CIBTvisas

Newland Chase
A CIBT COMPANY

3 MARCH 2021

COVID-19 TRAVEL AND IMMIGRATION UPDATES

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COVID-19: TRAVEL AND IMMIGRATION DISRUPTION [UPDATED 3 MARCH 2021]

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.

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CHANGE LOG

- ***3 March 2021: China, Hungary, Israel, Japan, Norway, Russia, Taiwan.***
- ***2 March 2021: Moldova, Pakistan, Spain.***
- ***1 March 2021: Argentina, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Germany, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Peru, Philippines, Slovenia, Switzerland, Taiwan, United Kingdom.***
- ***26 February 2021: China, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Macau, Norway.***
- ***25 February 2021: Australia, Israel, Switzerland, Taiwan, United Arab Emirates.***
- ***24 February 2021: Belgium, Czech Republic, Norway, Oman, Philippines, Spain, Taiwan.***
- ***23 February 2021: Australia, Austria, Finland, France, Kuwait, Norway,***
- ***22 February 2021: Canada, China, Germany, Greece, Kuwait, Lithuania, Mexico, Norway, Qatar, Russia, Taiwan, United Arab Emirates, United States.***
- ***19 February 2021: Argentina, Canada, Japan, Jordan, Latvia, New Zealand, Slovenia, Spain, United Arab Emirates.***
- ***18 February 2021: Bahrain, Kuwait, India, Israel, United Arab Emirates***
- ***17 February 2021: Cyprus, Iceland, Italy, Lithuania, Moldova, Russia, Spain.***
- ***16 February 2021: Australia, Germany, Greece, Mexico, Panama.***
- ***15 February 2021: Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Oman, Peru, Slovakia, Slovenia, Switzerland, Uzbekistan.***
- ***12 February 2021: Estonia, Germany, Ireland, Japan, Kazakhstan.***
- ***11 February 2021: Austria, Czech Republic, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Norway, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Russia, Spain.***
- ***10 February 2021: Canada, Singapore.***
- ***9 February 2021: France, Indonesia, Japan.***
- ***8 February 2021: Austria, Denmark, Estonia, Greece, Israel, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Philippines, Slovenia, United Kingdom.***
- ***5 February 2021: France, Germany, Russia, United Kingdom***
- ***4 February 2021: Chile, Kuwait, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, Sweden.***
- ***3 February 2021: Barbados, Ghana, Japan, Singapore.***
- ***2 February 2021: Austria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Japan, Nepal, Panama, Russia, Uruguay, Vietnam.***
- ***1 February 2021: Argentina, Australia, Canada, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kuwait, Peru, Philippines, Russia, Singapore, South Korea.***
- ***29 January 2021: Germany, Estonia, Japan, Latvia, Moldova, Slovenia, Switzerland, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States.***
- ***28 January 2021: China, European Union, Hong Kong, Japan, Norway, Slovakia, South Korea, Spain, Turkey.***
- ***27 January 2021: Angola, Finland, Germany, Japan, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mauritius, Philippines, United States.***
- ***26 January 2021: Aruba, Indonesia, Poland, United States.***
- ***25 January 2021: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Israel, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Netherlands, Norway, Philippines, Slovenia, Sweden.***

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EUROPEAN UNION

- The European Union countries have agreed on a coordinated approach to travel measures and developed common criteria for measuring risk.
    - Based on data provided weekly by member states, the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) will publish a weekly map of EU member states, broken down by regions, marked in the following colours:
        - **Green**: if the 14-day notification rate is lower than 25 and the test positivity rate below 4%
        - **Orange:** if the 14-day notification rate is lower than 50 but the test positivity rate is 4% or higher or, if the 14-day notification rate is between 25 and150 and the test positivity rate is below 4%
        - **Red:** if the 14-day notification rate is 50 or higher and the test positivity rate is 4% or higher or if the 14-day notification rate is higher than 150
        - **Grey:** if there is insufficient information or if the testing rate is lower than 300.
    - Travellers from other EU countries should not be refused entry but could be asked to submit passenger locator forms.
    - **Green areas:**
        - no restriction of free movement of persons can be applied.
    - **Orange and red areas:**
        - restrictions to free movement of persons could be applied;
        - possible requirements for travellers: quarantine/self-isolation, COVID19 testing after arrival or prior to arrival;
        - measures should take into account the epidemiological situation in their own territory;
        - inform other affected EU countries 48 hours before applying measures.
    - There should be exceptions from any quarantine requirement for travellers with essential function or need while performing that function.
    - Member states should inform the public at least 24 hours in advance of introducing any new measures.
- 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.
    - ***The United Kingdom has not been added to the list*** of third countries for which the European Council recommends that travel restrictions should be lifted.
    - Uruguay has been removed from the list of third countries for which the European Council recommends that travel restrictions should be lifted.
    - Based on the criteria and conditions set out in the latest recommendation (effective 28 January 2021), member states should start lifting the travel restrictions at the external borders for residents of the following third countries: Australia, ~~**Japan**~~, New Zealand, Rwanda, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand (and China, Hong Kong, Macau 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

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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/EFTA 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.
- EU citizens, citizens of the Schengen states, nationals of San Marino, Andorra, Monaco and Vatican 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.

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- 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

- The suspension of flights to and from the United Kingdom is extended until 1 February 2021.
    - Travellers arriving from the UK by air, land or sea are required to quarantine for 14 days.
- Commercial flights have resumed between Tirana and certain countries. 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, Kosovo, North Macedonia and Greece have reopened. The land border with Montenegro remains closed.

ALGERIA

Entry Restrictions

- All borders are closed until the end of the pandemic.
- Entry is permitted for returning Algerian citizens, foreign nationals with diplomatic visas and employees of foreign companies operating in Algeria. Prior authorisation must first be obtained from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- All travellers to Algeria must quarantine for 14 days.
- 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.

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ANGOLA

Entry Restrictions

- Some international flights have resumed. Land and sea borders remain suspended.
- Entry is suspended from Australia, Brazil, Nigeria, Portugal, South Africa and the United Kingdom.
- Entry is permitted for:
    - Return to national territory of national citizens and foreign citizens residing in Angola;
    - Entry of foreign professionals who provide services in Angola, both to public and private entities;
    - Entry of foreign citizens with a work visa;
    - Return of foreign citizens to their respective countries;
    - Official trips to and from the national territory;
    - Entry and exit of cargo, goods and postal parcels;
    - Humanitarian aid;
    - Medical emergencies;
    - Technical Shifts / Rotations;
    - Entry and exit of diplomatic and consular personnel.
- Arriving travellers will be required:
    - to complete and sign a *travel registration form* (FRV) up to 72 hours before travel;
    - to present a negative result from a COVID-19 PCR test taken within 72 hours of travel;
    - to undergo 10-day quarantine or self-quarantine.
- For national citizens, foreign residents and members of the diplomatic corps accredited in Angola, coming from outside the country and who do not test positive for COVID-9 in the pre-departure test, compliance with home quarantine is mandatory.
- For non-resident foreign nationals coming from abroad, observance of home quarantine is mandatory, unless the health authorities consider otherwise.
- A discharge certificate after a negative COVID-19 PCR test is required to end quarantine.

Immigration Concessions

- The Ministry of Interior has extended the validity of the following documents which have expired since 28 February 2020, until 28 February 2021:
    - Tourist visas held by foreign nationals;
    - Residence permits, temporary stay visas, work visas, study visas, investor visas and refugee cards.

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ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

Entry Restrictions

- Arriving air passengers (including transit passengers) above the age of 12 years must present a negative result of a COVID-19 RT-PCR test taken within 7 days of their flight.
- All arrivals must complete a health declaration and passenger registration and will be subject to screening and temperature checks on arrival.
- All arrivals who have spent at least the last 14 consecutive days in Travel Bubble countries are subject to testing but are not subject to a mandatory 14-day quarantine.
    - Travel bubble countries include Anguilla, Barbados, British Virgin Islands, Dominica, Grenada, Montserrat, St Kitts and Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines.
- All other arrivals are subject to quarantine for up to 14 days and may be subject to COVID-19 testing

ARGENTINA

Entry Restrictions

- The suspension of entry for most non-residents, the suspension of consular services and the suspension of in-country immigration and registry services are extended until 12 March 2021.
- The entry of foreign tourists (i.e. non-residents) from neighbouring countries (Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay) is suspended.
- Regular international flights are permitted, with the exception of flight to and from the UK.
- Entry is permitted for:
    - Citizens and foreign residents of Argentina:
        - Complete online Affidavit (DDJJ), available at the Immigration Office's website (*http://ddjj.migraciones.gob.ar/app/*), within 48 hours prior to boarding (see additional **note** below).
        - Present negative result of a COVID-19 PCR test (taken no more than 72 hours prior to boarding).
        - 7-day self-isolation.
    - Foreign nationals with direct family members in Argentina who are citizens or residents of Argentina:
        - They must enter Argentina via Ezeiza International Airport, San Fernando International Airport, Buquebus (ferry) Maritime Terminal in Buenos Aires, and certain international border crossings.
        - They may carry out procedures at either an Argentinean consulate abroad or the immigration office in-country.

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- **Consulate**: "Visa for Family Reunion". It costs between 550 and 850 USD and enables the foreign national to apply for a Permanent Residence Permit (i.e. with no expiration date) for Argentina. Steps:
  - Present a Birth Certificate, Marriage Certificate, Cohabitation or Coexistence Union Certificate (as appropriate), duly apostilled or legalized, to prove the direct relationship with an Argentinean National or Resident + Copy of the Argentinean DNI (ID Card) of the relative.
  - The Ministry of Foreign Affairs will give intervention to the Ministry of Health and the Immigration Office to authorize the entry.
  - Complete online Affidavit (DDJJ), available at the Immigration Office's website (http://ddjj.migraciones.gob.ar/app/), within 48 hours prior to boarding, adding proof of a negative COVID-19 PCR test (no more than 72 hours prior to boarding) (see additional note below).
  - Present physical PCR negative test document at the time of boarding. Otherwise, they will not be able to board the flight.
  - 7-day self-isolation.

- **Immigration Office**: This procedure does not grant Residence Permit. It costs 9,000 Argentine:
  - Present to the airline a Birth Certificate, Marriage Certificate, Cohabitation or Coexistence Union Certificate (as appropriate), duly apostilled or legalized, to prove the direct relationship with an Argentinean National or Resident + Copy of the Argentinean DNI (ID Card) of the relative + Flight itinerary.
  - Submit a request letter to the airline briefly explaining the need for the visit, entry and return dates, and place where they will stay in Argentina.
  - Complete online Affidavit (DDJJ), available at the Immigration Office's website (http://ddjj.migraciones.gob.ar/app/), within 48 hours prior to boarding, adding proof of a negative COVID-19 PCR test (no more than 72 hours prior to boarding) + Covid-19 medical insurance (see additional note below).
  - Present physical PCR negative test + Covid-19 medical insurance documents at the time of boarding. Otherwise, they will not be able to board the flight.
  - 7-day self-isolation.

- Those who are not listed above must apply at a consular post for a Special Entry Permit for nonresident performing essential activities (as detailed in Decree NUD 297/2020 dated March 19th, 2020). Approval of this Special Entry Permit may take 1 month.

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- The Ministry of Transport has established the resumption of commercial domestic air transport services. At this stage, only persons considered "essential" who possess the Unique Enabling Certificate for Circulation may travel, while operators must have protocols and procedures developed according to the recommendations of the Ministry of Health. Both the control of the implementations, as well as the approval of the time schedules in accordance with the provincial authorities, will be the responsibility of the Argentine Civil Air Navigation Administration (ANAC).
- Non-essential domestic travel is not yet permitted, so foreign visitors without a current Resident Permit are **limited to the Buenos Aires area**.
- All arrivals in Argentina are required to download an app developed by the Ministry of Health for a quick check related to COVID-19 symptoms.
- Those who are exiting the country are also required to complete online Affidavit (DDJJ), available at the Immigration Office's website (*http://ddjj.migraciones.gob.ar/app/*), within 48 hours prior to boarding. **Note:** In the case of minors or people with disabilities preventing them completing the form, a parent or guardian must complete the form on their behalf. People over 70 years of age are exempt from the obligation to perform the DDJJ electronically.

Immigration Restrictions

- The mandatory social distancing rules are in force until 12 March 2021. Consequently, the suspension of entry for most 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 12 March 2021.
- Normal consular visa services for foreign nationals are suspended until at least 12 March 2021.
- Government agencies including the Immigration Office and the Registry Office have gradually been reopened. However, some applications with an appointment scheduled beforehand are allowed only.
- The extension of temporary residences can be requested online.
    - Once documentation is uploaded onto the immigration platform, authorities issue the Certificate of Residencia Precaria 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 2020 onwards are now automatically extended ***until 17 March 2021.*** Foreign nationals in this situation will not be penalised since existing interviews will be rescheduled.
- The Immigration Office Corporate Registry (known as "RENURE" = Registro Nacional Único de Requirentes Extranjeros) has allowed the submission of applications for initial registrations, and updates of the same, via email, as long as all necessary documents are fully provided as legible scans and the support letters are signed by the local companies' President or Legal Representative. Once current

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restrictions have been lifted, it will be necessary to submit all original papers to the Immigration Office to complete the filing.

ARMENIA

Entry Restrictions

- 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, foreign travellers may present a negative PCR test certificate issued up to 72 hours before arrival.
    - Alternatively travellers may undergo testing on arrival at the airport then isolate until they receive a negative result.
- Land borders with Turkey, Iran, Azerbaijan and Georgia are closed for non-essential traffic.

ARUBA

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 25 January 2021, entry is suspended from Brazil.
- Entry is permitted for travellers from the United States, Europe, Canada, Bonaire and Curacao , all Caribbean nations (including Dominican Republic and Haiti), Central America and South America (excluding Peru and Venezuela).
- 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:
        - 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 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.
    - Purchase Aruba Visitor's Insurance;
    - consent to cooperate with all Aruba's COVID-19 procedures and instructions, including testing, etc. (as applicable).
    - Travellers from Bonaire are no longer subject to COVID-19 testing or insurance requirements.
    - Travellers from Curacao are now subject to testing requirementsnot longer subject to insurance requirements.
- Residents who are abroad and are having difficulties returning to Aruba can contact cmo@crisis.aw for assistance.

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Immigration Restrictions

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

AUSTRALIA

Entry Restrictions

- The ban on international travel continues. International travellers are advised to check the Department of Home Affairs and Department of Health websites regularly before commencing travel to Australia.
- **Quarantine-free flights from New Zealand have resumed.**
  - Effective 25 February 2021, any traveller from New Zealand who has been in Auckland (except for transit through the airport from a connecting flight) for any period over the previous 14-days, is not eligible to travel on a quarantine-free (green zone) flight.
  - Any travellers from New Zealand who have not been in Auckland for any period over the previous 14-days are still eligible to travel on a quarantine-free (green zone) flight.
  - Routine pre-departure and on arrival screening will continue.
  - Travellers arriving in Australia by air, who have been in New Zealand for 14 days or more before travel, do not need to apply for an exemption to Australia's travel restrictions – they are automatically exempt.
  - A travel exemption is required for travellers who have been in New Zealand for less than 14 days before their planned departure (including travellers who are transiting New Zealand).
- ***All travellers*** to or through Australia (other than those on quarantine-free flights from New Zealand), must provide evidence of a ***negative COVID-19 (PCR) test*** to their airline, taken 72 hours or less before their scheduled departure.
- ***All travellers*** to Australia need to complete an ***Australian Travel Declaration*** at least 72 hours prior to their flight.
  - Travellers aged 15 years and over need to complete their own declaration form.
  - Children under 15 can be included on a parent's form.
  - Each declaration is only valid for one entry for the traveller named on the declaration.
  - You need to apply for an exemption at least two weeks, but not more than two months, before your planned travel.
- ***All travellers***, other than those on quarantine-free flights from New Zealand, are subject to a mandatory ***14-day quarantine*** at designated facilities (for example, a hotel) at their port of arrival.
- Air crew must take a COVID-19 test every 7 days or on arrival in Australia, continue to quarantine in dedicated quarantine facilities between international flights or for 14 days, and not reposition for an outgoing international flight unless they do so on a crew-only flight.
- 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

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Program or Pacific Labour Scheme; and holders of a Business Innovation and Investment (subclass 188) visa.

- International passenger caps in New South Wales, Queensland and Western Australia will be temporarily halved from no later than 15 January 2021 to manage the flow of returning Australians and other travellers who have been potentially exposed to the new variants. Current international passenger caps in Victoria and South Australia and arrangements in the Northern Territory are considered manageable and will remain in place.
- Arrangements on international passenger caps will be reviewed by National Cabinet in early February.
- 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.
- Travellers from New Zealand can travel to certain Australian states quarantine-free.

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    - The “Trans-Tasman” bubble / safe travel agreement currently applies only to New South Wales, the Australian Capital Territory, the Northern Territory, Queensland (from 12 December) and Victoria.
    - Qualifying travellers do not need to apply for a travel exemption.
    - Travellers must have been in New Zealand for 14 days or more and not been in a designated hotspot;
    - Travellers must travel to Australia on a quarantine-free flight. A quarantine-free flight only carries passengers who have declared they have been in New Zealand for 14 days or more and have not been in a COVID hotspot in New Zealand in the last 14 days before travel
    - New Zealand citizens do not need to apply for a visa before coming to Australia. If eligible, they will be granted a Special Category visa (subclass 444) (SCV) on arrival. Other nationals will need a valid visa for entry.
    - This scheme is also expected to free up additional quarantine spaces per month in Sydney.
    - The safe travel zone does not apply to New Zealand citizens who are outside New Zealand or who have not been in New Zealand for the last 14 days or more.
    - Travellers must print and complete a COVID-19 Declaration form and present it at airline check-in at the airport, otherwise they may not be able to board their flight. This form will be used to determine if they can travel and for contact tracing purposes by relevant state and territory governments.
    - Travellers arriving in Australia on a quarantine-free flight will not need to enter mandatory quarantine. Those arriving at any other location or who are not on a quarantine-free flight will be subject to mandatory quarantine.
    - Certain locations in New Zealand are of concern. Travellers who have visited any of these on the relevant dates must state this when completing their Australia travel Declaration.
- 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.
- Biometrics collection services at Australian Visa Application Centres (AVACs) and Australian Biometrics Collection Centres (ABCCs) has resumed, dependent on in-country COVID-19 restrictions.
    - In addition, collection centres will offer enquiry and assisted online lodgement services;
    - Applicants can use their original *Requirement to provide personal identifiers (biometrics) letter to book and attend an appointment. Applicants who have applied for a visa online have a copy of this letter in their ImmiAccount.*

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:

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    - 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.
- The latest visa processing times are published *here*.
- All Immigration Medical Examinations in Victoria have temporarily ceased.

Immigration Concessions

- It is intended that changes will be implemented in early 2021 that would allow certain family visas, which have been applied for outside Australia, to be granted while the visa applicant is in Australia. This temporary concession will be for people who are in Australia and are not able to travel offshore to be granted the visa due to COVID-19 related border closures. The concession will apply to certain applicants for the following Family visa subclasses:
    - Child (subclass 101) visa;
    - Adoption (subclass 102) visa;
    - Dependent Child (subclass 445) visa;
    - Prospective Marriage (subclass 300) visa;
    - Partner (subclass 309) visa.
- Some visa holders impacted by Australia's travel restrictions will soon be able to access a refund or a waiver of their Visa Application Charge (VAC):
    - ***Temporary workers*** granted a Temporary Skill Shortage or Temporary Work (Skilled) visa but unable to enter Australis because of COVID-19 travel restrictions before the visa ceased may be able to receive a VAC waiver for a future visa application.
    - Those who received a ***Prospective Marriage*** visa but were unable to enter Australia because of COVID-19 travel restrictions before the visa ceased may be eligible for a refund of their VAC to help them apply for another visa to come to Australia once travel restrictions are lifted. Prospective Marriage visa validity periods may also be extended in certain circumstances.

