Brazil, China, India, Mexico and Russia. [See the advisories here.](#)
- Effective 15 July, certain additional categories of business travellers (B-1), investors (E-2), academics (J-1) and students (F-1 and M-1), who are applying for or have valid visas or ESTAs, may qualify for National Interest Exceptions from the UK/Ireland/Schengen travel bans, at the discretion of the consulate of application.
 - Students traveling from the Schengen Area, the UK, and Ireland who already hold valid F-1 and M-1 visas do not need to seek a national interest exception to travel.
 - Only F-1/M-1 students who do not already hold a valid visa, J-1 researchers, E-2 investors, or B-1 business travellers can even apply for the NIE exception from the UK/Ireland/Schengen travel ban.
 - Qualifying business travellers *may* include technical experts and specialists, senior-level managers and executives, investors and treaty traders.
 - Although travellers approved for an NIE exception will be issued full validity visas, unless the traveller is a student or academic researcher, the exception is valid only for 30 days from the date of approval and is valid only for a single entry to the United States. An individual who departs the United States and wishes to return must be re-assessed for a national interest exception (if not a student or academic researcher).
 - Even once a visa is issued pursuant to the NIE exception (or for those who already hold valid visas or ESTA authorizations, entry is authorized), admission remains subject to a determination by Customs and Border Protection officers at ports of entry and that they may be subject to a 14-day quarantine upon arrival. DHS requires travellers using a NIE waiver to fly into one of 15 specifically designated airports.
- US Immigration Customs and Enforcement (ICE) has agreed to rescind its 6 June policy prohibiting foreign students in F-1 or M-1 status from participating in learning programmes which are conducted entirely online for the Autumn 2020 semester. The announcement came in a hearing in a lawsuit filed by Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology against the restrictive ICE policy.
- Beginning 15 July, US embassies and consulates may begin a phased resumption of routine visa services, depending on local conditions. Restrictions on visa issuance and entry remain in effect.
- On 29 June, a new [presidential proclamation](#) amended the proclamation of 24 June to exempt only those who hold valid visas in the same restricted category pursuant to which they are seeking entry. The proclamation of 24 June did not explicitly exclude someone seeking a visa in a restricted category from entering the US with an unrestricted visa.
- US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) has confirmed that Canadian nationals entering as H, L or J nonimmigrants are exempt from the expanded travel ban, because Canadians are visa exempt. Guidance has been provided to local CBP ports of entry on this issue.
- [Effective 24 June](#), the suspension of entry for first-time **immigrant** visa applicants is extended until 31 December and also, as anticipated, extended to include foreign workers seeking to enter the US pursuant to certain **nonimmigrant** visa categories,

who do not already hold valid visa stamps in their passports in **the same restricted visa category** pursuant to which they are seeking to enter the US.

- These categories now include **H-1B** (and dependent family members), **H-2B** (and dependent family members), **J-1** (intern, trainee, teacher, camp counsellor, au pair or summer work travel program) (and dependent family members), and **L-1** (and dependent family members), with limited exceptions.
- The **limited exceptions** may include the following: foreign national who is the spouse or child of a United States citizen; foreign worker whose entry into the US would be in the national interest as determined by the Secretary of State, Secretary of Homeland Security, or their respective designees; any foreign worker seeking to enter the US to provide temporary labor or services essential to the United States food supply chain; and any lawful permanent resident of the United States.
- **The following are not impacted:**
 - Foreign workers (and accompanying dependent family members) that seek admission into the United States in visa classifications other than H-1B, H-2B, J-1 and L-1 such as E-1, E-2, E-3, O-1, P, TN (Canadian and Mexican).
 - J-1 categories including college and university student, physician, professor, research scholar, secondary school student, short-term scholar, and specialist.
 - Foreign workers, including those in H-1B, H-2B, J-1 and L-1 status and their dependent family members may still continue to seek extensions of status and/or applications to change status in the United States through the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS).
 - The filing and processing of US permanent resident applications (i.e. Application to Adjust Status) have not been impacted by this Proclamation; USCIS may continue to process such applications filed by foreign workers in the US.
 - While news reports had mentioned a possible impact on foreign workers that have H-4 EAD cards, the H-4 EAD work authorization was not specifically affected by the Proclamation although such H-4 workers without a valid visa will be prohibited from entering the US.
- Some visa application centres have resumed passport pass back services.
- Entry is suspended for certain Chinese nationals seeking to enter the United States on an F (student) or J (exchange visitor) visa to pursue graduate-level study or conduct research in the US, if they have ties to entities in the PRC that support or implement China's military-civil fusion (MCF) strategy. The president's 29 May proclamation of this suspension also gives the Secretary of State discretion to revoke the F or J visas of certain Chinese nationals currently in the US who otherwise meet the criteria for suspension of entry, invalidating their visa stamp for future entry to the US. Chinese nationals in the US with F or J status and planning to depart, and those considering applying for F or J visas, should consult with program sponsors and/or immigration counsel before departing the US.
- Entry as immigrants or nonimmigrants is suspended for travellers of any nationality who have been in Brazil, UK, Ireland, the Schengen countries, Iran or China in the previous 14 days (even if the traveller only transited through these countries). This does not apply to US citizens or permanent residents (green card holders) or their family members, or to C (transit) or D (sea crewmember) nonimmigrants.