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    - A VAC waiver will be available for ***Visitor (Tourist) visa*** holders whose visas expired while outside Australia following implementation of COVID-19 travel restrictions on 20 March 2020. This applies to those who held a Tourist, Approved Destination Status, Business Visitor or Sponsored Family visa, who were unable to travel to Australia for initial entry as well as those who had travelled and departed but were unable to return on a multiple entry visa. A new visa must be applied for before the end of 2022.
- 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 11 February, travel to the province of Tirol should be limited to essential trips only. Effective 12 February, travellers leaving the province of Tirol must show a negative COVID-19 test taken no more than 48 hours previously. Exemptions apply to children under 10, transit journeys, and journeys to East Tirol, Jungholz, and the Rißtal valley.
- Effective 4 February, anyone entering Austria from any country except Australia, Finland, Greece, Iceland, New Zealand, Norway, Singapore, South Korea and the Vatican will need to show a **negative COVID19 PCR or antigen test** and commit to a full **10-day quarantine** that cannot be curtailed by getting a test.
    - Arrivals who cannot show a negative test must get tested within 24 hours of arrival.

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- ***The ban on the landing of flights from Brazil, South Africa and the United Kingdom is extended until 7 March.***
- All travellers entering Austria need to register electronically in advance and obtain a so-called pre-travel clearance (PTC).
    - At the border, they will have to show their PTC (either digitally or as a hard copy).
    - There are exemptions for unexpected personal emergencies, transit journeys without stopover, regular cross-border commuters, and people travelling to the towns of Vomp-Hinterriss, Mittelberg, and Jungholz.
- Hotels are closed to leisure travellers/tourists. Essential travel (e.g. for business) is still possible, and Austria's borders are not closed.
- ***Entry is permitted*** for third-country nationals arriving from any states except the Schengen area and the ***safe countries (Australia, Finland, Greece, Iceland, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Singapore, South Korea, and the Vatican***).
- ***Entry is prohibited*** to third-country nationals when arriving from any states except the Schengen area and the countries listed above as safe countries. Exemptions apply.
- Travellers arriving from high-risk areas (most of the world) are required to ***self-quarantine*** for 10 days on arrival.
    - On arrival, travellers need to present a completed "Declaration of Quarantine" form.
    - After 5 days of quarantine at the earliest, they may take a COVID-19 PCR or antigen test to leave quarantine early.
    - Exceptions from the quarantine requirement exist only for the following:
        - Arrivals who have only been in safe countries in the last 10 days: Australia, Finland, Greece, Iceland, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Singapore, South Korea and the Vatican.
        - Unexpected personal emergencies, passengers in ***transit*** without stopover, regular cross-border commuters, people travelling to the towns of Vomp-Hinterriss, Mittelberg (Kleinwalsertal), and Jungholz. In these instances, no negative test and no quarantine is necessary to enter Austria.
        - **Business** travellers, who must instead present a medical certificate verifying a negative COVID-19 test taken in the 72 hours prior to entry.

    - Entry is prohibited for third-country nationals arriving from high-risk areas.

Immigration Restrictions

- First-time residence permit applicants can submit further required documents by email or post to 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.

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- 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

- The closure of land and air borders is extended until 1 April 2021.
    - Exceptions exist for special flights to and from certain destinations for citizens and residents of Azerbaijan, holders of work and study permits for Azerbaijan, and their immediate families.
- Entry to Azerbaijan is suspended for non-resident foreign nationals.
- Borders are closed with Iran and Georgia.
- Mutual visits of Azerbaijani and Russian citizens have been temporarily suspended.
- All travellers must submit a negative COVID-19 test certificate dated within 48 hours prior to arrival and may be subject to a 14-day quarantine at a designated government facility.
- Visa issuance is suspended, including via the electronic visa registration service, ASAN. Foreign nationals wishing to visit Azerbaijan are requested to apply for a visa through relevant local Azerbaijani embassies and consulates operating limited services.

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.

THE BAHAMAS

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 4 January 2021:
    - All travellers, returning citizens and residents must apply for a Bahamas Health Travel Visa at a cost depending on the length of stay, as well as applicable testing, insurance and healthcare related costs. Applications take up to 48 hours to process.

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        - All travellers eighteen (18) years of age and older are required to complete an individual Bahamas Travel Health Visa application.
        - Persons seventeen (17) years and younger are to add a profile within the account of the parent or guardian.
    - All travellers over 10 years of age must present a negative result of a COVID-19 RT-PCR test taken no more than ***5 days*** before arrival.
        - A Bahamas citizen or resident planning to travel abroad for five (5) days or less must secure a test in the destination they visited before travelling back to The Bahamas. Any RT-PCR test taken in The Bahamas prior to travel will not be valid for re-entry.
    - All travellers must complete daily an online health survey for the first five days of their stay.
        - The survey must be completed upon arrival and each day thereafter for up to 14 days, or the duration of their stay, whichever is shorter.
        - This includes the day of departure, if travelling less than 14 days.
    - All travellers aged over 10 years must take a rapid antigen test (included in the cost of the visa) on day 5 if staying longer than 4 nights/5 days.

BAHRAIN

Entry Restrictions

- 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 22 February:
    - All arrivals must undergo a COVID-19 PCR test on arrival, at their own expense (BHD 36/test).
    - Travellers are required to self-isolate until a negative test result is issued following the on-arrival testing.
    - ***All travellers must undergo another COVID-19 PCR test on the 5th day after arrival***.
    - If staying more than 10 days, they must take a third mandatory test on the 10th day after arrival.
- 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

- 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

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- The Nationality, Passports, and Residence Affairs (NPRA) authority announced automatic extension of visas (including visitor visas) until 21 January 2021.

BANGLADESH

Entry Restrictions

- International commercial passenger flights have resumed.
- All passengers arriving from affected countries should submit a Health Declaration Form and a Passenger Locator Form provided on the plane, and may be subject to additional health screening measures on arrival at the airport.
- All foreign nationals arriving in Bangladesh must submit a medical certificate (with English translation), obtained within 72 hours of travel, indicating they are COVID-19 negative.
- All passengers arriving in Bangladesh are required to self-quarantine for 14 days, and may be required to quarantine at a government facility.
    - Passengers holding a No Visa Required (NVR) certificate and arriving ***with*** a negative COVID-19 certificate are subject to 14-day self-isolation.
    - Passengers holding a No Visa Required (NVR) certificate and arriving ***without*** a COVID-19 negative certificate, or diagnosed with COVID-19 on arrival, will be institutionally quarantined for 14 days.

BARBADOS

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 3 February 2021:
    - **All persons, regardless of risk category, are required to have a negative COVID-19 PCR test result to travel to Barbados**. This includes transit passengers. On arrival, persons may be required to take a rapid COVID-19 antigen test at the airport before entry into quarantine.
    - After arrival, persons will be required to ***quarantine*** in the rooms/suites and then have a second COVID-19 PCR test 5 days (120 hours) after arrival. A negative PCR test is required for exit from quarantine. Results will typically be available within 48 hours of the sample arriving at the laboratory.
- All travellers arriving in Barbados must download the BIMSafe app and complete an online immigration/customs form (also available at travelform.gov.bb) at least 24 hours prior to travel.
- All travellers must undergo a health screening.
- 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.

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BELARUS

Entry Restrictions

- Exit by land is suspended for foreign nationals and Belarusian citizens.
    - This does not apply to diplomats, international drivers, business travelers, those visiting seriously ill relatives or funerals, those going to work or study, and others.
    - A cap is imposed on trips for work or study abroad: such trips can be made only once in six months.

- Entry is permitted by air via Minsk National Airport.
- Travellers arriving from high-risk countries (or with a stopover in a high-risk country without evidence that the stopover was less than 24 hours) are subject to 10-day self-isolation.
- Effective 3 December, the following are added to the list of high-risk countries: Austria, Azerbaijan, Estonia, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Serbia, Turkey.
- Non-resident foreign nationals must present a negative result of a COVID-19 test undertaken no more than 72 hours before entry.
    - This requirement does not apply to citizens or residents of Belarus.

- Foreign nationals transiting Belarus are exempt from self-isolation and test certificate requirements if they present proof, or declare on an official questionnaire, that they will leave Belarus within 24 hours.
- Entry is suspended for foreign nationals at road, rail and river checkpoints. Exceptions exist for the following:
    - foreign citizens traveling under diplomatic and service passports;
    - heads and members of official delegations;
    - foreign nationals providing international aid to the Republic of Belarus;
    - drivers of vehicles doing international deliveries, as well as transporting international postal items;
    - crew members of inland water transport vessels, train crews, locomotive crews of international railway traffic;
    - foreign nationals who are spouses, parents or children of citizens of the Republic of Belarus;
    - foreign nationals entitled to permanent or temporary residence in the territory of the Republic of Belarus;
    - foreign nationals who have a work permit or supporting documents for employment in the territory of the Republic of Belarus;
    - foreign nationals traveling to the Republic of Belarus upon notification of a serious illness or death of a close relative;
    - foreign nationals transporting stem cells, organs for transplantation;
    - citizens of the Russian Federation traveling in transit through the territory of the Republic of Belarus to the Russian Federation;
    - foreign nationals traveling in transit through the territory of the Republic of Belarus in accordance with the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Belarus and the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine on a simplified procedure for the passage of the Slavutich - Chernobyl NPP road section,

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vehicles and cargo of the Chernobyl NPP and enterprises that operate in the exclusion zone, and also by foreign specialists involved in the implementation of international projects for the closure of the Chernobyl NPP.

BELGIUM

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 1 March:
  - Green zones include:
    - Australia;
    - Iceland;
    - New Zealand;
    - Norway (Innlandet, Trondelag, Northern Norway)
    - Singapore;
    - South Korea;
    - Thailand.
  - Orange zones include:
    - Austria (Voralberg)
    - Denmark (Southern Denmark, Central Jutland, North Jutland, Capital Region, Zealand);
    - Finland (Western-Finland, Southern-Finland, Northern and Eastern Finland);
    - France (French Guaiana, Martinique);
    - Greece (all except Attica, Western Greece);
    - Italy (Aosta Valley, Sardinia, Sicily);
    - Norway (Adger en South Eastern Norway, Western Norway);
    - Portugal (Azores);
    - Rwanda.
    - Spain (Extremadura, Balearic Islands, Canary Islands).
  - Red zones include all remaining EU and Schengen Area countries and regions, European microstates, and all other third countries.
- Non-essential trips into and out of Belgium by road, air, sea or rail are prohibited.
  - Essential travel includes:
    - **Compelling family reasons**:
      - Family reunification;
      - Visits to a spouse or partner who does not live under the same roof, insofar as the stable and long-term character of the relationship can be proven;
      - Journeys in the context of co-parenting, civil and religious marriages, funerals or cremations (of relatives or next of kin);
    - **Humanitarian reasons:**
      - Travel for medical reasons and continuation of medical treatment;
      - Assistance or care to an elderly person, minor, disabled or vulnerable person;
      - Visiting relatives receiving palliative care;
    - **Study purposes:**
      - Journeys by pupils, students and trainees as part of a student exchange program;

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        - Researchers with a hosting agreement;
    - **Residents of border areas:**
        - Journeys as part of everyday activities that are also allowed in Belgium;
    - **Professional reasons when performing work-related activities**
    - **Miscellaneous:**
        - Animal care, travel in the context of legal obligations (insofar as these cannot be done online), urgent repairs in the context of vehicle safety and a house move are also considered essential
- ***All travellers*** to or from Belgium are required to carry a ***sworn statement*** (form available from the Minister of the Interior) linked to the Passenger Locator Form and supported by the necessary documents.
- ***All travellers*** permitted to enter Belgium, regardless of the means of transport must complete and submit a ***Passenger Locator Form*** (PLF) no more than 48 hours before arrival. Exceptions for:
    - Travellers returning by car following a stay of less than 48 hours abroad or are staying in Belgium for less than 48 hours;
    - Travellers arriving by train or bus from within the EU or the Schengen area.
- ***Travellers who are residents of Belgium*** who receive a text message after submitting the Passenger Locator Form are required to enter 10-day self-isolation and undergo testing on day 1 and day 7 of quarantine. If the latter test is negative they can exit self-isolation.
- ***Travellers who are not residents of Belgium, travelling from a red zone***, must present a negative PCR test carried out no more than 72 hours before departure.
    - Those travelling by air, train, bus or boat and spending less than 48 hours in Belgium are exempt from this pre-departure PCR test requirement.
- ***Travellers who are not residents of Belgium*** who receive a text message after submitting the Passenger Locator Form are required to enter 10-day self-isolation and undergo testing on day 7 of quarantine. If the latter test is negative they can exit self-isolation.
- All people travelling to Belgium from **the United Kingdom**, **South Africa** or **South America** must quarantine for 10 days with a PCR test on day 1 and day 7.
- Holders of Work Permits B can enter once they have requested and obtained a Certificate of Essential travel from the Belgian mission in the country of departure, supported by a letter form the Belgian company or client.
- Highly qualified third-country workers seeking a D visa to enter Belgium must have been issued a positive single permit decision (Annex 46). This no longer needs to bear the code B29 (for Blue Card).
- Non-resident travellers to Belgium for business (not employment) for between 48 and 72 hours may be exempt from the mandatory quarantine requirement.
    - A Business Travel Assessment (BTA) form must be completed online by the Belgian employer, Belgian client or international organization established in Belgium;
    - The completed BTA form generates a certificate number that must be entered in the modified Passenger Location Form (PLF) to activate the professional travel section. Without this number, a travel cannot be considered professional.
    - The Passenger Location Form (PLF) is completed by the traveler before return to arrival in Belgium. The PLF provides a self-assessment questionnaire that should allow the government to carry out a risk analysis. On this basis, it will be decided whether or not to impose the quarantine.

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- This also applies to residents of Belgium travelling abroad in connection with cases or projects that necessitate limited interventions on site. There is no time restriction.

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

- Travellers of any nationality are permitted to visit Belize.
- Travellers to Belize are required to:

    - Download Belize Health App and complete required information within 72 hours prior to travel.
    - Book a stay at a Gold Standard hotel within the Tourism Safe Corridor and present confirmation on arrival.
    - Provide a negative result of a COVID-19 PCR test obtained no more than 96 hours prior to arrival, or a rapid antigen test taken no more than 48 hours prior to arrival. If no negative PCR test result is presented, a COVID-19 test must be taken on arrival at a cost of USD 50.

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- No quarantine is necessary with negative test results. If positive, a minimum 14-day quarantine at the travellers expense is required.

BENIN

Entry Restrictions

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

BERMUDA

Entry Restrictions

- 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 a 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.

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BOLIVIA

Entry Restrictions

- The suspension of international flights into and out of Bolivia continues.
- All borders remain closed until further notice.
- 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

- Air travel has resumed to and from Sir Seretse Khama International Airport in Gaborone, Kasane International Airport and Maun International Airport.
- Effective 1 December:
    - Air travel will resume to and from Phillip G. Matante International Airport in Francistown.

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    - Ground Crossing will resume at the commercial border points of; Kazungula road, Kazungula ferry, Ngoma, Ramokgwebana, Martins Drift, Ramatlabama, Tlokweng, Mamuno, Pioneer Gate, and Mohembo.
- All arriving travellers must meet the following requirements:
    - Present a negative result of a COVID-19 PCR test taken at most 72 hours before travel. time of departure.
    - Undergo screening for COVID-19 symptoms upon entry.
    - Symptomatic clients upon arrival will be required to undertake mandatory testing and possible isolation and/or quarantine.
    - The traveller will be required to self-monitor and to remain in contact with the local health authority for a period of 14 days.
    - Returning citizens and residents not meeting the requirement will undergo 14-day mandatory quarantine and testing at their own cost (as assessed by local authority).
    - Non-citizen travelers not meeting the requirements will not be allowed entry into Botswana.
    - Travellers exiting Botswana are expected to comply with the travel regulations of the destination country at their own expense.

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

- All airports are now permitted to handle international flights.
- Ordinance No. 630, published 17 December 2020, establishes a temporary restriction of entry into Brazil by any nationality. This restriction includes all entry made by road or other land or waterway transport. Exceptions to this regulation include:
    - Brazilian citizens; permanent or temporary foreign residents of Brazil (who have registered with the Federal Police);
    - Foreign employees of the Brazilian government or international organizations;
    - Foreign national spouse, partner, child, parent or guardian of a Brazilian citizen;
    - Foreign nationals authorized to enter Brazil by the Brazilian Government in the public interest; and
    - Foreign national holders of RNM (Foreign ID card); and
    - Foreign maritime crew members, whose entry is by air or waterway, for the exercise of specific functions on board a vessel or platform operating in jurisdictional waters, provided that the migratory requirements appropriate to their condition are observed, including that of having an entry visa, when required.
    - It is important to note that entry exceptions by road, other land or waterway transport do not apply to Venezuelan nationals, even if they are registered at the Federal Police.

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- Unlike previous ordinances, this one **has no expiration date.**
- The restrictions of this Ordinance do not prevent foreign nationals from entering the country by air, provided that the migratory requirements appropriate to their condition are complied with, including having a valid entry visa, when required by Brazilian legal system.

- Further, the Ordinance requires, effective 30 December 2020, all travelers arriving to Brazil via an international flight (including Brazilian nationals and 3rd country nationals) must present to the airline responsible for the flight, before boarding:

  I. Document proving laboratory testing (RT-PCR), for screening infection by SARS-COV-2, with a negative/non-reactive result, carried out 72 hours prior the time of boarding; and
  II. Traveler's Health Declaration (DSV) completed (in paper or digitally) with the agreement on the sanitary measures that must be complied with during the period in the country.

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.
- Document expiry dates are suspended. Immigrants with expired immigration documents will not be penalized.
- Immigration deadlines and the counting of immigration periods, which have been suspended since 16 March 2020, have resumed.
  - Immigration documents expiring before 16 March 2020 will be accepted for entry or registration purposes until 16 March 2021.
  - Documents which expired or will expire after 16 March 2020 will be accepted in support of immigration regularization until 16 March 2021.
  - Foreign national visitors will once more have their stay periods taken into account for all legal purposes, especially for counting the maximum stay period per year.
  - When calculating any overstay, the period between 16 March and 3 November will be disregarded.
  - The period of stay will continue to start from the first entry into Brazil, regardless of the date of registration of the temporary visa.
  - A temporary entry visa can be used for new entry even if not registered, if it remains valid or if its validity has been extended by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

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- In this case, the temporary entry visa must be registered by 16 March 2021 or, in the case of re-entry, within 90 days of the new entry (up to 16 March 2021).

BRUNEI

Entry Restrictions

- Entry is permitted for foreign nationals with an Entry Travel Pass (ETP). Travellers must have remained within the country of departure for the last 14 days prior to travel.
  - The ETP may be issued for the following:
    - Essential business travel (including official travel);
    - Study;
    - Medical treatment;
    - Compassionate reasons and family reunion of immediate family members of Brunei citizens or residents.
  - **Pre-departure:**
    - The sponsoring company must obtain and submit a letter of endorsement from the relevant Brunei Darussalam authority or government agency .
    - The ETP application must be submitted by the sponsoring company at least 8 working days before intended date of travel, via the *Entry Travel Pass portal*.
    - The sponsoring company is required to apply for an entry visa on behalf of the traveller should they require one.
    - The sponsoring company is required to make payment, before the date of arrival, for a post-arrival PCR test. They will receive and must keep a payment receipt.
    - Travellers are required to undertake a COVID-19 RT-PCR test within 72 hours prior to travel at a designated medical centre recognised by the government of the country of departure. If the traveller is unable to obtain such a test, the sponsor must obtain an exemption letter from Ministry of Health, Brunei Darussalam via e-mail at etp.health@moh.gov.bn.
    - Travellers are required to install the BruHealth app prior to departure, and the sponsoring company must prepare Brunei SIM cards for travellers before their arrival to ensure smooth BruHealth registration upon arrival.
  - **On arrival**, the travellers must present:
    - Valid entry pass;
    - Negative PCR test result, or exemption letter from Ministry of Health;
    - Valid air ticket;
    - Valid payment receipt for post-arrival PCR test (or exemption letter from Ministry of Health;
    - Brunei hotel reservation
    - Proof of installation of BruHealth app;
    - Valid visa (if applicable).
  - **Post-arrival:**
    - Travellers must be transported directly to their hotel by the hotel's designate transport provider for mandatory isolation.

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        - The period of isolation and test schedule will be determined on arrival.
        - Travellers will be transported to RIPAS Hospital for specimen collection by the hotel's designated transport provider either on Day 1 or Day 5 after arrival as determined by Ministry of Health's assessment upon arrival.
        - Travellers must use the BruHealth app to self-report their health daily for the first 14 days of their stay, and scan their location at all times using QR codes.
    - 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 20 December at midnight until 31 January 2021, all direct passenger flights with the UK are suspended.
- Entry restrictions are extended until 31 January.
- Entry is permitted without proof of a PCR test or a 14-day quarantine period from:
    - EU and Schengen states, the microstates, the United Kingdom and their family members.
    - Australia, Belarus, Canada, Georgia, Japan, New Zealand, Rwanda, Serbia, South Korea, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates, and Uruguay.

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- Entry is permitted with proof of a negative COVID-19 PCR test taken no more than 72 hours prior to arrival, for travellers arriving from:
  - Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Israel, Kosovo, Kuwait, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Ukraine.
  - 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 most 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.
  - Further exemptions are available.

Immigration Concessions

- The terms of validity of most types of Bulgarian identity documents, including residence permits for foreign nationals, which expire before 21 January 2021 are extended by 6 months past their expiration date.
- 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 have resumed.
- All land and sea borders remain closed.
- Travellers are required to present a negative COVID-19 PCR test certificate issued no more than 5 days prior to travel.
- Travellers are required to quarantine for 14 days on arrival in Burkina Faso, at a location of their choice and at their own cost.

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.

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- 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

- Cambodia has temporarily suspended flights from Malaysia, Indonesia and the Philippines.
- Land borders with Thailand, Laos and Myanmar are closed.
- 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.
- Effective 12 December:
  - All travellers arriving in Cambodia must present a certificate of a negative result of a COVID-19 test taken within 72 hours prior to travel, take a further test upon arrival and undergo mandatory quarantine for a full 14 days;
  - The sponsorship mechanism for foreign national travellers entering Cambodia for work, business or investment purposes for up to 14 days is suspended.

CAMEROON

Entry Restrictions

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

CANADA

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 22 February, all travellers arriving by air, land or sea, are required to submit their travel and contact information, including a suitable quarantine plan, electronically via ArriveCAN before crossing the border or boarding a flight.
- Effective 22 February, all travellers arriving ***by air*** (with limited exemptions) must:
  - Take a COVID-19 molecular ***test on arrival*** at their own cost, before leaving the airport, and another towards the end of their 14-day quarantine period
  - Reserve a room in a Government of Canada-approved hotel for 3 nights at their own cost.
    - **The list of government-authorized hotels is *here*.**
- Effective 22 February, all travellers arriving ***by land*** are required to take a COVID-19 molecular test on arrival and another towards the end of their 14-day quarantine period.
- Effective 15 February, all travellers arriving ***by land*** are required to submit proof of a negative COVID-19 ***PCR test*** taken in the United States within 72 hours before departure, OR a positive test taken 14-90 days prior to arrival.
- Effective 3 February at 11:59pm EST, all international passenger flights must arrive through one of four approved airports.

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    - The approved airports are Montréal-Trudeau International Airport, Toronto Pearson International Airport, Calgary International Airport, and Vancouver International Airport.
    - The new restrictions will include scheduled commercial passenger flights arriving from the United States, Mexico, Central America, the Caribbean and South America, which were exempted from the previous restriction. Private/Business and charter flights from all countries will also be required to land at the four airports. Flights from Saint-Pierre-et-Miquelon and cargo-only flights will remain exempt.
- Effective 31 January until 30 April, all flights to and from Mexico and Caribbean countries are suspended.
- Effective 7 January 2021, all travellers arriving by air aged 5 or above are required to submit, on boarding, proof of a negative COVID-19 ***PCR test*** taken within 72 hours before departure.
- Effective until 6 January 2021, flights are suspended from the United Kingdom.
- All travellers to Canada (other than for some essential services) are subject to mandatory 14-day quarantine (if asymptomatic) or isolation (if symptomatic).
- Air travellers whose final destination is Canada are required to submit their quarantine plan and contact and travel information electronically though the ArriveCAN website or app before they board their flight.
    - In the event that on arrival, the submission of the required information cannot be verified by an officer, enforcement action may be taken, including fines of up to $1000 (and entry to Canada may be disallowed).
- Effective immediately, travellers entering Canada by land or sea are strongly encouraged to continue ArriveCAN by downloading the mobile app or signing in online provide the mandatory information before they arrive to avoid additional delays for public health questioning and to limit points of contact at the border. Travellers can show their ArriveCAN receipt to a border services officer when seeking entry into Canada.
- Travellers arriving by air, land or sea (unless exempted) are also required to submit information through ArriveCAN or by calling the 1-833-641-0343 toll-free number during their quarantine or isolation period.
    - Within 48 hours of entering Canada, travellers must confirm they have arrived at their place of quarantine or isolation and those in quarantine must complete a daily COVID-19 symptom self-assessment during their quarantine period.
    - Travellers who don't use ArriveCAN to submit their information before entering Canada will be required to call the 1-833-641-0343 toll-free number on a daily basis throughout their quarantine or isolation period to provide their post-border information. They will not be able to revert to using ArriveCAN.
- Travellers entering Alberta at select border crossings can take part in a border testing pilot program allowing early release form quarantine duty.
    - Travellers must:
        - Be returning Canadians, returning permanent residents or foreign nationals not restricted from entering Canada;
        - Stay in Canada for a minimum of 14 days, or enter and depart Alberta directly for a period of less than 14 days;
        - Arrive at Coutts land border or Calgary International Airport.
        - Have an acceptable 14-day quarantine plan;
        - Be free of COVID-19 symptoms on entry;
        - Have had no contact with a COVID-19 case in the last 14 days;

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        - Take a test on entry and another 6 or 7 days after entry at a designated testing location;
        - Follow all quarantine measures until they receive a negative test result.
- The suspension of discretionary entry for ***foreign travellers who arrive from a country other than the United States*** continues.
    - Entry from anywhere other than the United States for non-discretionary reasons requires an online application, even for someone who didn't previously need one (e.g. a UK national), and thereafter a request/submission for allowance to travel to provide an essential service.
    - 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.
            - Immediate family members must have a *quarantine plan* showing they will quarantine for 14 days on arrival.
            - Immediate family members staying for *less than 15 days* must be travelling for an essential (non-discretionary) purpose;
        - Extended 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.
            - Extended family members here include persons who have been in an exclusive dating relationship for at least 1 year and have spent time in the physical presence of that person at some point during the relationship; or a non-dependent child (adult child), a grandchild (dependent child of a non-dependent adult child), a sibling, half-sibling or step-sibling or a grandparent.
            - Extended family members must have a quarantine plan showing they will quarantine for 14 days on arrival.
            - Extended family members must have written authorization from Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC).
            - Extended family members staying for less than 15 days must be travelling for an essential (non-discretionary) purpose;
        - Foreign nationals entering for compassionate reasons, with authorisation from the Public Health Agency of Canada;
        - 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;
        - Some international students;
        - Some people who have been approved to become a permanent resident of Canada, but who are not yet permanent residents;

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        - Immediate family members with written authorization from IRCC to reunite with a temporary resident of Canada (see Uniting with immediate family members for more information);
        - Transiting passengers (must remain in the secure transit area of a Canadian airport to complete their connection);
        - Members of the Canadian forces, visiting forces coming to perform official duties, Department of National Defence and their immediate family members;
        - Accredited diplomats and their immediate family members (includes North Atlantic Treaty Organization [NATO], those under the United Nations Headquarters Agreement, other organizations);
        - Air and marine crew members;
        - French citizens who live in Saint-Pierre and Miquelon and have been in only Canada, the US or Saint-Pierre and Miquelon during the 14 days before the day they seek to enter Canada;
        - Any person who does not pose a significant harm to public health, in the opinion of the Chief Public Health Officer of Canada, and who will provide an essential service while in Canada;
        - Any person whose presence in Canada is in the national interest, in the opinion of the Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship; Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness; or Minister of Foreign Affairs.
            - If you fall under this exemption, you don't have to demonstrate that you're entering Canada for an essential (non-discretionary) reason.
        - Any person who is coming at the invitation of the Minister of Health for the purpose of COVID-19 assistance;
        - Any person whose purpose is to make medical deliveries;
    - 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 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.
- The suspension of discretionary entry for ***foreign travellers who arrive from the United States*** is extended until 21 March 2020.
    - Travel from the United States for non-discretionary purposes is permitted for anyone physically in the US who does not need a visa. This could include, most notably, those coming to work. As such, work permit applications from non-visa nationals in the US continue to be processed more-or-less as they were before COVID.
    - 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 entry remains prohibited.

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    - Foreign nationals arriving from the United States must prove that they are entering for a non-discretionary 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.

- 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.
- 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

- Priority processing has been extended to foreign workers in the film and television industry.

    - Processing of work permits for this industry for arrivals from non-US destinations (or visa nationals in the US) is now under a 14-day service standard.
    - An additional special request, using specified language, must be submitted via the IRCC web form platform. Thereafter, the request will be reviewed, and if qualified, processed as a priority.
    - Processing of work permits at ports of entry for non-visa nationals arriving from the US continues to operate as normal.

- IRCC has acted to speed up spousal application processing by increasing by 66% the number of decision makers on spousal applications, digitizing paper applications, implementing facilitative biometrics measures and conducting interviews remotely.
- New work permit applications are permitted in various circumstances:

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- 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.

- Labour Market Impact Assessments (LMIAs) will not be issued for positions in Alberta except for the following exempt positions:

  - Computer and information systems managers (and certain other computer-related fields);
  - Pilots;
  - Certain types of physicians;
  - Producers, directors, choreographers and related occupations;
  - Farm workers;
  - Occupations where the work is for 30 calendar days or less and requires proprietary knowledge or entails installation, inspection or repair of equipment where the warranty requires that wok be done by workers designated by the manufacturer;
  - In support of a permanent residence application;
  - Global Talent Stream;
  - Certain in-home caregiver positions.

- 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 once again permitted but returning workers may be required to meet the 14-day quarantine requirement.
- 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.

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- 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 24 August 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 whose immigration status expires between 30 January 2020 until 31 May 2021, and who have remained in Canada, now have until 31 August 2021 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.

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CAPE VERDE

Entry Restrictions

- Air and sea borders have reopened, although most flights remain suspended.
- On boarding, all travellers (over 7 years of age) must present a negative COVID-19 test result done in the previous 72 hours and complete a health surveillance form. Temperature screening on arrival may lead to a COVID-19 PCR test.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Entry Restrictions

- Commercial international flights have resumed at Bangui airport, although the frequency of flights remains limited.
    - A negative PCR test result, issued no more than 72 hours prior to entry, is required for entry;
    - All travellers are subject to a health screening on arrival;
    - All travellers are subject to a 21-day self-quarantine. However, staff of international organisations and NGOs can take a commercial COVID-19 test in Bangui and end the quarantine period early with a negative result.

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

- Effective 8 January 2021, Chilean citizens and foreign national residents are required to submit a negative result of a COVID-19 PCR test taken within 72 hours before travel.
- All individuals arriving in Chile, regardless of nationality, must undergo 10-day quarantine.
    - The quarantine may be finished in advance with a negative result of a PCR test for Covid-19, which has been carried out no earlier than 144 hours, after arrival. This exemption does not apply to those who have been in the United Kingdom in the precious 14 days. In this case, the possibility of exempting

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yourself from that measure will not apply due to having a negative result of a PCR test for Covid-19.

- Effective until 19 January 2021, all direct commercial flights between Chile and the United Kingdom are suspended.
- Entry is suspended for non-resident foreign nationals who have been in the United Kingdom in the previous 14 days.
- All travellers, regardless of their nationality, place of origin or destination region in Chile, may be randomly selected by the Health Authority at the time of entry, to submit to a direct detection test for COVID-19 determined by the Health Authority.
- All travellers, regardless of their nationality, place of origin or destination region in Chile, must complete a sworn statement of their health status (sanitary passport) within 48 hours before travel, and submit to the Traveller Tracking period during the 14 days following entry.
- Non-resident foreign nationals must also have health insurance covering COVID-19.
- Entry and exit are permitted in the following cases:

    - Foreign nationals residing in regular immigration status, whether their application for permanent residence or permanence is being processed in Chile, or they have a valid residence or permanent residence permit issued by the Department of Immigration and Migration of the Ministry of the Interior and Public Security or Provincial Governors.
    - Foreign nationals who have a matrimonial relationship or a Civil Union Agreement with a Chilean or foreign national regularly residing in the national territory, celebrated in Chile, who enter as tourists. This condition must be accredited to the border control authority by means of the corresponding certificate from the Civil Registry and Identification Service.
    - Foreign nationals who have a matrimonial relationship or a Civil Union Agreement with a Chilean or foreign national regularly residing in the national territory, celebrated abroad, who enter as tourists. For such purposes, they must carry a safe conduct by virtue of the provisions of Article 66 of the Consular Regulations, and must previously present the corresponding marriage certificate or civil union agreement before the respective consulate
    - Foreign nationals who, for reasons that cannot be postponed, must enter the country for business management purposes, as provided in the first paragraph of Article 44 of Decree Law No. 1,094, paying special attention to the convenience or utility that they report to the country. For these purposes, they must carry a safe-conduct under the provisions of Article 66 of the Consular Regulations.

- 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.
- All travellers arriving from abroad, of any nationality, are subject to a mandatory 14-day quarantine.

    - Travellers can exit quarantine early on obtaining a negative COVID-19 test result in Chile, by following a standard procedure.

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- Travellers with a negative result of a COVID-19 PCR test obtained no more than 72 hours prior to arrival at an approved clinic are exempt from the mandatory 10-day quarantine requirement.
- 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 and 2020 or will expire in 2021 are automatically extended until 28 February 2022. Foreign nationals who have recently requested a change of status or a visa extension for ID cards that expired in 2019 or 2020 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 1 March, South Africa is added to the list of countries from which the entry of foreign nationals is banned.
- Many Chinese embassies and consulates (including in France, Portugal, the United Arab Emirates, Belarus, Denmark, Switzerland, Sweden, Iran United States, United Kingdom, Singapore, Germany, Japan and Spain) now require that when applying for the health code, passengers taking direct flights should upload the local residence certificate, and no longer issue the health code to the local residents who go to China through a third country or the travellers from a third country where have direct flights to China.
    - Passengers from a third country which does not have direct flights to China in their habitual residence should follow the principle of "only transit once", first obtain the health code approved and issued by the Chinese embassy and consulate in their permanent residence, and then apply to the Chinese embassy or consulate again after taking two COVID-19 tests according to the local requirements in the place where the direct flights are located.
    - The Chinese embassy and consulates in Japan clarify that health codes won't be issued to transit passengers to China in Japan. If passengers really need to go to China from a third country (region) via Japan, they need to abide by the Japanese epidemic prevention policy and go to China after 14-day quarantine. When applying for health codes, they need to upload the photos of Japanese entry seal and the itinerary to China as well.

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- The Chinese embassy in the UK has issued a notice, stipulating the specific requirements for nucleic acid and antibody testing at the institutions designated by the Chinese Embassy and consulates in the UK for persons departing from or transferring to China via the UK, as well as the process for Chinese and foreign citizens to apply for the health code. At the same time, it is clear that the health code will no longer be approved for passengers who have made two or more transfers from the UK since 19 February.
- The Chinese consulates general in Los Angeles and San Francisco have respectively issued announcements, requiring foreign nationals holding valid work, private and family reunion residence permits to send relevant materials to the designated mailbox in advance if they really have urgent, humanitarian and other necessary reasons, and then to purchase air tickets and conduct "double test" after obtaining the e-mail of the Chinese consulate general for pre-verification and -confirmation. For those without the prior approval of the consulate general, the health code will not be issued.
- Chinese embassies and consulates in Washington, New York and Chicago continue to call for the postponement or cancellation of "non-essential, non-urgent" travel. All embassies and consulates will consider various factors to decide whether to issue a health code. Even if the passengers provide qualified "double test" reports and a valid residence permit or visa, they may not be able to get a health code.
- The Chinese embassies in Egypt, Kazakhstan, Sudan, Pakistan, Ghana, Algeria and Indonesia are implementing more stringent measures against overseas visitors. Before traveling to China, the passengers must undergo home quarantine for at least 14 days and provide relevant quarantine certificate and "cross double tests" and other additional documents. The embassies and consulates of Egypt, Sudan, Pakistan and Kazakhstan have made it clear that these measures are also applicable to Chinese citizens planning to return home.

- ***Entry to China*** is suspended for all foreign nationals, except certain holders of valid business or humanitarian visas issued after 28 March 2020, valid residence permits for work, family reunion or personal matters.

  - All visa waiver programs are suspended.
  - Entry with diplomatic, service, courtesy or C (crew) visas is not 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.
  - 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.