- US citizens who have been in Hubei province within 14 days of their return will be subject to up to 14 days of mandatory quarantine.
- US citizens who have been in other areas of mainland China within 14 days of their return will undergo proactive entry health screening and up to 14 days of self-quarantine with health monitoring.
- Effective 15 July, entry is permitted to **Puerto Rico** for foreign nationals.
 - All arrivals are subject to enhanced health screenings and must present a negative COVID-19 test result taken within 72 hours of arrival.
 - Travellers without the required documentation will be tested at the airport and must remain in quarantine at the traveller's expense while awaiting results.
 - Travellers without the required documentation and who refuse to take a test will be subject to a mandatory 14-day self-quarantine at the traveller's expense.
 - Travellers who test positive for COVID-19 will be subject to a mandatory 14-day self-quarantine at the traveller's expense.

Immigration Restrictions

- USCIS has cancelled the scheduled furlough of more than 13,000 employees (70% of its workforce, thanks to a combination of cost-cutting measures and an unexpected increase in fee revenue. However, USCIS warned that the operational impact of its spending cuts could mean longer waiting times, continued backlogs and a possible furlough in Fiscal Year 2021.
- CBP has postponed the previously announced reopening of Trusted Traveler Programs Enrolment Centers until at least 8 September.
 - Trusted Traveler Programs applicants who scheduled interviews at enrolment centres on or before 7 September must reschedule their appointments on or after 8 September by logging into their Trusted Traveler Programs account and using the [*online scheduling tool*](#).
 - Each applicant now has 545 days from the date that CBP conditionally approves his or her application to complete the enrolment process. In addition, CBP will extend for up to 18 months the Trusted Traveler Program benefits of members who apply for renewal before their current membership expires.
 - CBP's Enrolment on Arrival program remains operational. This program is the best option for conditionally approved Global Entry applicants to complete the enrolment process without pre-scheduling an interview at an enrolment center.
- USCIS is reopening some domestic offices, including the local offices that process asylum claims, permanent resident and naturalization interviews, InfoPass appointments, and biometrics processing. USCIS has announced that they will send notices to individuals and their attorneys when previously cancelled appointments have been rescheduled.
- Routine visa services in most countries are suspended until further notice. All routine immigrant and nonimmigrant visa appointments in most countries worldwide are cancelled. MRV fees remain valid for a visa appointment in the country where it was paid within one year of the date of payment.