- Foreign nationals holding valid residence permits (including for work, family reunion, or personal purposes) are permitted to enter China ***without applying for a new visa.***

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    - Foreign nationals from certain countries holding valid visas or residence permits issued before a certain date may be denied entry (see below),
    - Holders of residence permits in these three categories which have expired since 28 March can apply for a new visa (for the same purpose) by presenting the expired residence permit among other documents to the Chinese consulate.
- China has temporarily suspended the entry of foreign nationals from several countries holding valid visas and residence permits. Affected countries include ***Bangladesh***, ***Belgium***, ***Canada***, ***Ethiopia***, ***France***, ***India***, ***Italy***, ***Nigeria***, ***Philippines, Russia, South Africa, Ukraine*** and ***United Kingdom***.
    - According to the Chinese embassies, they will no longer issue QR Code with "HDC" /"HS" Mark or Certified Health Declaration Forms for these people.
    - Entry by holders of diplomatic, service, courtesy or C visas will not be affected. Foreign nationals visiting China for emergency needs may apply for visas at the relevant Chinese embassy or consulate.
    - Entry by foreign nationals with visas issued after the announced date of entry suspension will not be affected.
    - The Chinese embassy and consulates in the UK are currently accepting visa applications from:
        - Applicants who have received a PU letter after 3 November for visiting China for economic, trade, scientific or technological purposes;
        - Applicants who have received a "Notification Letter of Foreign nationals Work Permit" as well as a PU letter after 3 November for work;
        - Applicants who intend to visit an immediate family member (spouse, parents, children, grandparents or grandchildren - foreign nationals included) in China who is in a critical medical condition and needs care, or to arrange funeral matters;
        - Applicants qualifying for a crew (c) visa, or a high-level talent (R) visa.
- The provincial Foreign Affairs Offices (FAO) in several cities in China have tightened up the requirements for ***issuance of PU letters*** and now require more concrete evidence demonstrating that the proposed visit is truly essential. Processing times for PU letters have therefore increased in many cases.
- Some FAO offices may temporarily suspend the issuance of PU letters depending on the local pandemic prevention and control measurements (including to essential business travellers and workers).
- Almost all cities in China have suspended the issuance of PU letters to family dependents and many Chinese consulates of suspended the issuance of visas to family dependents even if they are holding a valid PU letter.
- A PU (invitation) letter from the Chinese government for business or work purposes no longer guarantees the approval of the visa application. Consulates also require a detailed explanation of why it is essential for the applicant to enter China at this time – such as a letter of invitation from the Chinese company.
- Chinese embassies and consulates have started to require that foreign national travellers to China (including Fast Lane passengers) present an ***Electronic Health Declaration Form*** (QR code with "HDC" mark) at boarding.
- All travellers are required to present ***BOTH*** a negative COVID-19 NAT/PCR test certificate ***AND*** a negative IgM antibody test certificate, from tests taken within 48 hours of boarding, in order to obtain a QR Code with "HDC"/"HC" mark or a Certified Health Declaration Form.
    - Travellers must obtain the certificates of the nucleic acid and IgM antibody tests from a designated or approved medical testing providers according to

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the requirements of the relevant Chinese Embassy/ Consulate where they depart from.
    - Most of the Chinese embassies and consulates do not issue health codes to passengers who come to China on non-direct flights
    - IgG antibody tests do not meet the new requirement.
    - Only IgM antibody test certificates marked with venous blood method are accepted for approval of green QR codes.
    - Effective 10 December 2020, this also applies to travelers departing from New Zealand on China-bound flights, as IgM antibody test are now available in New Zealand.
    - Effective 8 February, transit passengers from a third country to China via Singapore (including those who entered Singapore) must take nucleic acid and IgM anti-body tests respectively at the place of their original departure and 2 days before departure to Singapore and apply for the health code or certified health declaration code at the Chinese Embassy or Consulate in the place of their departure. For passengers who failed to obtain the health code or certified health declaration code at the place of their original departure, they must take the nucleic acid and IgM anti-body tests twice at 2 different testing institutions in Singapore within 2 days before departure to China.
- Foreign passengers must complete their information here, declare their health status and upload their COVID-19 test certificate(s), which will then be examined and verified by the Chinese Embassy. Upon approval, they will receive the Electronic Health Declaration Form, in the form of a QR code with the "HDC" mark. They must present the electronic or printed code and follow the procedures for inspection by relevant airlines during boarding.
- Chinese passengers (including the Hong Kong SAR, the Macau SAR and the Taiwan region) can still apply for the green health code with the "HS" mark via the WeChat Health Code app.
- Current quarantine requirements in major cities are as follows:
- **Shanghai**: 14 days at a designated hotel; Travellers 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 eight day, if their nucleic tests on the fifth day are negative. They will continue their quarantine according to the requirements of the local community.
    - 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.
- **Beijing: Effective 28 January until 15 March 2021:**
    - For Arrivals from low-risk areas domestically: passengers should hold a nucleic acid test with a negative result taken within 7 days, undergo 14-day health monitoring and take two nucleic acid tests at 7th day and 14th day after

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arrival in Beijing. Individual activities for work and daily life are allowed during health monitoring, while group activities and gathering are forbidden.
    - For Arrivals from medium- and high-risk areas domestically: Passengers from cities with any high- and medium-risk areas are advised to not travel to Beijing until risk level of all the local areas is adjusted to low-risk level. Those who have to go to Beijing must be approved by the local provincial epidemic prevention and control department, and must hold a negative nucleic acid test taken within 72 hours. People from low-risk areas whose living places are adjusted to medium-high risk areas after the travel, will be subjected to quarantine and nucleic acid test in accordance with Beijing's epidemic prevention policy.
    - For Arrivals from Beijing port: Passengers should undergo 14-day quarantine at designated facilities, 7-day quarantine at home or at designated facilities, and 7-day health monitoring.
    - For Arrivals from other ports in China: only passengers who have landed in China 21 days ago are allowed to travel to Beijing and should undergo 14-day health monitoring.
- **Shenzhen and Guangzhou**: Travellers from overseas should undergo quarantine for 14 days at a designated hotel followed by 7-day health monitoring at home or at a hotel designated by the local community while no outdoor activities are allowed;
- **Zhejiang Province:** Travellers from overseas should undergo quarantine for 14 days at a designated hotel followed by 7 days at home or at a hotel designated by the local community, and additional 7 days of health monitoring while limited outdoor activities are allowed;

Immigration Restrictions

- Shanghai SAFEA has temporarily suspended the submission of physical documents for work permit applications (including renewal, information updating 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 ***in other cities*** have suspended the submission of physical documents for work permit applications (suspended processes may include initial, renewal, information updating, transfer, and cancellation, depending on the local authority). 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.

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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, Macau 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 or 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.
- 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.

COLOMBIA

Entry Restrictions

- Travellers to Colombia are required to present, on boarding, a negative COVID-19 PCR test result issued up to 96 hours before travel.
  - Passengers who cannot take the test or obtain a negative result in time are permitted to board their flight but must undergo a test on arrival and self-quarantine for 14 days or until they receive a negative test result.
- 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;

Immigration Restrictions

- The term to request the Special Permit of Permanence (PEP) for Venezuelan nationals who have been in Colombia since 31 August has been set as 15 October 2020 until 15 February 2021.
- Migración Colombia has reactivated the following services, available by prior appointment only.

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    - Issuance of Foreign nationals' 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.
- 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.
- 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 end February 2021) 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-BRAZZAVILLE

Entry Restrictions

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

COSTA RICA

Entry Restrictions

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- Entry is again permitted for visitors from all countries, without a COVID-19 PCR test certificate.
- **Costa Rican citizens or residents:**
  - Residents must be registered at the Costa Rican Social Security (if they do not have this registration updated, the resident has 22 days to update his/her social security registration in Costa Rica);
  - The "Health Pass" form must be completed at least 48 hours in advance of travel;
  - Residents must hold a valid Costa Rican immigration card (DIMEX). However, if the DIMEX card expires after 17 March it will be extended.
- ***Tourist / business visitors*** must provide:
  - The "Health Pass" form must be completed at least 48 hours in advance of travel;
  - Insurance covering COVID-19 medical assistance (USD 50,000) and accommodation (USD 2000) or from SAGICOR or INS. The insurance QR code must be uploaded to the Health Pass;
  - A round-trip or onward flight ticket;
  - DIMEX CR identity document (CR citizens and residents).
- Visa application submission, processing and issuance are suspended at all Costa Rican consulates until 8 February 2021. Visas already stamped cannot be used before 8 February 2021, and their validity will not be counted until that date.

Immigration Restrictions

- A new online platform ("*TramiteYa!*) permits foreign nationals to submit immigration applications and electronic copies of their documents.
  - Eligible users will not need to appear before immigration officials (including to submit biometrics or to register with their home consulate, unless the DGME request this on a case-by-case basis.
  - Once the application is processed, a digital decision will be sent to the applicant.
- Residence appointments can be scheduled *online* or by phone (by calling 1311).
- The issuance of initial and renewal immigration identification documentation (DIMEX) at the General Immigration Directorate is suspended. Certain residents can book appointments for initial or renewal DIMEX applications through the Banco de Costa Rica or Correos de Costa Rica.
- The exclusive attorney window used by many professionals to follow up on applications will remain closed until 12 February 2021.
- Appointments to request file copies can be scheduled by appointment only by calling 1311 or through www.migracion.go.cr.
- Minor's exit permit requests and the issuance of Costa Rican passports continue to work as normal and by appointment only. Appointments can be scheduled by calling 1311 or through www.migracion.go.cr.

Immigration Concessions

- The validity of DIMEX residence identity cards for permanent residence will be extended until 11 January 2021. If a Permanent Resident does not renew on time, they will still be required to pay a fine per month of expired DIMEX. However, the fine will not be computed and therefore will not need to be paid for the months between December 2019 and January 2021.

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- The validity of DIMEX residence identity cards for Temporary Residents and Special Categories that expired after 18 December 2019 will be extended until 11 January 2021.
- After 11 January 2021, foreign residents have three months to extend their DIMEX.
- Police clearance, marriage and birth certificates issued after 17 March are automatically extended until 1 June 2021.
- Non-resident estancia DIMEX that expired after 17 March will be extended until 12 February 2021.
- The legal stay of foreign national ***tourists*** who entered after 17 December 2019 and until 30 November 2020 will be automatically extended to 2 March 2021. They will also be able to use a foreign driving licence during this period.
- Tourists who enter the country from 1 December 2020 will need to depart the country depending on the tourist days granted at the port of entry. Tourists entering Costa Rica as of 1 December 2020 can legally drive in Costa Rica using a foreign driver's license for up to three months after their date of arrival.
- The grace period for foreign residents to obtain a Costa Rican driver's licence will expire on 11 January 2021. After this date, holders of temporary or permanent residency will no longer able be to drive with a foreign licence.
- Overstay penalties due to be imposed on 21 April are postponed until further notice.
- If a request to submit additional documents to the immigration authorities was made by 17 March 2020, the deadline to respond is extended until 12 February.
- If a request to submit additional documents to the immigration authorities was made between 17 March 2020 and 11 February 2021, the deadline to respond will begin running from 12 February 2021.
- Appeals may be filed up until 1 March 2021 by appointment only. Appointments can be scheduled from 11 January 2021 onwards by calling 1311 or through www.migracion.go.cr. If the applicant misses an appointment to file an appeal, the appeal will be declared inadmissible.

CÔTE D'IVOIRE

Entry Restrictions

- Airports have reopened to international flights.
- All travellers over the age of 12 arriving in Cote d'Ivoire from any destination must have:
  - a printed negative COVID-19 PCR test certificate from a test carried out no more than 7 days prior to travel.
  - A completed and printed *health declaration form*.

CROATIA

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 13 January 2021, entry is suspended with the following exceptions:
  - Travellers arriving directly from countries/regions of the EU/Schengen which are currently on the ***green list*** of the ECDC are not subject either to presenting a negative PCR test result or to self-isolation.

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- Travellers arriving from countries/regions of the EU/EEA/Switzerland which are ***not on <u>the green list of the ECDC</u>*** must present a negative COVID-19 PCR test result not older than 48 hours or undergo a PCR test immediately on arrival at their own expense, and remain in self-isolation util they obtain a negative result. Exceptions include:
    - workers or self-employed persons performing essential tasks, including healthcare workers, frontier and posted workers and seasonal workers as specified in the Guidelines concerning the exercise of the free movement of workers during COVID-19 outbreak, provided they do not stay in Croatia or outside Croatia for longer than 12 hours;
    - pupils, students and interns who travel abroad every day, provided that they do not stay in Croatia or outside Croatia for longer than 12 hours;
    - seafarers and workers in the transport sector or transport service providers, including heavy goods vehicle drivers transporting goods to be used in the national territory and those who only transit;
    - diplomats, staff of international organizations and persons invited by international organizations whose physical presence is necessary for the functioning of those organizations, military personnel and police officers, as well as humanitarian and civil protection personnel in the performance of their duties;
    - persons traveling for necessary family or business reasons, including journalists in the performance of their duties;
    - passengers in transit with the obligation to leave Croatia within 12 hours from entry;
    - patients traveling for urgent health reasons.
- Citizens of EU/Schengen states (including Croatian citizens), their family members and third-country nationals with long-term EU residence, residence rights or national long-term visas, ***arriving from third countries***, must present a negative COVID-19 PCR test result not older than 48 hours or undergo a PCR test immediately on arrival at their own expense, and remain in self-isolation untiol they obtain a negative result.
    - Exceptions to the test requirement exist for healthcare workers, health researchers and caregivers for the elderly, frontier workers, workers in the transport sector, diplomats, staff of international organizations and persons invited by international organizations whose physical presence is necessary for the good functioning of those organizations, military personnel and police officers, as well as humanitarian and civil protection personnel in the performance of their duties, passengers in transit with the obligation to leave the Republic of Croatia within 12 hours from entry and persons travelling for schooling purposes, as well as persons who travel for urgent personal / family reasons, business reasons or have some other economic interest, and do not stay in the Republic of Croatia for more than 12 hours.

- Travellers of any nationality arriving from ***Annex I countries*** (*Australia, Japan, New Zealand, Rwanda, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand or Uruguay*) are exempt from the test requirement.
- Travellers who ***transited*** other countries/regions on the way to Croatia from countries/regions in the green list or Annex I countries must prove that they did not remain in transit areas longer than 48 hours nor stay in self-isolation.
- ***Non-resident third-country nationals arriving from third countries*** are permitted to enter only if they are

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    - healthcare workers, health researchers and caregivers for the elderly;
    - frontier workers (as well as e.g. athletes as stated in the exceptions for passengers within the EU / EEA);
    - workers in the transport sector;
    - diplomats, staff of international organizations and persons invited by international organizations whose physical presence is necessary for the good functioning of those organizations, military personnel and police officers, as well as humanitarian and civil protection personnel in the performance of their duties;
    - passengers in transit;
    - persons travelling for schooling purposes;
    - seafarers (PCR test required);
    - persons travelling for urgent personal / family reasons, business reasons or other economic interest (PCR test required).
  - Persons who have a negative PCR test result obtained in Croatia due to a short trip abroad and who return to Croatia within less than 48 hours from the day of testing, i.e. within the period of test validity, will not be required to present a new PCR test from the country in which they have been staying for a short time, but will be allowed to enter upon presenting the test obtained in Croatia.
  - All travellers are advised to announce their visit by completing the *EnterCroatia online form* to shorten the waiting time at the border.

CUBA

Entry Restrictions

- International commercial and charter flights to Havana are suspended and are expected to resume in November. Havana airport is open for humanitarian and repatriation flights. Cuban citizens and foreign nationals with valid permanent residence may be able to enter on these flights. These passengers on flights to Havana are subject to 14-day self-quarantine.
- Other airports have resumed international commercial and charter flights, including Cayo Coco and Varadero.
- All travellers must complete a health declaration form with their accommodation details, obtain COVID-19 health insurance and undergo a free PCR test on arrival.

Immigration Concessions

- Foreign nationals with valid residence in Cuba who are stranded abroad due to COVID-19 travel restrictions can extend their stay outside Cuba for another year without losing their status and benefits as residents.

CURAÇAO

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 1 January 2021, Curaçao has updated its lists of countries by COVID-19 risk.

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- ***Low risk*** countries include *Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Aruba, ~~**Barbados**~~, Bermuda, Bonaire, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Dominica, Grenada, Montserrat, Saba, Saint Barthelemy, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, St. Eustatius, Sint Maarten, Saint Martin, St. Vincent and Grenadines, Turks & Caicos.*
- ***All other countries are considered high-risk countries***.

- Travellers from high-risk countries must provide a negative result of a COVID-19 PCR test taken within 72 hours of travel.
- Travellers from US must present a state-issued ID as proof of residence.
- Travellers from locations not on either list are required to:
  - request a travel exemption from the Curacao government
  - commit to 14-day quarantine on arrival;
  - Provide a negative result of a COVID-19 PCR test taken within 72 hours of travel.
- All travellers are required to complete a digital immigration card and a Health Department Passenger Locator Card before travelling
- All arrivals must have international medical insurance.
- 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 until 31 March 2021, all travellers arriving from the United Kingdom must:
  - Undergo a laboratory test on arrival at Larnaka or Pafos airports;
  - Undergo a mandatory 7-day hotel quarantine;
  - Undergo another laboratory test on the 7th day after arrival;
  - Remain in self-isolation for 3 more days if the result is negative.
- Effective 1 March 2021:
- Travellers from ***Green Category*** countries (Australia, Iceland, New Zealand, Saudi Arabia, Singapore) are not required to present a negative PCR test result on arrival or undergo self-isolation.
  - However, effective 1-31 March 2021, green category passengers must undergo a PCR test on arrival.
- Travellers from ***Orange Category*** countries (China (including Hong Kong and Macau), Denmark, Finland**,** Norway, South Korea, Thailand) are required to present a certificate of a negative result of a COVID-19 PCR test taken no more than 72 hours prior to travel.
  - However, the following passenger categories are permitted to alternatively undergo a PCR test on arrival at their own expense, and to remain in self-isolation until a negative test result is issued:
    - Cypriot citizens and their family members; Foreign residents of Cyprus; those entering under the Vienna Convention; residents of countries that do not provide a laboratory testing service.
- Travellers from ***Red Category*** countries (*Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy,*

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Latvia, Lithuania, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Vatican) are required to present a negative COVID-19 PCR test taken within 72 hours before arrival AND undertake a PCR test on arrival at their own expense AND remain in self-isolation until a negative test result is issued.
    - However, the following passenger categories are permitted to alternatively undergo a PCR test on arrival at their own expense, and to remain in self-isolation until a negative test result is issued:
        - Cypriot citizens and their family members; Foreign residents of Cyprus; those entering under the Vienna Convention;
- Certain categories of travelers are permitted to enter from ***Grey Category*** countries (United Kingdom, Israel, Russia, United Arab Emirates, Ukraine, Jordan, Lebanon, Egypt, Belarus, Rwanda):
    - This applies to Cypriot citizens and family members; citizens of the EU, EEA and Switzerland; foreign residents of Cyprus; those entering under the Vienna Convention; third-country nationals with special permission to enter.
    - Grey-category passengers are required to present a negative PCR test taken within 72 hours before travel.
    - Cypriot citizens and family members, foreign residents of Cyprus, those entering under the Vienna Convention and third-country nationals with special permission to enter may alternatively undergo the PCR test on arrival at their own expense.
    - Passengers arriving in the from the Grey Category countries must remain in mandatory self-isolation or mandatory quarantine for a period of 14 days or alternatively, in mandatory self-isolation or mandatory quarantine for a period of 10 days provided that they undergo another COVID-19 test (at their own expense) on the 10th day and the result comes back negative. The test result must be sent to the following email address: monada@mphs.moh.gov.cy.
- All passengers, regardless of nationality, are required to apply for the CyprusFlightPass within 24 hours before the departure of their flight.

Immigration Restrictions

- From 16 February, the Civil Registry and Migration Department has reopened at its new office at Makarios III Avenue, Nicosia. It will continue to serve the public only for urgent issues, only with appointment and only for health related matters, or in the event where there is a vital need for a person to enter or leave the Republic of Cyprus.
- Applications for urgent passport issuance will be handled by the Nicosia District Administration Office.

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.

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- 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.

CZECH REPUBLIC

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 26 February 2021, exit is suspended to extreme risk countries.
    - This applies to Czech citizens and foreign residents.
    - Extreme risk countries include Botswana, Brazil, Eswatini, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa, Tanzania (including Zanzibar and Pemba islands), Zambia, Zimbabwe.
- Effective 5 February 2021:
    - There is a new category of so-called ***dark red (very high risk) countries*** with the strictest epidemiologic measures applicable to journeys from this category. This means that there is the obligation to submit a first PCR test done at most 72 hours before entry, followed by a second PCR test undergone in the Czech Republic at the earliest the 5th day from the entry. The self-isolation is obligatory until the second negative test result is submitted.
    - In case of journeys from ***orange and red countries***, there is the obligation to submit an antigen test (taken at most 24 hours before departure) or PCR test (taken at most 72 hours before departure). In case of red countries, a person must likewise undergo a second PCR test in the Czech Republic (this can be undergone also earlier than the 5th day from the entry). The self-isolation is obligatory until the second negative test result is submitted.
    - There is the obligation to fill in the electronic Public Health Passenger Locator Form in case of journeys from all ***orange, red and dark red*** categories of countries. The form will be checked along with the test at the entry to the Czech Republic.
    - There will be exceptions applicable to these rules, especially in regard to the international transport and regular cross-border movement for the purpose of work, study and childcare.
    - The journeys of Czech citizens from the Czech Republic for other reasons than those absolutely essential continue to be strongly discouraged.
- Effective 31 January 2021, entry is permitted for foreign nationals only for essential reasons.
- Effective 14 January 2021, as a result of the reintroduction of border controls at borders between Austria and Czech Republic, Austria will close some of the border-crossing points.
- All travellers who have visited the United Kingdom in the last 14 days are subject to 10-day self-isolation.

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- Self-isolation may be ended by the presentation of a negative result of a PCR test carried out no earlier than the 5th to the 7th day after arrival.

- All travellers from the United Kingdom are required to present a negative result of a COVID-19 antigen or RT-PCR test taken in the UK in the previous 72 hours.
- Entry by air from the United Kingdom is only permitted for the below-specified categories of persons:

  - citizens of the Czech Republic with their common place of residence in the territory of the Czech Republic or their family members who accompany them,
    b) EU citizens with a certificate of temporary residence in the territory of the Czech Republic or with a permanent residence permit for residence in the territory of the Czech Republic or their family members who accompany them,
    c) holders of a valid long-term visa, a long-term or permanent residence permit card for residence in the territory of the Czech Republic, issued by the Czech Republic,
    d) other foreign nationals who only transit by air across the territory of the Czech Republic or who change flights at the same airport for up to 12 hours after their arrival.
  - Arrivals from high-risk countries must self-isolate for 10 days or until a negative PCR test result is submitted to the respective regional hygienic station.

- Entry is permitted from any country for up to 24 hours for urgent health, family, business and work reasons without completing a Public Health Passenger Locator Form prior to entry or undergoing a PCR test after entry.
- The government has divided countries into low risk (green and orange) countries and high risk (red) countries.
- Effective 1 March:
  - ***Low-risk (green)*** countries include Australia, Iceland, New Zealand, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand, Vatican.
  - ***Medium-risk (orange)*** countries include the Azores (Portugal), Denmark, Finland, Greece, Norway.
  - ***High-risk (red)*** countries include ~~***Andorra***~~, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canary Islands and Balearic Islands (Spain), Croatia, Cyprus, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madeira, Malta, (Portugal), the Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Sweden, Switzerland.
  - **Very high risk (dark red)** countries include Andorra, Estonia, Latvia, Monaco, Portugal (except Azores), San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain (except Canary Islands and Balearic Islands) and all other third countries.
  - Foreign national employees/students travelling from ***Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Ireland, Malta and Norway, the Azores and Madeira (Portugal), the Canary Islands and the Balearic Islands (Spain)*** (orange countries) and from ***all red countries*** cannot enter the workplace / educational institute until they have submitted the result of a PCR test taken in the Czech Republic to their employer/institution.
- All arrivals who have spent more than 12 hours in the last 14 days in red countries
- must submit an online form before entry and undergo a PCR test within 5 days after entry.

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- If they do not submit a negative result to the relevant hygiene station within 7 days of entry, they are subject to quarantine.
- Until the PCR test result is submitted or for the duration of the necessary quarantine measure, there is a free movement ban within the Czech Republic and an obligation to wear facemasks.
- Alternatively, Czech citizens, EU citizens and third-country nationals with a long-term or permanent residence permit in the Czech Republic or another EU country can submit to the relevant hygiene station, on arrival, a negative PCR test result issued by another EU member state no more than 72 hours prior to arrival.
- This does not apply to:
  - International transport workers;
  - citizens of the European Union and foreign nationals with long-term or permanent residence in the European Union, who travel from/to the Czech Republic for a period of time not exceeding 24 hours.
  - cross-border workers, pupils and students who for the purpose of work performance or education on a regular basis at least once a week justifiably cross the border with the Czech Republic from or to a neighbouring state;

- Entry is permitted for Czech/EU/EEA/Swiss/microstates citizens and third-country citizens of low-risk third countries or who hold a residence permit issued by the Czech Republic or an EU member state or a low-risk country.

  - Third-country citizens resident in Czech Republic require a temporary, long-term or permanent residence permit; a long-term visa; or a short-term visa issued after 11 May 2020.
  - Citizens of third countries in a low-risk country require permission to enter the Czech Republic (visa-free travel; or a residence permit issued by another EU state; or a visa issued by Czech Republic or another EU member state);
  - Third-country citizens resident in an EU member state require a long-term or permanent residence permit from an EU member state (a long-term or short-term visa is not sufficient).
  - Third-country citizens resident in a low-risk third country require BOTH
    - a long-term or permanent residence permit from a green third country (a long-term or short-term visa is not sufficient); AND
    - permission to enter the Czech Republic (visa-free travel; or a residence permit issued by another EU state; or a visa issued by Czech Republic or another EU member state).

- Entry is suspended for third-country citizens and residents of red countries, with the exception of:

  - Holders of a long-term or permanent residence permit issued by a low-risk country;
  - Holders of a valid long-term visa, long-term, temporary or permanent residence permit issued by the Czech Republic;
  - Holders of a short-stay visa by the Czech Republic after 11 May 2020;
  - Foreign nationals with a long-term or permanent residency permit in the European Union;

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- Family members of citizens of the Czech Republic or of citizens of the EU resident in the Czech Republic;
- Entry in the interest of the Czech Republic;
- International transport workers;
- Accredited members of diplomatic missions in the Czech Republic, including private service members, holders of diplomatic passports travelling to the Czech Republic for up to 14 days for service purposes and official of international organisations registered with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Urgent emergency situations;
- Those with a proven long-term relationship with an EU citizen who has a certificate of temporary residence or permanent residence permit issued by the Czech Republic. To obtain an authorisation, a declaration of honour of partnership must be download here.

- Foreign nationals applying for a residence permit for economic or educational activity must submit a document guaranteeing the above obligations of the sponsoring entity.
- Applications for visas and temporary and permanent stays are only to be accepted at consular posts in low-risk countries, with the following exceptions:

  - Short-stay visas for the purpose of seasonal employment or for the purpose of employment if the foreign national is employed in food production, health care or social services, or short-stay visas for the purpose of employment, if they are filed in Ukraine by Ukrainian nationals, provided they do not exceed the maximum number of such applications stipulated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs upon discussion with the Ministry of Health,
  - Short-stay visas for scientific, key and highly qualified staff, provided that the conditions set out in the Key and Scientific Staff Programme and the Highly Qualified Staff Programme, and critical infrastructure service staff are met,
  - Family members of citizens of the Czech Republic or of citizens of the EU resident in the Czech Republic; entry in the interest of the Czech Republic; international transport workers; accredited members of diplomatic missions in the Czech Republic, including private service members, holders of diplomatic passports travelling to the Czech Republic for up to 14 days for service purposes and official of international organisations registered with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; or urgent emergency situations;
  - long-term visas for the purpose of seasonal employment;
  - Extraordinary work visas;
  - Temporary residence, if they are submitted by foreign nationals included in government programmes in order to achieve an economic or other significant benefit for the Czech Republic;
  - Permanent residence, if they are submitted by foreign nationals included in the government program according to Government Resolution No. 1014/2014;
  - A blue card, long-term residence permit for the purpose of scientific research and applications for residence permits for over 90 days for the spouses and minor children of scientific workers or persons applying for a blue card;
  - Long-term visas and long-term residency permits for the purpose of study;
  - Long-term or permanent residence permits for the purpose of joint family cohabitation in the country and applications for long-term visas for family purposes, in the case of spouses or minor children of a foreign national with a long-term or permanent residence permit in the Czech Republic;

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- Long-term visas for the purpose of picking up a residence permit in the Czech Republic;
- Long-term visas for the purpose of culture, sports or a working holiday;
- Residency permit, if the entry of these foreign nationals is in the interest of the Czech Republic.

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

- Borders, airports and ports have 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 stricter restrictions for travellers from the United Kingdom are lifted.
- Effective 17 February 2021:

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    - Persons entering from the ***border regions*** (Schleswig-Holstein, southern Sweden (the provinces of Blekinge and Scania) and western Sweden (the provinces of Halland and West Gothia)) with a worthy purpose must provide a negative COVID-19 test taken no more than 72 hours before entry (previously within 7 days of entry).
    - Persons arriving to work, provide services or visit a close relative in a border region are exempted from the post-entry testing and self-isolation rules if they present a negative COVID-19 test taken no more than 72 hours before entry (previously within 7 days of entry).
- The following measures, originally effective until 28 February 2021, are extended until 5 April 2021:
    - All persons arriving by air, and non-resident foreign nationals arriving by sea or land, must present ***a negative test*** taken no more than 24 hours before boarding;
        - Exemptions for children under the age of 15, those with proof of a positive COVID-19 test at least 14 days and no more than 12 weeks old.
    - On arrival by air, ***a rapid test*** must be taken before leaving the airport.
        - Exemptions for children under the age of 15, those with proof of a positive COVID-19 test at least 14 days and no more than 12 weeks old.
    - On arrival by sea or land, a new rapid or PCR test must be taken no later than 24 hours after entry.
        - Exemptions listed *here*.
    - All entrants must ***self-isolate*** for 10 days.
        - Exemptions for children under the age of 15; persons who have obtained a negative test for COVID-19; those with proof of a positive COVID-19 test at least 14 days and no more than 12 weeks old and certain other purposes, depending on citizenship and country of residence, as listed *here*.
    - Self-isolation may be temporarily broken for certain purposes:
        - To seek necessary treatment in the health service, including to obtain a rapid test (antigen) or PCR test for COVID-19; to visit close acquaintances who are seriously ill or dying; to attend a funeral or burial of a close acquaintance; to attend the birth of their child; to participate in court proceedings or similar.
        - Certain other purposes, depending on citizenship and country of residence, as listed *here*.
    - Self-isolation may be ended with a negative PCR test taken no earlier than the fourth day after entry.
- Entry is only permitted for the following ***worthy purposes***:
    - ***To work in Denmark***;
        - These travellers must be able to present a valid employment contract from an employer in Denmark;
        - a valid work permit (if required) or proof of self-employment, such as a certificate of incorporation.
    - ***To attend a critical business meeting***;
        - These travellers must be able to present:
            - Evidence, such as an email, of the time and place of the meeting/work;

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        - Documentation from a company/business partner confirming that they need to enter Denmark to attend the meeting.
    - ***To perform services or transport goods into or out of Denmark***;
        - These travellers must be able to present:
            - Proof of the transaction in the form of an invoice, a receipt, a purchase agreement or the like;
            - Receipt for registration in the Register of Foreign Service Providers (Registret for Udenlandske Tjenesteydere), RUT. The receipt must be reforwarded by the employer to the employee;
            - Proof of social security (PD A1) in connection with work in another EU/EEA country issued by the authorities in the country of origin of the employer/the self-employed person;
    - Sailor, crew member on a plane, diplomat, etc;
    - Family member of a resident of Denmark;
    - Spouse, live-in partner, child or stepchild of a person sent by a state, holding a diplomatic passport or similar document;
    - To have parenting time with minors;
    - Primary caregiver for minor children;
    - Family or significant other of someone who is seriously ill or dying in Denmark;
    - To participate in an ongoing course of treatment with the health authorities;
    - To attend the birth of their child or attend a funeral;
    - To participate in legal proceedings;
- Entry from ~~**the United Kingdom or**~~ ***South Africa*** is only permitted for the following worthy purposes:
    - Is primary caregiver for minor children
    - Is family or significant other of someone who is seriously ill or dying in Denmark
    - Entry for the purpose of freight transport.
- Passengers on connecting flights to Denmark ***transiting*** in one or more airports have two different options:
        - They can take a test no more than 24 hours before boarding the first flight;
        - They can take a test while in transit.
    - Even when a test is taken in the first country of departure, the Danish testing requirement only applies to the connecting flight to Denmark. In the transit airport, the airline must make sure that test was taken no more than 24 hours before the passenger boarded the first flight. However, this possibility applies only if the ticket has been booked as a combined flight ticket.
- Passengers who have previously tested positive for COVID-19, and who may therefore afterwards return a positive test result for a long period even though they can no longer transmit the disease, may show a positive COVID-19 test taken between two and eight weeks ago instead of a negative test.

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).

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- 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 30 November 2020 (Danish Immigration Service) or 4 weeks after application submission (SIRI).
- 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

- Air, land and sea borders are open and international flights have resumed.
- All arrivals are required to present a certificate of a negative result from a COVID-19 PCR test taken within 72 hours before departure from their country of origin, and within 120 hours before arrival in Djibouti.
- All arrivals aged over 11 years will be tested for COVID-19 on arrival, at their own expense, and will have to remain at the point of entry until they receive the test results (approximately 4 hours). If the result is positive, they will have to quarantine at a government-designated facility, at their own expense, until they test negative.

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DOMINICA

Entry Restrictions

- International flights have reopened.
- All travellers must:
  - Submit a health questionnaire online at least 24 hours prior to arrival, and must present notification of health clearance to travel to airlines prior to boarding and upon disembarkation in Dominica;
  - Undergo a rapid diagnostic test and health screening on arrival.
  - If the rapid test is positive, or the traveller is symptomatic or a high-risk alert:
    - A PCR test will be administered and the traveller will await the results in a government-approved facility at their own expense.
    - If the PCR test is positive, the traveller will be admitted to a COVID-19 Isolation Unit until release is authorised.
    - If the PCR test result is negative:
      - Asymptomatic travellers will be monitored for the remainder of the 14 days at their place of residence.
      - Symptomatic travellers will be placed on self-quarantine for 3 days at their place of residence, after which they will be monitored for the remainder of the 14 days.
  - Submit to scheduled and unscheduled checks by medical professionals during their stay.
- Travellers who have spent at least the last 21 days in ***high-risk countries*** (***Antigua and Barbuda from 7/2/21***, Argentina, Aruba, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Curacao, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, France, Germany, Guadeloupe, Guyana, Haiti, India, Iran, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Martinique, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Russia, South Africa, Sint Maarten/Saint Martin, Spain, St Lucia, St Vincent and Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Turks and Caicos Islands, United Kingdom, United States) ***are required*** to submit a negative PCR test result obtained within 24-72 hours prior to arrival. On arrival, if their rapid test is positive, a PCR test will be administered and the traveller will await the results in a government-approved facility at their own expense. If the rapid test is negative, they are subject to at least 5 days of mandatory quarantine at a government-operated quarantine facility, or Managed Experience at a Safe in Nature certified property (or medically cleared after a negative PCR test on day 5).
- Travellers who have spent at least the last 21 days in ***medium-risk countries*** Finland, Nigeria, Sweden, Switzerland) ***are required*** to submit a negative PCR test result obtained within 24-72 hours prior to arrival. On arrival, if their rapid test is negative, they will be monitored for 14 days at their place of residence (or released from monitoring after a negative PCR test result on day 5).
- Travellers who have spent at least the last 21 days in ***low-risk countries*** (Anguilla, ~~***Antigua and Barbuda***~~, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Caymen Islands, Greenland, Grenada, Iceland, Montserrat, New Zealand, Norway, St Kitts and Nevis, Singapore) ***are required*** to submit a negative PCR test result obtained within 24-72 hours prior to arrival. On arrival, if their rapid test is negative, they will be monitored for 7 days at their place of residence.

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DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Entry Restrictions

- Currently, only Dominican citizens are allowed to take ferry flights from the United Kingdom (England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales) to Dominican Republic, and those passengers must quarantine for 7 days upon arrival. Ferry flights also transport UK citizens from the Dominican Republic to their country. Travelers whose trip originates in the UK and arrive to the Dominican Republic via connecting flights must also quarantine for 7 days upon arrival. All quarantines take place in facilities assigned by the Dominican government and may be extended, pending a negative PCR test result.
- Passengers travelling from the United Kingdom to the Dominican Republic are required to present a negative COVID-19 PCR test certificate issued not more than 72 hours before travel. Travellers arriving from the UK without a negative PCR certificate are subject to COVID-19 testing upon arrival and must quarantine for the next 7 days in a government facility, at their own expense. Quarantine may be extended, pending negative test results.
- Random aleatory breath testing may be carried out on arrival at the airport. All arrivals must undergo temperature checks. Passengers testing positive on arrival or during their stay will be quarantined at government-authorised locations.
- All foreign and Dominican passengers entering or leaving Dominican Republic must complete the electronic entry and exit form, which combines the Traveller's Health Affidavit, Customs Declaration and International Embarkation/Disembarkation forms.
    - Until 31 January 2021, Dominican authorities will accept both types of registrations to enter the country: the current one through physical forms, and the new one through the digital system.
    - As of 1 February 2021, the use of digital forms will be mandatory.
    - The form can be accessed through the following link: *https://eticket.migracion.gob.do*.
    - Passengers will need to fill out a form for arrival and another one for departure and the system will generate two QR codes that will be scanned by the authorities at the port of entry and during departure.
    - Dominican airports have free internet access, so that passengers who did not fill out the form before flying can do so when they arrive in the country.
- All international tourists arriving on commercial flights on or before 31 March 2021 and visiting a hotel will be granted during the check-in process a temporary, free health coverage plan that provides coverage for emergencies in the event of an infection or exposure to COVID-19 while in-country.

Immigration Restrictions

- Immigration offices in DR have reopened.

ECUADOR

Entry Restrictions

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- 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.
- All land borders with Colombia and Peru remain closed until further notice. However, Ecuadorean nationals and foreign residents may be allowed to enter Ecuador, via Rumichaca and Huaquillas northern and southern borders. All ports remain closed.

Immigration Restrictions

- The MFA has implemented an appointment system for residence visa renewals and other services.

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.
- For foreign emergency residents of Ecuador who are unable to return to Ecuador during the period, their maximum time to remain abroad will not be affected.

EGYPT

Entry Restrictions

- All travellers over the age of 6, including Egyptian nationals, arriving at all airports, are required to submit a printed negative COVID-19 PCR test certificate, in English or Arabic, for a test taken at most 72 hours before arrival.

    - Transit passengers are exempt from this requirement.
    - For passengers travelling from New Zealand, Australia, Japan, China, Thailand, North and South America, Canada, London Heathrow, Paris, and Frankfurt, the COVID-19 PCR test can be conducted up to 96 hours before their departure on their final direct flight to Egypt.

- All travellers must also show proof of health insurance.

Immigration Restrictions

- Immigration and work permit authorities have resumed services.

Immigration Restrictions

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- Visitors who remain in Egypt beyond the duration of their tourist visa have up to 14 extra days to attend the Passports, Emigration and Nationality Administration to renew their status, after which time they will have to pay an overstay fine, unless this is waived on a case-by-case basis.

EL SALVADOR

Entry Restrictions

- International flights have resumed and the border is open to all nationalities.
- Travellers are required to present a COVID-19 PCR test with a negative result issued not more than 72 hours prior to travel.

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

- ***Quarantine*** rules:
    - Travellers who began their journey from or transited through a country without health data or with an infection rate ***under 150*** per 100,000 in the past 14 days is not subject to mandatory 10-day quarantine.
    - Travellers who began their journey from or transited through a country without health data or with an infection rate of ***more than 150*** per 100,000 in the past 14 days (a risk country) is subject to mandatory 10-day quarantine.
    - Travellers arriving from Finland, Latvia or Lithuania are now subject to these same quarantine rules.
    - Travellers (except for citizens of third countries arriving with the purpose of working or studying) who do not wish to quarantine for 10 days on arrival must arrive with a negative PCR test taken up to 72 hours before arrival (or, if this is not possible, take a test on arrival). They can then be retested no earlier than 6 days after the first test was taken and may leave self-isolation early if both tests are negative.
    - Travellers aged over 10 years arriving from the United Kingdom are required to present a negative result of a COVID-19 test carried out no more than 72 hours prior to arrival (or on arrival if necessary).
        - This also applies to travellers who have transited through the UK.
        - Passengers coming from the United Kingdom must still self-isolate for 10 days after the arrival. The 10-day self-isolation period may be

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shortened if the person takes another test on the seventh day after arrival and if both tests are negative.