Immigration Concessions

- When completing Form I-9, employers are permitted to temporarily (until 1 December 2020) accept as a valid List C#7 document a Form I-797 Notice of Action with a notice date on or after 1 December 2019 until 20 August 2020 inclusive, that informs an applicant of approval of an Application for Employment Authorisation (Form I-765), in lieu of a physical EAD card.
 - Ordinarily, an I-797 approval notice is not considered an acceptable document for Form I-9 purposes. These approval notices are NOT acceptable as a List A or List B document.
 - At the time of Form I-9 completion, new employees who chose to present a qualifying Form I-797 approval notice as a List C document must also present a List B document from the List of Acceptable Documents. as evidence of identity.
 - By 1 December, employers are required to reverify employees who presented approval notices as List C documents pursuant to this special provision. At the time of this reverification, the employee should provide the actual EAD card or new evidence of his or her choice from List A or List C (List B documents are never reverified).
 - On 19 August, in response to a lawsuit challenging the delayed production and delivery of Employment Authorization Document (EAD) cards, US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) this special provision.
- I-9 Employment Eligibility Verification concessions:
 - The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has extended until 19 September its temporary deferral of the physical presence requirements associated with Employment Eligibility Verification (Form I-9) for employers who have transitioned to telework only for their workforce. This exception will not apply for employers for whom there are any employees physically present at a work location.
 - Employers who were served notices of inspection (NOIs) by ICE during the month of March 2020 and had not already responded were granted an automatic extension for 60 days from the effective date. ICE will grant an additional extension of 30 days to these employers. This will be the final extension relative to NOIs served by ICE during the month of March 2020.
 - Employers may accept documents (e.g., driver's licence) that expired on or after 1 March 2020 and have not been automatically extended by the issuing agency, to satisfy List B identity verification requirements for Form I-9 Employment Eligibility Verification. Within 90 days after DHS's termination of this temporary policy, the employee must present either the renewed document or another acceptable List A or List B document to verify identity in order to continue working lawfully. Expired List B documents that have been automatically extended by the issuing agency can be accepted as currently valid for I-9 verification. For these automatically extended documents, the employee is not required to later present a valid unexpired List B document.
- USCIS will consider any response submitted within 60 calendar days after the response deadline to a request for evidence (RFE), notice of intent to deny (NOID), Notices of Intent to Revoke (NOIR), Notices of Intent to Terminate (NOIT), Continuations to Request Evidence (N-14) or filing date requirements for Form I-290B, Notice of Appeal or Motion dated between 1 March and 11 September.
- USCIS will consider a Form N-336 or Form I-290B received up to 60 calendar days from the date of the decision before any action is taken. If an agency request is dated prior to 1 March, applicants and petitioners must respond by the specified deadline.

- USCIS continues to accept and process applications for extension of stay (EOS) and Change of Status (COS), and many online forms are available. Where applicable, employment authorization with the same employer, subject to the same terms and conditions of the prior approval, is automatically extended for up to 240 days after I-94 expiration when an extension of stay request is filed on time.
- If a petitioner or applicant files an extension of stay or change of status request (on Forms I-129 or I-539) after the authorized period of admission expires, USCIS, in its discretion, may excuse the failure to file on time if it was due to extraordinary circumstances beyond their control, such as those that may be caused by COVID-19. The length of delay must be commensurate with the circumstances. The petitioner or applicant must submit credible evidence to support their request, which USCIS will evaluate on a case-by-case basis.
- Visa Waiver Program (VWP) entrants are not eligible to extend their stay or change status. However, under current regulations, if an emergency (such as COVID-19) prevents the departure of a VWP entrant, USCIS in its discretion may grant a period of satisfactory departure for up to 30 days. During the COVID-19 crisis, USCIS has temporarily delegated this authority to U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) at the various international airports. For those VWP entrants already granted satisfactory departure and unable to depart within this 30-day period because of COVID-19 related issues, CBP has the authority to temporarily provide one additional 30-day period of satisfactory departure. To request satisfactory departure from USCIS, a VWP entrant should contact the Deferred Inspection office at the airport where they entered the United States.
- Biometrics are required for some immigration benefits such as Employment Authorization, extension of status, and adjustment of status. During the COVID-19 pandemic, USCIS may reuse previously submitted biometrics in order to process these immigration benefits due to the temporary closure of Application Support Centers (ASC).
- USCIS will temporarily accept certain benefit forms (including Form I-129) with copies of original, "wet" signatures dated after 21 March. USCIS normally requires an original, handwritten signature on a number of forms, including the Form I-129, Petition for Nonimmigrant Worker. Allowing scans, photocopies, faxes or similar reproductions of the original document will reduce the required exchange of hard copy documents and support the telework arrangements currently being adopted by many employers. The original, signed documents must nevertheless be maintained as USCIS may request these at its discretion at any time during the adjudication of the case. Failure to produce the requested originals could "negatively impact the adjudication of the immigration benefit" which would cause a denial of the petition or application.
- The US Department of Labor's (DOL) Office of Foreign Labor Certification (OFLC) remains fully operational during the federal government's maximum telework flexibilities operating status - including the National Processing Centers (NPCs), PERM System, and Foreign Labor Application Gateway (FLAG) System. OFLC continues to process and issue prevailing wage determinations and labor certifications that meet all statutory and regulatory requirements. If employers are unable to meet all statutory and regulatory requirements, OFLC will not grant labor certification for the application.