- Arrivals who have proof of vaccination are not required to quarantine:
  - Vaccinations can be from one of nine global suppliers, as things stand, and not only the three European Union-approved producers.
  - The same exemption applies to those who have already contracted the coronavirus during the preceding six months, and recovered, providing they also have proof of this.
  - The vaccination certificate must reflect the individual's personal data in Estonian, Russian or English, as well as the disease against which the person has been vaccinated, when the vaccine was formulated, which vaccine was used as well as data on the issuer of the vaccine, and the vaccine batch number.

- Effective 1 – 7 March 2021:
  - Arrivals from the following countries are ***subject to mandatory 10-day quarantine***: Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Cyprus, France, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, ***~~Rwanda~~***, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and Vatican, ***and all other third countries***.
  - Arrivals from the following countries are ***not subject to mandatory 10-day quarantine***: Australia, Croatia, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Liechtenstein, New Zealand, Norway, ***Rwanda***, Singapore, South Korea and Thailand.
- All arrivals must compete a Passenger Locator Form up to 24 hours before arrival.
- Entry is permitted for:
  - Estonian citizens and their family members;
  - Citizens and residents of the EU, Schengen and the microstates, and individuals with a long-stay visa and their family members, with no symptoms;
  - Residents of Australia, New Zealand, Rwanda, Singapore, South Korea and Thailand with no symptoms;
  - ***Citizens of other foreign states arriving from countries not listed above for work or studies***:
    - Subject to 10-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 10-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 10 day after their arrival;
    - The employee or student is not allowed to start working and studying respectively for the first 10 days following their arrival in Estonia;
    - The employee or student can start work and studies respectively from the 11th day since their arrival on the condition that their second coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 test was negative.

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ETHIOPIA

Entry Restriction

- All travellers over 12 are required to present a negative PCR test certificate from a COVID-19 test conducted no more than 5 days prior to their travel to Ethiopia. This does not apply to travellers transiting through the airport for up to 72 hours. Travellers under 12 are exempted if they are travelling with their parents who have a negative COVID-19 PCR test certificate.
- All international travellers, other than those in transit, are subject to a 7-day self-quarantine (previously 14 days).
    - Ethiopian citizens may complete their 7-day quarantine at home;
    - Foreign nationals must complete their 7-day quarantine at designated hotels at their own expense.
- Flights are operational to and from many, but not all, international destinations – the latest details are here.

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.

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FINLAND

Entry Restrictions

- Effective until 18 March:
  - Commuting into Finland from all Schengen countries for work is permitted only for essential purposes.
    - Essential travel constitutes work that is important for the functioning of society or for security of supply, that must be performed by a person or persons arriving from another country and that must be carried out without delay.
    - The Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment maintains a list of the work that is considered important for the functioning of society or for security of supply. However, any critical task included in the list does not automatically mean that entry into the country is warranted. Employers must use a separate form to justify why the job of a worker seeking entry into Finland is essential and why the work must be performed without delay. The worker seeking to enter Finland presents this form in the border check in addition to other documents required for crossing the border.
  - See below for other permitted essential reasons for entry from Restriction Category 1 or 2 countries.
  - The right to enter Finland on the basis of belonging to a border community is suspended. However, a Finnish citizen will continue to have the right to enter and leave the country.
- A 10-day period of self-isolation is recommended for travellers arriving in Finland from a higher incidence country.
  - Travellers can shorten their self-isolation period at their discretion if they take two voluntary COVID-19 tests. It is recommended to take the first test in the country of origin no more than 72 hours prior to travel. Alternatively, the first test can be taken at the airport on arrival , but the traveller may have to queue for several hours for this and may have to wait days for the result.
  - The second test should be taken no sooner than 72 hours after arrival.
  - If a traveller is staying in Finland for less than 72 hours, they do not need to self-isolate or take a second test.
- Effective 22 February:
  - ***Unrestricted entry ('green')*** is permitted from *Australia,* ***~~Iceland~~****, New Zealand,* ***~~Rwanda~~****, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand* and *the Vatican*.
  - ***Restriction Category 1*** is in force from *Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary,* ***Iceland****, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland.*
    - Self-isolation for 10 days upon arrival from these countries is recommended.
    - Those wishing to cross the internal border must use border crossing points where border control has been reinstated. Crossing the border in other places is not permitted without a border crossing permit.
    - On the border rivers between Finland and Sweden and Finland and Norway, border crossing on ice is permissible. However, going ashore on the soil of another country is not permitted.

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- ***Restriction category 2*** is in force from all other countries (***including the United Kingdom***).
    - Self-isolation for 10 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.
        - UK citizens and their family members residing in Finland who the Withdrawal Agreement applies to.
    - ***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.
        - UK citizens and their family members residing in Finland who the Withdrawal Agreement applies to.
    - ***Essential travel:***
        - Work that is significant for the functioning of society or supply security, the implementation of which requires the work performance of a person or persons coming from another country and the work cannot be delayed;
            - *The Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment has overseen the process of defining the types of work that are important for the functioning of society or security of supply and cannot tolerate delay.* This list of critical tasks does not constitute an advance decision granting entry into the country. The employer or the client must use *a separate form to justify the necessity of an employee entering the country*. In addition to the other documents required for border crossing, the employee seeking to enter Finland presents this form at the border check.
            - The border control authority will consider the list of critical tasks and the employer's explanation when assessing a necessary reason for entry.
        - Health care and rescue service personnel (including first aid) and elderly care professionals during assignments as well as personnel performing essential work tasks;
        - Freight transport and logistics personnel during assignments;
        - Diplomats, holders of official and service passports, staff of international organisations, military personnel and humanitarian aid workers in the exercise of their duties;
        - State representatives participating in international negotiations and persons engaged in work for international NGOs;
        - Persons studying in Finland;
        - Persons with a Finnish residence permit and EU/Schengen citizens who have registered their right of residence;
        - Persons travelling for family matters (e.g. meeting a relative, relationship, funerals, weddings, illness);
        - Persons in need of international protection or who are travelling for other humanitarian reasons;
        - Other necessary and justified reason (e.g. necessary or otherwise justified personal reasons, representatives of foreign media, scheduled

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air services at airports, property, residence or secondary residence in Finland, property arrangements in Finland and in internal border traffic, pursuit of the Sámi livelihood and culture).
    - ***Special groups*** (such as representatives of culture, sport and business life).
        - These kinds of tasks include activities essential for ensuring the revitalization, new growth, regional economy or long-term operating conditions for a field of activity.
        - Applications relating to special groups should be sent by email directly to the Finnish Border Guard (rajavartiolaitos@raja.fi). The application is made by the party extending the invitation.
- 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.
        - UK citizens and their family members residing in Finland who the Withdrawal Agreement applies to.
    - ***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.
        - UK citizens and their family members residing in Finland who the Withdrawal Agreement applies to.
    - ***Essential reasons.***
        - Work that is significant for the functioning of society or supply security, the implementation of which requires the work performance of a person or persons coming from another country and the work cannot be delayed;
            - *The Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment has overseen the process of defining the types of work that are important for the functioning of society or security of supply and cannot tolerate delay.* This list of critical tasks does not constitute an advance decision granting entry into the country. The employer or the client must use *a separate form to justify the necessity of an employee entering the country*. In addition to the other documents required for border crossing, the employee seeking to enter Finland presents this form at the border check.
            - The border control authority will consider the list of critical tasks and the employer's explanation when assessing a necessary reason for entry.
        - Health care and rescue service personnel (including first aid) and elderly care professionals during assignments as well as personnel performing essential work tasks;
        - Freight transport and logistics personnel during assignments
        - Diplomats, holders of official and service passports, staff of international organisations, military personnel and humanitarian aid workers in the exercise of their duties
        - State representatives participating in international negotiations and persons engaged in work for international NGOs
        - Persons travelling on a Finnish residence permit
        - Persons in need of international protection or who are travelling for other humanitarian reasons

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        - Pressing family matters (for example, the birth of one's own child, a serious illness of a close relative, one's own wedding, dating relationship) or other pressing personal reasons
        - Other necessary and justified transport such as representatives of the foreign media; transit of scheduled air services at airports and the arrival of a family member of a Finnish citizen living abroad
    - ***Special groups*** (such as representatives of culture, sports and business life).
        - These kinds of tasks include activities essential for ensuring the revitalization, new growth, regional economy or long-term operating conditions for a field of activity.
        - Applications relating to special groups should be sent by email directly to the Finnish Border Guard (rajavartiolaitos@raja.fi). The application is made by the party extending the invitation.
- 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.

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    - 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

- ***Effective 22 February 2021, hauliers arriving from the UK who have spent less than 48 hours in the UK do not need to present proof of a negative COVID-19 test.***
- Certain consulates have suspended the issuance of visas for family members of professional Talent Passport holders.
- Effective 31 January 2021:
    - All travellers entering France from ***the EU, Andorra, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Norway, San Marino, Switzerland or the Vatican*** by road, rail, air or sea must present:
        - A negative result of a PCR (not antigen) test taken no more than 72 hours before travel (if aged 11 years or over).
            - Exceptions exist for road carriers, frontier workers and residents of frontier living areas within an area of 30 km around their home;
        - A sworn declaration that:
            - they do not have COVID-19 symptoms;
            - they haven't been in contact with a confirmed COVID-19 case in the 14 days preceding travel;
            - they agree to undergo a COVID-19 test on arrival.
    - Entry is permitted ***for essential purposes only*** from ***the United Kingdom***. Please note that categories of travellers authorized to enter and compelling reasons are cumulative conditions. ***Effective 6 February 2021, posted workers and intra-company transfers from all non-EU countries are no longer considered authorised travellers (some exceptions exist for short-term posted workers whose assignments have high economic impact for France).*** All travellers must present:
        - A negative result of a PCR (not antigen) test taken no more than 72 hours before travel (if aged 11 years or over);
            - By exemption, hauliers may, in the absence of a PCR test, present the negative result of an antigenic (lateral flow) test, if the test is capable of detecting the N protein of SARS-CoV-2.
        - *An exempted international travel certificate**,*** including a sworn declaration that:
            - they do not have COVID-19 symptoms;
            - they haven't been in contact with a confirmed COVID-19 case in the 14 days preceding travel;
            - they agree to undergo a COVID-19 test on arrival;

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        - they will undergo self-isolation for 7 days on arrival, then take a second PCR test following the self-isolation period.
            - Hauliers are not subject to the 7-day isolation period or to the requirement to submit to a test at the end of this period.
    - Entry is permitted ***for essential purposes only*** from ***any other third country.*** Please note that categories of travellers authorized to enter and compelling reasons are cumulative conditions. ***Effective 6 February 2021, posted workers and intra-company transfers from all non-EU countries are no longer considered authorised travellers (some exceptions exist for short-term posted workers whose assignments have high economic impact for France).*** All travellers must present:
        - A negative result of a PCR (not antigen) test taken no more than 72 hours before travel (if aged 11 years or over);
        - *An exempted international travel certificate,* including a sworn declaration that:
            - they do not have COVID-19 symptoms;
            - they haven't been in contact with a confirmed COVID-19 case in the 14 days preceding travel;
            - they agree to undergo a COVID-19 test on arrival;
            - they will undergo self-isolation for 7 days on arrival, then take a second PCR test following the self-isolation period.
- Only certain essential purposes of entry are valid for travellers from outside ***the EU, Andorra, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Norway, San Marino, Switzerland or the Vatican*** – as listed on the respective travel certificate/sworn declaration form.
- ***Exit*** is permitted for essential purposes only.
- Workers with the nationality of an EU member state 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, 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.
- 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.

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- 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

- Effective until at least 1 December, France will be under new lockdown measures.
- *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.
- All in-country authorities are open.
- *Online submission* is available for certain residence permit applications. (

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.
- 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

- Land and sea borders have reopened, but flights are still limited.
- All arrivals are required to present a negative COVID-19 PCR test result, issued no more than 72 hours prior to arrival, or are subject to mandatory testing and a 14-day quarantine period at their own cost.

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GEORGIA

Entry Restrictions

- The following applies to ***Georgian citizens and their family members, and to nationals and permanent residents of Croatia, Cyprus, Greece, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden (travelling by air from the same countries, including transit from third countries)*** :
    - Those who present a negative result of a COVID-19 PCR test taken within the previous 72 hours, are subject to 8-day self-isolation.
    - Those who do not present a negative result of a COVID-19 PCR test taken within the previous 72 hours, are subject to 12-day self-isolation.
    - Individuals who have travelled to the United Kingdom in the previous 14 days are subject to 12-day self-isolation.
    - International students are required to present a negative result of a COVID-19 PCR test taken within the previous 72 hours and are subject to 12-day self-isolation.
- The following applies to citizens and residents of Estonia, France, Germany, Latvia and Lithuania travelling by air from or via the same 5 countries (including transit from third countries):
    - Those who travel from or via those 5 countries and present a negative result of a COVID-19 PCR test taken within the previous 72 hours, or obtain a negative test result from a test taken on arrival at the airport, are ***not required to self-isolate***.
    - Those who travel from or via any other country are subject to self-isolation if they provide a negative PCR test result, or quarantine if they do not provide a negative PCR test result.
    - Travellers must complete a form available at *StopCov.ge*.

GERMANY

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 14 February, entry restrictions also apply to travellers entering from ***Austria*** (Tyrol province except Lienz (East Tyrol), the municipality of Jungholz and the Rißtal valley in the municipal area of Vomp and Eben am Achensee) and ***the Czech Republic***, as areas of variant of concern.
    - These restrictions apply to both commercial and individual travel.
    - Transport bans are also in effect at these borders.
    - For travellers from the Tyrol and the Czech Republic, ***exceptions to the entry restrictions apply to employees who are essential for ensuring that enterprises continue to function,*** according to no. 2 of *the Communication from the Commission: Guidelines concerning the exercise of the free movement of workers during COVID-19 outbreak*.
        - Qualifying employees must provide evidence of such employment in the form of a work contract and, ***effective 17 February 2021, an individual official certificate issued by the authorities of the federal states of Saxony and Bavaria***.

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- For travellers from all areas of variant of concern, ***exceptions*** to the entry restrictions apply only to the following persons and in the following cases:
    - German citizens and members of their immediate family who are citizens of countries outside of the EU and are travelling with the German citizen. “Immediate family members” are spouses, registered civil partners, minor children and parents of minor children;
    - persons who are legal residents of Germany;
    - cargo transport staff and other staff needed for the transport of goods (including mail, freight and empty carriers, as well as returning aircraft, ships and crews);
    - medical staff (physicians, nurses, and staff of nursing homes) and other escort staff needed for air ambulance and organ transplant flights;
    - persons travelling to Germany for urgent humanitarian reasons. Urgent humanitarian reasons include the following:
        - death of an immediate relative (spouse, registered civil partner, own child or parent);
        - father for the birth of his child
        - two close relatives in the absence of any other adult entitled to care and custody of a minor child;
        - persons in need of medical treatment if serious harm to their health would otherwise result (confirmed by medical certificate) and one escort;
        - individuals admitted for humanitarian reasons in case of threat to life or limb;
    - persons travelling by order of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the United Nations (UN) or a UN organisation.
- Travellers to Germany who have been in a *risk area* in the 10 days prior to entry must:
    - ***register*** *online* prior to entry and present proof of this registration on entry;
    - ***self-isolate*** at home for 10 days.
        - the self-isolation may end after 5 days if a test for Coronavirus carried out on the fifth day after entry to Germany or later is negative.
        - The obligation to self-isolate at home does not apply in the case of ***transit*** through Germany. In this case, however, travellers are obliged to leave Germany immediately. The specific regulations of the Länder apply.
- Travelers entering or returning from risk areas with particularly high numbers of cases (***high-incidence areas***) and regions in which virus variants of concern have been recorded (***areas of variant of concern***) are particularly obliged to carry proof of a negative test result or corresponding medical certificate confirming the absence of infection with the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus upon entry.
    - This test must have been carried out at the earliest 48 hours before entry or must be carried out upon entry into the Federal Republic of Germany.
- Effective 2 March 2021:
    - The Moselle region of France is newly considered an area of variant of concern.
    - The following are considered **areas of variant of concern**
        - Austria *(Tyrol province except Lienz (East Tyrol), the municipality of Jungholz and the Rißtal valley in the municipal area of Vomp and Eben am Achensee)*
        - Botswana

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        - Brazil
        - Czech Republic
        - Eswatini
        - ***France (Moselle)***
        - Ireland
        - Lesotho
        - Malawi
        - Mozambique
        - Portugal
        - Slovakia
        - South Africa
        - The United Kingdom
        - Zambia
        - Zimbabwe
    - The following are considered **high incidence areas**:
        - ~~**Afghanistan**~~
        - Albania
        - Andorra
        - Bahrain
        - Bolivia
        - Bosnia and Herzegovina
        - Botswana
        - Colombia
        - Czech Republic
        - Ecuador
        - Egypt
        - Estonia
        - Greece (Attica, Central Greece)
        - Iran
        - Israel
        - Kosovo
        - Latvia
        - Lebanon
        - ~~**Lithuania**~~
        - Malawi
        - Mexico
        - Montenegro
        - Mozambique
        - North Macedonia
        - Palestine
        - Panama
        - Saint Lucia
        - Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
        - Serbia
        - Seychelles
        - Slovenia
        - ~~**Spain**~~
        - Sudan
        - Syria
        - United Arab Emirates
        - United States

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        - Zambia
        - Zimbabwe
    - The following are considered new risk areas:
        - **Antigua and Barbuda;**
        - **Afghanistan;**
        - **Lithuania;**
        - **Spain.**
    - The following are no longer considered risk areas**:**
        - **French Polynesia;**
        - **Curaçao.**
- Effective until 31 January 2021, hotels and other accommodation providers may only provide accommodation to people whose travel is essential, and not for tourism purposes.
    - Visas for tourism purposes will only be issued in exceptional cases.
    - The Länder are responsible for implementing this decision. Whether a specific journey is possible thus depends on the rules of the destination Land. More information for potential travellers can be found *here.*
- ***Entry is permitted*** for travellers arriving from EU member states, Schengen-associated states (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland) and the following non-EU countries: Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, Thailand.
    - Travellers from China, Hong Kong, Macau and South Korea will only be able to enter once they offer reciprocal entry permission to German nationals.
- Entry restrictions do not apply to:
    - German citizens;
    - EU citizens and nationals of Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland, and their immediate family members (spouse, unmarried minor children, parents of minors);
    - Third-country nationals holding residence permits or long-term visas for an EU member state or a Schengen country, and their immediate family members.
- Regardless of country of origin, entry is also permitted for third-country nationals with an ***urgent need*** to enter:
    - ***Skilled and highly-skilled foreign workers*** whose employment is necessary from an economic point of view and whose work cannot be postponed or be carried out abroad:
        - Skilled workers who have a concrete job offer as defined by law (sections 18 (3), 18a, 18b of the Residence Act (Aufenthaltsgesetz)) for which proof is given in the form of certification of employment;
        - Scientists/researchers (section 18d of the Residence Act);
        - Persons transferred (in accordance with section 19c (1) in conjunction with section 10 of the Ordinance on the Employment of Foreign nationals (Beschäftigungsverordnung)) and ICT limited to managers and specialists (sections 19 (2), 19b of the Residence Act);
        - Managers (section 19c (1) in conjunction with section 3 of the Ordinance on the Employment of Foreign nationals);
        - IT specialists (section 19c (2) of the Residence Act in conjunction with section 6 of the Ordinance on the Employment of Foreign nationals);
        - Persons employed in positions of significant public interest (section 19c (3) of the Residence Act);
        - Qualified contract workers (section 19c (1) in conjunction with section 29 (1) of the Ordinance on the Employment of Foreign nationals).

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        - 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.
    - ***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.
    - 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.
    - ***Healthcare workers***, health researchers and geriatric care workers;
    - Freight transport and other ***transport personnel***;
    - ***Seasonal workers*** in agriculture;
    - ***Seafarers*** in transit to a ship's port of departure or to an airport in order to return to a third country;
    - Foreign ***students*** whose course of study is not fully possible from abroad as well as trainees and third-country nationals who are entering Germany to obtain qualifications if their training or qualification programme is not fully possible from abroad;
    - Persons in need of international protection or protection for other humanitarian reasons, including urgent medical reasons;
    - Diplomats, staff of international organisations, military personnel and humanitarian aid workers in the exercise of their functions
    - Ethnic German resettlers;
    - Passengers in transit.
- 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.
    - self-isolate at home for 10 days;
    - If no other grounds for exception apply, these individuals may only be released from the obligation to self-isolate at home – no earlier than 5 days after entering Germany– if they provide proof of a negative test result.
- 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.

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    - 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.

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 no longer permitted to stay in Germany without being required to obtain a residence permit.
- 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 8 February, airlines and arriving passengers must adhere to the following guidelines:

    - An online health declaration must be completed *here*.
    - All travellers must present, before boarding, a negative COVID-19 PCR test result from an accredited laboratory in the country of origin. The test must have been completed within 72 hours before the scheduled departure from the country of origin (first country of departure).
    - Airlines who board passengers without PCR test results or transport and disembark passengers with positive PCR test results in Accra will be fined USD 3500 per passenger. Non-Ghanaians may be refused entry and returned to the point of embarkation at the airline's cost; Ghanaians will be allowed to enter subject to 14 days of mandatory quarantine at a government-approved facility at their own expense.

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- Ghanaian residents who depart Ghana and return within one week on direct flights are not required to present a COVID-19 test result upon arrival. They will, however, undergo mandatory COVID-19 testing upon arrival.
- On arrival, all travellers must undergo a COVID-19 test at the airport at their own expense ($50 Ghanaian and ECOWAS citizens; $150 other nationalities).
- Payment for on-arrival tests must be made online at *https://myhfrontierhealthcare.com/Home/Ghana* and proof of payment (receipt) shown before boarding.
  - Children under the age of five will be exempt from the airport testing requirement.
  - ~~***Children between the ages of 5 and 12 years will undergo testing on arrival free of charge.***~~
  - Passengers with a positive test result will undergo mandatory 7-day isolation and treatment at a designated health facility or isolation centre, at their own expense (for non-Ghanaians)
  - 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 adhere to the COVID-19 testing requirements for their destination country and will undergo temperature screening at the entrance to Terminal 3 departures.
- 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.

Immigration Restrictions

- 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.
- 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

- 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 until 8 March 2021:
  - All travellers entering Greece are required to undergo a 7-day self-quarantine.
    - Travellers from the UK will need to obtain a negative result in a new PCR test to leave self-quarantine after 7 days.
  - International flights are permitted at all airports in Greece.

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- There is a flight ban for all third-country citizens except residents of Australia, Israel, New Zealand, Rwanda, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand, United Arab Emirates and United Kingdom.
- All travellers arriving by air are required to present a negative COVID-19 PCR test result, issued at most 72 hours before arrival.
- 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.
- Flights are suspended from Turkey.
- Flights from Albania and North Macedonia can only land at Athens Airport.
- Domestic flights are only permitted for passengers travelling for essential purposes.
- **Land borders** with Albania, North Macedonia and Turkey remain closed
- Those travelling for business who exit the country by land are not permitted to re-enter Greece until 8 March 2021.
- Greek citizens, permanent residents of Greece, transport workers and travelers for essential professional reasons can enter via Promachonas, Kakavia, Evzoni, Kipi and should have the PLF and QR code and additionally hold a negative result of a COVID-19 PCR test taken up to 72 hours before arrival. Entry is permitted between 07:00 and 23:00.
- Those entering from Kakavia should additionally self-isolate for 7 days upon their arrival in Greece. There is a daily limit of 750 entries per day in Kakavia.
- **Sea borders** with Albania and Turkey remain closed.

Immigration Restrictions

- The Ministry of Migration reminds residence permit holders not to exceed the allowed period outside Greece, as permit renewals require at least 6 months spent in Greece.
- 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 1 January 2020 and 31 July 2020 are automatically extended until 31 March 2021.
- Residence permits or blue receipts that expired or will expire between 1 August 2020 and 31 March 2021 are automatically extended for eight months from their respective expiration dates.
    - The starting date of the renewed permits will be the date after the actual expiry, regardless of the application date.

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- 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

- International flights have resumed and the border is open to all nationalities.
- Travellers are required to present a COVID-19 PCR test with a negative result issued not more than 72 hours prior to travel.

Immigration Restrictions

- The central immigration offices has resumed 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.
- The Ministry of Labour has resumed its activities in every office.
- The Work Permit for Foreign nationals 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.

GUINEA

Entry Restrictions

- Entry is suspended for EU citizens on the principle of reciprocity, with the exception of:
  - Holders of long-stay, family and professional visas;
  - Spouses of Guinean nationals;
  - EU citizens resident in Guinea;

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    - Holders of diplomatic passports from embassies or international organisations on Guinean territory (including family members);
    - Technical assistants;
    - Humanitarian personnel.
- All travellers arriving in Conakry, except those aged 12 years and under, must:
    - present a negative COVID-19 PCR test certificate issued not more than 120 hours before travel;
    - complete a health declaration form;
    - provide a phone number for health services to monitor them for 14 days after arrival.
- Symptomatic passengers, and Guinean citizens repatriated without having taken a pre-departure test, will be tested on arrival and isolated while awaiting the results.

GUYANA

Entry Restrictions

- International flights have resumed.
- All travellers must have a negative result of a COVID-19 PCR test taken within 7 days prior to travel.
    - The test results must be submitted electronically via an online Passenger Locator Form at least 48 hours before arrival and presented to the airline at check-in and to port health officials upon arrival.
    - If test results are more than 72 hours old on arrival, they travellers is subject to testing on arrival at their own expense and must wait at the airport or at a government-designated facility until a result is confirmed (usually within 24 hours).
    - If the result of an on-arrival test is positive, the traveller is subject to a 14-day quarantine.
- All arrivals are requested to self-quarantine at home for 7 days after arrival.

Immigration Restrictions

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

HONDURAS

Entry Restrictions

- International commercial flights have resumed, and visitors of all nationalities and from all countries are permitted to enter.
- All travellers arriving in Honduras are required to present a COVID-19 PCR or rapid test with a negative result issued no more than 72 hours prior to arrival.

Immigration Restrictions

- The immigration office is open with a restricted schedule. Pre-booked appointments are mandatory. Most online services are available.

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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

- The Hong Kong government has categorised countries as per below:
  - **Group A (Extremely High Risk)**: Brazil, Ireland, South Africa, the United Kingdom.
    - Persons who have stayed in these countries for more than two hours in the previous 21 days will not be allowed to board.
    - Persons who have stayed in these countries for less than 2 hours in the previous 21 days must:
      - present a negative result of a nucleic acid COVID-19 test taken within 72 hours before travel;
      - present confirmation in English or Chinese of room reservation in a designated quarantine hotel in Hong Kong for not less than 21 nights starting on the day of the arrival;
      - undergo compulsory quarantine for 21 days in a designated quarantine hotel.
  - **Group B (Very High Risk)**: Bangladesh, Belgium, Canada, Ecuador, Ethiopia, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Romania, Russia, Switzerland**,** Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates and the United States of America.
    - Persons who have stayed in these countries in the previous 21 days must:
      - present a negative result of a nucleic acid COVID-19 test taken within 72 hours before travel;
      - present confirmation in English or Chinese of room reservation in a designated quarantine hotel in Hong Kong for not less than 21 nights starting on the day of the arrival;
      - undergo compulsory quarantine for 21 days in a designated quarantine hotel.
  - **Group C (Medium to High Risk)**: All other places except mainland China, Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan.
    - Persons who have stayed in these countries in the previous 21 days must:
      - present confirmation in English or Chinese of room reservation in a designated quarantine hotel in Hong Kong for not less than 21 nights starting on the day of the arrival;
      - undergo compulsory quarantine for 21 days in a designated quarantine hotel.

- 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.

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- 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*.
- Hong Kong residents who have remained in ***Guangdong or Macau*** for the past 14 days are exempted from the 14-day quarantine requirement when they return to Hong Kong (Return2hk Scheme).
    - Initially, a quota of 3000 qualifying travellers per day has been set for Shenzhen Bay Port and 2000 for the HK-Zhuhai-Macau bridge (HZMB) Hong Kong Port.
    - The online booking system will be opened every Wednesday at 9am until Friday at 6pm to accept quota applications for the 7-day period of the following week (i.e. Monday to Sunday).
    - After securing a quota, the HK resident should undergo a COVID-19 PCR test at a mutually-recognised medical institution.
    - Before travel they must submit a negative test result to the Department of Health's electronic health declaration system through the Yuekang code or Macau health code and submit all other required information to obtain a green QR code.
- The inaugural flights under the ***Air Travel Bubble (ATB)*** agreement with ***Singapore*** have been postponed until early 2021.
    - Entry is permitted for passengers who have remained in Singapore for 2 weeks before travel;
    - Daily quota of maximum 200 passengers on a single designated flight each way;
    - Work permit or S-pass holders in Singapore working in the construction, marine shipyard or process sectors are not eligible for the ATB.
    - No quarantine requirement;
    - Travellers aged 13 or above must take a mutually-recognized COVID-19 test within 72 hours before travel and another test on arrival;

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    - Travellers must submit a health declaration form in advance and book their PCR test to be done at Hong Kong International Airport.
    - Travellers departing Singapore after 30 November can take the test at *one of these 400 or so clinics or testing centres.*
    - They must take their second PCR test at the Hong Kong International Airport and wait for negative results. The test can be booked here.
    - Then, they have to take their third test within 72 hours before their return to Singapore at one of Hong Kong's recognised clinics or testing centres. Children aged 12 or younger are exempted from this test.
    - Travellers do not need to take another test upon their return to Singapore.
- 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.
- 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

- 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

- Applicants who are not able to return to Hong Kong due to the COVID-19 pandemic and whose period of stay is due to expire within 4 weeks, or which expired less than 12 months previously, are permitted to submit an application for extension of stay along with a letter explaining why they are unable to return to Hong Kong.
    - Normally, applications for extension of stay must be submitted in person from within Hong Kong, supported by an original passport.
- Extension (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.

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HUNGARY

Entry Restrictions

- Travel restrictions are extended until at least 15 March 2021.
- Hungarian citizens returning from business trips to a selected list of countries, as well as citizens and residents of those countries entering Hungary for business or economic purposes, are exempt from quarantine requirements.
    - Qualifying destination countries include EU and EEA member states and the United Kingdom, Bahrain, China, India, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Russia, Singapore, South Korea, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates and the United States.
- Individuals entering Hungary from abroad (including Hungarian citizens) are required to self-quarantine for 10 days. Note that the following individuals will be allowed to leave self-quarantine before the end of the 10-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.
    - Commuters travelling from Austria are exempt from the 30km and 24-hour restrictions.
- Transit through Hungary within 24 hours via designated routes is possible. Transiting individuals may only stop at designated resting points.
- Entry is permitted without quarantine for citizens of EU and EEA member states arriving from any country.
- Entry is suspended for all other foreign nationals except:
    - Permanent residence card holders who are family members of Hungarian citizens;
    - EU/EEA citizens holding a permanent residence card (all subject to a 10-day quarantine).
    - Foreign nationals arriving from Japan or South Korea 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

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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

- Driving licences and other official documents that are due to expire during the current state of emergency are automatically extended until 60 days after the end of the state of emergency.
    - This includes documents whose validity was extended during the previous state of emergency.
- Residence permits that expire during the state of emergency are extended until 30 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 February 2021, all travellers to Iceland are required to present a negative PCR test taken within 72 hours before departure.
- Effective 15 January to 1 May 2021, all passengers must undergo a PCR test on arrival in Iceland, followed by a 5-day quarantine and a second screening at the end of the quarantine period.
    - Arriving passengers who are in possession of valid documentation that proves *prior infection* or *vaccination* against covid-19 are exempt from all border measures.
        - Currently, only positive PCR-tests and certificates of presence of antibodies against SARS-CoV-2/COVID-19 from a laboratory within the EEA/EFTA-area or a confirmation from the Chief Epidemiologist in Iceland are accepted as *proof of prior infection*.
        - Currently, only the international certificate of vaccination is accepted as *proof of vaccination* but further conditions and specifications regarding other types of certificates remain to be issued.
    - Children born in 2005 and later are still exempt from testing but are now required to go into quarantine with their parents or guardians after entering Iceland.
- Effective until 31 January 2021, testing of travellers for COVID-19 at Iceland's borders is to be free of charge.
- Travel restrictions apply to all third-country citizens, irrespective of whether the traveller needs a visa or can travel without a visa to the Schengen area, with some exceptions.
- Travel restrictions do not apply to:
    - Icelandic citizens;

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- EU/EEA and EFTA citizens as well as citizens of Andorra, Monaco, San Marino and the Vatican.
- Relatives of Icelandic or other EU/EEA or EFTA states or citizens of Andorra, Monaco, San Marino or the Vatican.
    - Exempt relatives include spouse or cohabiting partner; child, stepchild or step-grandchild of the person living in Iceland, his/her spouse or cohabiting partner; parent, step-parent or step-grandparents of the person living in Iceland, his/he spouse or cohabiting partner; siblings or step-siblings of the person living in Iceland, his/he spouse or cohabiting partner;
    - Relatives are permitted to travel to Iceland with their children (considered minors) who have not reached the age of 18 on arrival to Iceland. The condition is set that the relative and the child are travelling together and can provide proof of familial relationship.
    - Relatives are only exempt from the travel restrictions if they are travelling to Iceland in order to visit a relative who legally resides in Iceland, or in another Schengen country if they are in transit, and the relevant state grants permission for entry to the traveller in question.
    - A third-country citizen may, moreover, travel with their relative to Iceland provided that the person is an Icelandic citizen, an EEA/EFTA citizen or a citizen of Andorra, Monaco, San Marino or the Vatican and the plan is to stay together here in Iceland. The same applies if the plan is to travel to one of the above countries provided that the person in question is permitted to do so.
- Foreign nationals with a valid residence permit or another type of right to stay or reside in Iceland or any other EEA/EFTA state or Andorra, Monaco, San Marino or the Vatican.
- Relatives of residence permit holders in Iceland or any other EEA/EFTA state or Andorra, Monaco, San Marino or the Vatican.
    - Exempt relatives here include spouse or cohabiting partner, children, stepchildren, grandchildren, step-grandchildren, parents, stepparents, grandparents, step-grandparents, siblings or step-siblings.
    - Relatives are permitted to travel to Iceland with their children (considered minors) who have not reached the age of 18 on arrival to Iceland. The condition is set that the relative and the child are travelling together and can provide proof of familial relationship.
    - Relatives are only exempt from the travel restrictions if they are travelling to Iceland in order to visit a relative who legally resides in Iceland, or in another Schengen country if they are in transit, and the relevant state grants permission for entry to the traveller in question.
    - A third-country citizen may, moreover, travel with their relative to Iceland provided that the person is an Icelandic citizen, an EEA/EFTA citizen or a citizen of Andorra, Monaco, San Marino or the Vatican and the plan is to stay together here in Iceland. The same applies if the plan is to travel to one of the above countries provided that the person in question is permitted to do so.
- Foreign nationals in a long-term intimate relationship with a person who legally resides in Iceland.
    - Long-term means that the couple have been in a relationship for at least six months.

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        - Please note that the exemption does not apply to persons in an intimate relationship with Icelandic citizens residing overseas.
    - Foreign citizens who are verifiably resident in and travelling from *Australia, Japan, New Zealand, Rwanda, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand* or *Uruguay*.
    - Exemptions based on essential travel:
        - Passenger in airport transit;
        - Employee in healthcare services and geriatric services
        - Employee responsible for the transportation of goods and services;
        - Individual travelling because of an acute family incident (serious illness, accident or demise);
        - Individuals and delegations who travel to the country under the aegis of the Icelandic government, staff of diplomatic missions and other representatives of foreign countries; international organisation staff and their guests who need to travel to the country due to the activities of these organisations; members of armed forces travelling to Iceland for duty; humanitarian aid workers; staff of civil protection; and family members of the aforementioned parties;
        - Students;
        - Persons who essentially need to travel to Iceland for business purposes of short duration and it cannot be postponed or performed abroad;
- It is important that foreign nationals who have not been issued a temporary work permit in Iceland may only work here if: i) the work of the person in question falls under the exemption for short-term employment, or ii) the work of the person in question is not considered to be within the domestic labour market, e.g. players of foreign sports associations and associated staff.
- The condition is set that foreign nationals who come for work according to Item i) of the exemption rule for short-term work are registered with the Directorate of Labour. Such persons may work in Iceland for up to 90 days on the basis of such registration. The appropriate notification and registration must be submitted to the Directorate before the person in question begins working.

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

- The permission to stay without a residence permit or visa due to travel restrictions, quarantine or isolation has not been extended again beyond 10 November and such stays beyond this date may result in an expulsion.
    - Foreign citizens, who have difficulties leaving Iceland before 10 November 2020, must hold on to documentation showing that they have tried to leave, in case the Directorate asks for an explanation for why they haven't left.

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- 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 Foreign nationals 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

- Air India Express has announced that copies of COVID-19 PCR test reports submitted by Dubai-bound passengers from India must include a QR code linking to their original test report.
  - It is not yet clear when this rule takes effect, or whether the test reports still need to be in the original letterhead of the issuing laboratory along with its seal and signs.
- Effective 23 February, incoming international travellers arriving from or via the United Kingdom, Europe, and/or the Middle East will be subject to a mandatory COVID-19 PCR test upon arrival at the airport.
- Effective 23 February, passengers arriving from, or transiting through within the previous 14 days, the UK, Brazil, and South Africa must meet the following new regulations:
  - For travellers who will connect to a domestic flight to reach their final destination in India: they must keep a *minimum* transit time of 6-8 hours for their connecting domestic flights. This will allow the traveller's COVID-19 test results to be processed prior to their further domestic travel. Travellers who test negative will be permitted to take their connecting flights. They will be required to quarantine at home for 7 days, after which they must take another COVID-19 test. If that test is negative, they will be released from quarantine but required to monitor their health for an additional 7 days.
  - For travellers who will <u>not</u> connect to another domestic flight: after undergoing their COVID-19 test, they will be permitted to leave the airport and will receive the results of their test from the authorities at a later time. Travellers who test negative will be required to quarantine at home for 7 days, after which they must take another COVID-19 test. If that test is negative, they will be released from quarantine but required to monitor their health for an additional 7 days.
  - Travellers who test positive either at the airport or during subsequent required testing will be isolated in a isolation facility run by the Indian health authorities.
- Travellers who have visited the UK in the last 14 days must present negative results of a COVID-19 PCR test taken no more than 72 hours prior to departure, submit an online health form via the Air Suvidha portal, undergo additional COVID-19 PCR testing on arrival at their own expense and, if negative, undergo 7-day institutional quarantine followed by 7-day self-isolation.
- The suspension of all **scheduled** international passenger services is extended until 28 February 2021.
- Certain categories of foreign nationals from an "*<u>air transport bubble</u>*" country (currently ***Afghanistan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Canada, Ethiopia, France, Germany, Iraq, Japan, Kenya, Kuwait, Maldives, Nepal, Netherlands, Nigeria, Oman, Qatar, Russia, Rwanda, Tanzania, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates,***

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United Kingdom, ***United States*** and ***Uzbekistan***), 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.
  - 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).