URUGUAY

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 18 August, entry is permitted for citizens the European Union.
- Effective 6 July, all arrivals must present a negative PCR-RT test result, carried out up to 72 hours before entering Uruguay at a duly accredited and authorised laboratory in the country of origin or transit and must undergo a 14-day quarantine. The traveller must carry out a new PCR test on the seventh day. All arrivals must also present health insurance issued in the country of origin and a health declaration.
- Foreign nationals are now permitted to apply for work visas valid for 180 days (Provisional Identity Sheet) for urgent work activities.
- The borders with Brazil and Argentina are closed.
- Entry is suspended for all foreign travellers, except for foreign residents.
- All international arrivals are subject to a mandatory 14-day quarantine.

UZBEKISTAN

Entry Restrictions

- Certain international flights will resume from 15 June, with restrictions depending on the epidemic situation in the country of origin
- Uzbekistani citizens and permanent residents will be permitted to enter and exit the country.

VENEZUELA

Entry Restrictions

- Borders remain closed until further notice.

Immigration Restrictions

- Immigration offices remain closed and all processes suspended. Requests for police clearance certificates and apostille appointments can be managed online. Appointments will be scheduled for after the quarantine is lifted.

VIETNAM

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 18 September, Vietnam Airlines will resume international commercial flights **from Vietnam** (Hanoi and HCMC) to Tokyo, Japan. Additional flights to Japan are to follow on 25 and 30 September. Regular flights from the approved airports **into Vietnam** will not become available until 25 October at the earliest.
- From 15 September, flights are **permitted** between Vietnam and Guangzhou (China), Taipei (Taiwan), Seoul (South Korea), and Tokyo (Japan).

- From 22 September, flights are permitted between Vietnam and Phnom Penh (Cambodia) and Vientiane (Laos).
 - The maximum number of flights on each route is initially two per week.
 - Permitted travellers include experts, investors, business managers, high-tech workers and their family members; and Vietnamese citizens returning home.
 - Travellers must still obtain special entry permission and arrange quarantine at an approved hotel or government facility.
 - Arriving travellers must present a negative PCR test result issued within 72 hours prior to travel **and** are subject to a COVID-19 PCR test on arrival and government quarantine period of 14 days.
 - If a second test after arrival is negative, the government quarantine period may be shortened to five days, but travellers are then subject to self-quarantine for the remainder of the 14 days. Any plans to work, attend business meetings with others or other travel during the remainder of the 14 days must be approved by the health department.
 - Travellers who are transiting via one of the approved airports but originated elsewhere do not qualify for the reduced quarantine.
 - Travellers must install the “Bluezone” contact tracing app.
 - Travellers staying for fewer than 14 days are exempt from quarantine.
- On 14 September, the HCMC Department of Health announced minor changes to the special entry approval application process and quarantine designation process. The changes have not yet been fully implemented and only apply to HCMC:
 - A quarantine plan must be submitted to the Labour Department along with the Entry Labour Demand application;
 - A quarantine location and travel plan must still be registered with the International Health Quarantine Centre (IHQC) of HCMC, but only after the Special Entry Visa Approval Letter and Entry Demand Report Letter have been issued (rather than simultaneously with the Special Entry Visa Approval Letter application, as currently) and no Quarantine Approval Letter will be issued by the IHQC.
- On 31 August, the Ministry of Health issued a new guideline for short-term business travellers entering Vietnam for less than 14 days. This new guideline would allow the short-term traveller to avoid the normal 14-day quarantine and instead allow them (with strict supervision), to perform specific meetings and tasks outside of their quarantine hotel.
 - Any movement outside of the hotel must be arranged, approved, and overseen by Provincial centres for disease control and prevention (CDC). Further, short term travellers must still make a reservation at one of the designated quarantine hotels and are not allowed to travel freely during their stay in Vietnam.
 - As of today, after consultation with the Hanoi and HCMC centres for disease control and prevention, it remains uncertain whether the centres will approve all requests for meetings outside the quarantine hotel, what the criteria are for decision making, under which conditions the traveller may meet with others, and how long it will take to receive approvals. There is still much to finalize on the authorities’ side regarding how this will work on the ground and we are awaiting further clarification.
- Employers need to request special entry approval from the local authorities for foreign national assignees and business travellers to Vietnam (foreign investors, business managers, experts, specialists, and highly-skilled workers) along with

accompanying dependents. Organizations inviting foreign nationals to work in Vietnam must ensure the following:

- Foreign experts are tested for coronavirus by RT-PCR test three to seven days before arrival, in a government- or WHO-approved laboratory;
- Foreign experts have international health insurance, or the inviting organisation commits to paying for treatment in the event of coronavirus infection;
- Precautions for COVID-19 prevention and control are taken.
- A 14-day quarantine in designated accommodation is required.
- Pre-approval letter for visa on arrival is again available for all foreign experts, specialists, managers and technicians authorized to enter Vietnam.
- The visa exemption scheme remains suspended for all foreign nationals. Travellers need an immigration approval and a visa sponsored by their host company.
- Visa renewal and work permit applications, processing and issuance for all foreign nationals has resumed.
- All authorized international arrivals must undergo a mandatory health check and be quarantined for 14 days in a designated hotel, resort or quarantine zone, at their own expense, with ongoing health monitoring tests during quarantine.
- For foreign experts, investors, managers and diplomats staying less than 14 days the 14-day quarantine may be waived. However, all special entry processes and approvals apply. Travellers must also stay at one of the designated hotels for quarantine purposes and are subject to strict control of movement and transportation exclusively for work purposes, and must provide a list of people met, workplace locations, and a detailed agenda.

Immigration Restrictions

- Companies and organisations can once again seek authorisation for foreign investors, business managers, experts, specialists and highly-skilled workers to enter Vietnam for work purposes. Employers should submit a request to their provincial labour office before a specific date (depends on the province) using a standard request letter and a form for reporting various employee details. All authorised international arrivals must undergo a mandatory pre-departure COVID-19 test and be quarantined for 14 days in a designated hotel, resort or quarantine zone, with ongoing health monitoring tests during quarantine.
- Immigration departments/bureau have reopened.
- New and renewal work permit applications are being accepted for all applicants who are currently in Vietnam and in all provinces. Work permit applications for those who have not yet arrived is also accepted in some but not all provinces (i.e. HCMC, Binh Duong require the original passport of the applicant). Additional documents may be required.
- Work Permit applicants must conduct a medical check at an authorized hospital. If the required medical check was conducted before 11 February, the applicant needs to obtain a health declaration report from Pasteur Institute in HCMC or redo the medical check at an authorized hospital.

Immigration Concessions

- Vietnam's Ministry of Public Security has extended the automatic extension of temporary stay for foreign nationals in certain qualifying groups with plans to depart Vietnam:

- Vietnam currently provides an automatic extension of temporary stay until 30 September 2020 for foreign nationals who entered Vietnam with a visa exemption certificate, e-visa, or tourist visa on or after 1 March 2020 and who intend to depart Vietnam by 30 September 2020). Individuals in this qualifying group may exit Vietnam during this period without having to apply for an extension of stay.
- For foreign nationals who entered Vietnam before 1 March 2020, foreign embassies and consulate may issue exit letters in support applicants who can present concrete plans to exit Vietnam by 30 September.

ZAMBIA

Entry Restrictions

- The issuance of all tourist visas is suspended until further notice.
- Travellers arriving without a visitor visa intending to apply for a visitor visa on arrival will not be permitted entry.
- Entry to holders of non-tourist visas or permits is subject to a health screening and approval of health officials at the port of entry.
- All travellers are required to present a negative COVID-19 PCR test result issued no more than 14 days prior to travel.
- All arrivals are subject to a 14-day home quarantine with testing and regular monitoring.

ZIMBABWE

Entry Restrictions

- Entry is suspended for all foreign nationals. Zimbabwean citizens and residents are exempt.

HOW CAN WE HELP?

Newland Chase's immigration advisors around the world are here to help you. Contact us to schedule your free 30-minute consultation:

<https://resources.newlandchase.com/COVID-19-Corporate-Immigration-Consultation>