- 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;
  - All travellers must provide their travel history within the previous 14 days and advise if they “plan to disembark at the arrival airport or take further flights to reach their final destination in India.”
  - Travellers may be exempt from institutional quarantine by submitting on arrival a negative COVID-19 PCR test, conducted within 72 hours prior to travel;
  - If a negative PCR test result is not presented, testing on arrival at the airport is now available at certain airports.
  - Otherwise, 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

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domestic health monitoring and tracking mobile application known as 'Arogya Setu'.

- Effective 22 October, entry is permitted for all overseas citizens of India (OCI) and persons of Indian origin (PIO) card holders as well as all other foreign nationals intending to visit India for any purpose, ***except on a tourist visa***, by air or water through authorised airports or seaports.
    - All existing visas (except electronic visas, tourist visas and medical visas) are restored.
    - If visas have expired, fresh visas of appropriate categories can be obtained from the relevant Indian consular posts concerned.
    - In case any foreign national not covered by the above categories is required to visit India urgently due to any family emergency, the Indian consular posts are authorized to issue single entry X-Misc visas for an appropriate period. In such cases, the Indian consular posts may take a decision on the grant of visa on a case to case basis on the merits of each case.
    - Nationals of Nepal and Bhutan are permitted to come to India from any country (including any third country).
    - Any Indian national or a national of Nepal or Bhutan holding any type of valid visa of any country is permitted to travel from India to the country concerned provided there is no travel restriction for entry of Indian/Nepalese/Bhutanese nationals in that country. It would be for the airlines concerned to ensure that there is no travel restriction for Indian/Nepalese/Bhutanese nationals to enter the country concerned with the particular visa category before issue of tickets/boarding pass to the Indian/Nepalese/Bhutanese passenger.
    - The right of multiple entry lifelong visa facility granted for any purpose shall stand restored with immediate effect to all persons registered as Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) cardholders.
- 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.
- All international travellers to ***Tamil Nadu*** or ***West Bengal*** 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 or West Bengal, 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 or West Bengal 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.
- UAE residents travelling to India are no longer required to register with the Indian consulates in UAE before booking their tickets.
- The suspension of all scheduled international passenger services is extended until 31 January 2021. The suspension of visa services is extended in line with the suspension of all international passenger services.
- 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

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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

- The Ministry of Home Affairs has just released the guidelines for further easing of restrictions under “Unlock 5”. This does not affect international travel or immigration.
- India Visa application centres and online e-visa application facility are closed till further notice.
- Foreign nationals are not permitted to visit the Foreign nationals Regional Registration Office (FRRO) or Foreign nationals 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.
- The deadline for Person of Indian Origin (PIO) cardholders to convert their PIO cards to Overseas Citizens of India (OCI) cards has been extended until 31 December 2020. If any deadline has been notified by the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) invalidating PIO cards, PIO cardholders may have to obtain valid visas from Indian consulates.

INDONESIA

Entry Restrictions

- The suspension of entry for all foreign nationals continues.
    - Exceptions exist for:
        - Holders of single entry visas for emergency and urgent work, business talks, purchases of goods in Indonesia, expertise testing for prospective foreign workers, medical and food assistance, crew on a vessel.
            - New visa applications from outside Indonesia remain suspended
        - Holders of Limited Stay Permit (ITAS) and Permanent Stay Permit (ITAP) for work, investment, spouse or retirement.
            - Note that an ITAS for work requires a work permit – currently applications for new work permits remain suspended.
        - Foreign nationals qualifying under a specific Bilateral Travel Corridor arrangement (BCA).
        - Diplomatic Stay Permit and Official Stay Permit holders (representative from another country).
    - International arrivals (Indonesian citizens or foreign nationals) from all foreign countries entering Indonesia, either directly or transiting in a foreign country,

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must show a negative PCR test result taken not more than 3x24 hours before the departure time.
    - After arriving in Indonesia, the travellers are checked by officers in the form of a body temperature check, validation of the PCR health certificate and re-examination by means of another PCR test.
    - Whether the result of the PCR test upon arrival is negative OR positive:
        - Indonesian citizens are required to undergo quarantine for 5 days at special quarantine accommodation provided by the government (Wisma Atlit);
        - Foreign nationals are required to undergo quarantine for 5 days at certified quarantine accommodation at their own expense (hotels).
    - In addition after the 5-day quarantine at the quarantine accommodation, there is a mandatory 14-day home quarantine requirement.

- Indonesia and ***Singapore*** have established a bilateral travel corridor (BCA) arrangement (TCR) for essential travel for business and official purposes between the two countries.
    - The TCR will be referred to by Singapore as the Reciprocal Green Lane (RGL).
    - Operational details are to be confirmed.
- The suspension of visa on arrival and visa exemption continues.
- Applications are now accepted for single-entry visas (travel visas and limited stay visas) and limited stay permits for certain purposes are available.
- Foreign nationals can enter Indonesia using a single-entry visa for:
    - Business;
    - Emergency and urgent work;
    - Purchase of goods in Indonesia;
    - Expertise testing for prospective foreign workers;
    - Medical and food assistance;
    - Crew on a vessel.
- Stay permits (ITAS) are available for work, spouse, investment and retirement.
    - Note that for a work ITAS, a recommendation from the investment authority (BKPM) is required in addition to a work permit from the Ministry of Manpower.
- Multiple-entry visas and visas for social purposes are not yet available.
- For single-entry visa and stay permit applications:
    - The sponsoring entity must submit:
        - A negative COVID-19 test result;
        - A letter stating that the foreign national is willing to enter quarantine at their own expense if tested positive in Indonesia;
        - A letter stating that the foreign national is willing to have their health monitored during quarantine;
        - A letter stating that the foreign national is willing to cover their own health costs in case of COVID-19 infection.
    - The sponsoring entity must show proof that it has at least USD 10,000 (or equivalent in another currency) in its bank account. Previously, this was USD 1500. This requirement does not apply to single-entry visitors for medical and food assistance or crew on vessels.
- Both the single-entry visa and the limited stay visa (required for ITAS), are issued in the form of an eVisa. This eVisa is issued electronically and this means that foreign

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nationals are no longer required to pick up their visa sticker at the Indonesian Embassy or Consulate abroad.

- Foreign nationals who have received their eVisa for their single-entry visit visa, can use this eVisa as proof of their permission to stay in Indonesia. Foreign nationals have obtained their eVisa for their ITAS/ITAP, they will need to report to local immigration to process the ITAS/ITAP.
- Holders of telex visas which have been expired and have not entered Indonesia must now apply for a new visa again. It seems therefore it is no longer possible to re-activate expired telex visas.
- 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.

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.

Immigration Concessions

- Holders of a limited stay permit (ITAS) or permanent stay permit (ITAP) and who have received an emergency permit, can apply for an extension of their ITAS/ITAP. In case the ITAS cannot be extended, foreign nationals can apply for a new ITAS. Since the visa approval is in the form of an eVisa, they are not required to leave Indonesia.
- Holders of an ITAS/ITAP who are currently residing outside Indonesia and whose permits have expired will need to apply for a new ITAS/ITAP. In case for ITAP holders the Re-entry Permit (MERP) has expired, this will also result in the expiration of the ITAP.
- On 18 September, the Directorate General of Immigration (DGI) published a new directive extending until 5 October 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 5 October 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 5 October.
    - **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.

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- **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 5 October 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 5 October; 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 5 October; 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 5 October; 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 5 October; 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 be submitted to the Ministry of Manpower.

IRAQ

Entry Restrictions

- Entry is suspended for foreign nationals from Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, India, Ireland, Japan, Luxembourg, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, the United Kingdom, the United States and Zambia.
    - All flights carrying foreign nationals from and to these countries are suspended.
- Iraqi nationals seeking entry from these countries are subject to a PCR test at their own expense and a 14-day mandatory quarantine.

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- Diplomats, official government delegations, international organizations, and experts working on service projects are exempt from the entry ban, provided they present a PCR test undertaken with 72 hours before their arrival and showing a negative result.

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

- 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

- Effective 4 February 2021, all travellers arriving in Ireland are subject to a mandatory 14-day quarantine:
    - The quarantine must be undertaken at the address specified on the Passenger Locator Form.
    - Travellers originating in Northern Ireland are exempt.
    - Those arriving from another country via Northern Ireland are not exempt.
    - Those who do not fulfil the legal requirement for mandatory quarantine are committing an offence and can be fined up to €2,500 or get a prison sentence of up to 6 months, or both.
    - Travellers may only leave their place of residence during the quarantine period for unavoidable reasons of an emergency nature to protect a person's health or welfare, or to leave the State.
    - Travellers may leave quarantine to take a RT-PCR test no less than 5 days after their arrival – if they receive written confirmation that the result of this test is negative/ 'not detected', their period of quarantine can end.
    - Travellers must retain the written confirmation of their test result for at least 14 days.
    - If their journey began in ***South Africa*** or ***Brazil***, the travellers must complete the full 14 days of quarantine – even with a negative test result. Further work on additional legislation to implement mandatory quarantine at a designated facility for those arriving from countries with variants of concern, such as Brazil and South Africa is being progressed and will be implemented as soon as possible.

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- There are some limited ***exemptions*** from the requirement to complete mandatory quarantine:
  - patients travelling for urgent medical reasons
  - international transport workers in possession of an Annex 3 Certificate; Drivers of Heavy Goods Vehicles; Aviation and maritime crew
  - Gardaí/defence forces, while carrying out their duties
  - travel to the State pursuant to an arrest warrant, extradition proceedings or other mandatory legal obligation
  - diplomats, or travel to perform the function of or provide services to an office holder or elected representative
  - transit passengers who arrive for the purposes of travelling to another state, and who do not leave the port or airport.
- The following may temporarily leave their place of quarantine when necessary to perform their essential function – and only for as long as strictly required:
  - a person required to carry out essential repair, maintenance, construction or safety assurance of critical transport infrastructure, critical utility infrastructure, manufacturing services, information services, or communication services
  - a member of staff of an international organisation, or person invited, carrying out functions required for the proper functioning of such organisations and which cannot be carried out remotely
  - a passenger who has been provided with written certification by Sport Ireland related to an internationally important competitive level event
  - journalists, carrying out their professional functions.

- Effective 29 January 2021, new visa/preclearance applications will temporarily not be accepted.
  - Certain ***Priority/Emergency*** cases will continue to be processed and these include the following:
    - Workers or self-employed persons exercising critical occupations including healthcare workers, frontier and posted workers as well as seasonal workers as referred to in the Guidelines concerning the exercise of the free movement of workers during the COVID-19 outbreak;
    - transport workers or transport service providers, including drivers of freight vehicles carrying goods for use in the territory as well as those merely transiting;
    - patients travelling for imperative medical reasons;
    - pupils, students and trainees who travel abroad on a daily basis and Third-country nationals travelling for the purpose of 3rd level study;
    - persons travelling for imperative family or business reasons;
    - diplomats, staff of international organisations and people invited by international organisations whose physical presence is required for the well-functioning of these organisations, military personnel and police officers, and humanitarian aid workers and civil protection personnel in the exercise of their functions;
    - passengers in transit;
    - seafarers;
    - journalists, when performing their duties.
- Effective midnight on 27 January 2021, in addition to countries who were visa required prior to that date, passport holders of the following countries are now also required to apply for an entry visa or transit visa, as appropriate, before travelling to

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Ireland: ***Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia*** (transit visa now required – this country is already subject to entry visa requirements), ***Ecuador*** (transit visa now required – this country is already subject to entry visa requirements), ***Guyana, Paraguay, Peru*** (transit visa now required – this country is already subject to entry visa requirements), ***South Africa***, ***Suriname*** (transit visa now required – this country is already subject to entry visa requirements), ***Uruguay***.

- All passengers arriving in Ireland from all countries must present a negative result of a pre-departure PCR test taken within 72 hours prior to arrival. Children aged 6 years and under are exempt.
- 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 recommenced issuing decisions on certain long-stay visas in certain categories, including tertiary study, employment and family reunion.
- The issuance of short-stay visas for non-emergency/priority travel remains suspended.
- The list of emergency/priority exemptions now includes:
    - Healthcare professionals, health researchers, and elderly care professionals;
    - Immediate family members of Irish citizens (who are returning to their ordinary place of residence in Ireland);
    - Persons legally resident in the State;
    - Persons entitled to avail of the provision of the EU Free Movement Directive;
    - Transport personnel engaged in haulage of goods and other transport staff to the extent necessary;
    - Frontier workers;
    - Seasonal workers in agriculture;
    - Diplomats, staff of international organisations and people invited by international organisations whose physical presence is required for the well-functioning of these organisations, military personnel and humanitarian aid workers and civil protection personnel in the exercise of their functions;
    - Passengers in transit;
    - Passengers travelling for critical family reasons;
    - Seafarers;
    - Persons in need of international protection or for other humanitarian reasons;
    - Third-country nationals travelling for the purpose of 3rd level study;
    - Highly qualified third-country workers if their employment is necessary from an economic perspective and the work cannot be postponed or performed abroad.

Immigration Restrictions

- Effective 23 December 2020, the Registration Office in Burgh Quay, Dublin will close until further notice.

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    - Customers with appointments for first time registrations are being contacted directly by the Immigration Service and they will be prioritised for appointments once the Registration Office can safely reopen.
    - Registrations outside of the Dublin area are processed by the Garda National Immigration Bureau through the Garda Station network.
- Customers renewing their Immigration Registration Permission will no longer need to submit their original passport to have an immigration stamp attached by their Registration Office.
    - From now on, immigration stamps will no longer be attached to passports, and the Irish Residence Permit (IRP) will prove that the applicant is legally registered in Ireland.
    - This applies to renewals made in the Burgh Quay Registration Office in Dublin and renewals made in local Registration Offices at Garda Stations nationwide.
    - In Dublin, applicants have to upload scanned copies of their passport personal information page to the online system.
    - Elsewhere, applicants still need to present their passport as proof of identity but do not need to leave their passport at the registration office.
- Processing times for Irish Residence permits in Dublin have decreased to about 2-4 weeks. There may still be further delays in returning documents by post.
- 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 21 January 2021 and 20 April 2021 are automatically renewed until 20 April 2021.
- 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 the extension deadline.
    - 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:

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        - 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.
    - In order for students on stamp 2 to obtain the automatic extension of their permission until 20 January 2021, they must be enrolled on a course of study and either be registered or have applied to be registered.
- 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.
- The temporary permission for students holding valid stamp 2 permissions to work 40 hours a week is cancelled.
    - These students are now permitted work 40 hours per week only from 15 December to 15 January inclusive.
    - At all other times students holding stamp 2 will be limited to working 20 hours per week.
- 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.
- During the pandemic, in-person citizenship applications are susp[ended and instead, applicants must sign an affidavit declaring loyalty to the state. eTax clearance and eVetting are also to be introduced for citizenship applicants.

Atypical Work Scheme

- An online application process for the Atypical Work Scheme (AWS) is now available via the *Immigration Online Portal*.
    - Applications and EFT payment of application fees must be submitted via the new online portal.
    - The *online application process* includes important *new documentation requirements*.

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    - 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 7 March 2021, the suspension of all international flights to and from Ben Gurion airport is lifted.
    - The number and destination of flights allowed to operate from Ben-Gurion will be determined by the Transportation Ministry in cooperation with the Health Ministry.
    - Initially up to 3000 Israeli passengers will be permitted entry per day. Flights coming from the US, Germany, France, and Ukraine will the first to be allowed entry.
    - Israeli nationals are no longer required to obtain special entry permission.
        - A test on arrival is required.
            - Those already vaccinated are not required to self-isolate if this test is negative.
            - Those not yet vaccinated are required to self-isolate with enhanced monitoring (e.g. electronic tag" or undergo institutional quarantine.
    - Foreign nationals wishing to travel to Israel will have to obtain ***special entry permission*** from the Ministry of the Interior prior to their journey.
    - Legitimate purposes of entry to be considered by the Exemption Committee:
        - ***Attending urgent business meetings***, ***working (foreign experts deemed by the Ministry to be essential to the Israeli market),*** attending the funeral of an immediate relative, accompanying a body to Israel for burial, undergoing urgent medical treatment including women in their final trimester of pregnancy, attending an immediate relative in distress, and other compassionate reasons and taking part in legal proceedings
    - Priority will be given to those foreign experts with valid work visas, returning to Israel.
    - The Work Permit Unit (WPU) of the Ministry will resume its operations for issuing new work permits, based upon the relevant government office (per

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industry) recommendations and in light of the policy taken since the start of the pandemic. It is recommended to submit new work permit applications ASAP to the WPU, to allow for timely processing.

- Foreign nationals who are allowed entry must:
  - Present a negative COVID-19 PCR test taken within 72 hours before travel;
  - hold adequate health insurance;
  - register with the Ministry of Health via the online form or through the Health Center Line upon arrival;
  - undertake another PCR test on arrival at the airport;
  - complete a minimum 10-day quarantine at a government-run facility;
  - undertake a second COVID-19 PCR test from the ninth day after entry to reduce their isolation period from 14 days to 10 days.
  - All incoming passengers must comply with COVID-19 testing requirements including those who are fully vaccinated or have recovered from the virus.
- Departure from Israel:
  - Unrestricted for foreign nationals.
  - Unrestricted for fully vaccinated or recovered Israeli nationals.
  - Israeli nationals who are not yet vaccinated must apply for exit permission

Immigration Concessions

- An automatic three-month extension will be granted to all foreign nationals holding a Foreign Expert B-1 work visa which expired between 1 July and 30 September 2020, unless the visa was previously extended automatically.
- An automatic 20-day extension will be granted to all foreign nationals holding a Foreign Expert B-1 work visa, with an original expiration date of up to August 31, 2020 who hold a visa which was previously extended automatically. That means that the overall automatic extension will be up to 3 months from its original expiration date.
- An automatic ten-week extension will be granted to all foreign nationals holding a Foreign Expert B-1 work visa which expires between 1 October and 30 November. This will not apply to foreign nationals who previously had their visa extended automatically.
- 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

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

ITALY

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 14 February until 5 March, travellers who have visited or transited through ***Austria*** for more than 12 hours in the last 14 days are required to:
    - Present to the carrier on boarding, and to any other control authority, a negative molecular or antigenic swab test result taken within 72 hours before entering the country;
    - Take a molecular or antigenic swab test on arrival at the airport, port or border crossing, where possible, or within 48 hours from entering the country at their local health authority. Travellers entering Italy with a flight from Brazil must take a swab test on arrival at the airport;
    - Undertake, regardless of the swab test result in point b) above, to self-isolate under medical supervision for a period of 14 days, at their home or other place of residence, subject to communication of their arrival to the Prevention Department of the competent local health authority (except transport and haulage personnel engaged in transporting passengers and freight);
    - Take an additional molecular or antigenic swab test at the end of the 14th day of the self-isolation period.
- The suspension of entry and transit for travellers who have visited or transited through ***Brazil*** in the previous 14 days is extended.
    - Exemptions for persons resident in Italy since before 13 February 2021, persons travelling for essential reasons and specifically authorized by the Ministry of Health, and officials and other servants, however designated, of the European Union or international organisations, diplomatic agents, administrative and technical staff of diplomatic missions, consular officials and personnel, and members of the armed forces and law enforcement agencies engaged in their official duties;
    - In these exempt cases, travellers are required to:
        - Present to the carrier on boarding, and to any other control authority, a negative molecular or antigenic swab test result taken within 72 hours before entering the country;
        - Take a molecular or antigenic swab test on arrival at the airport, port or border crossing, where possible, or within 48 hours from entering the country at their local health authority. Travellers entering Italy with a flight from Brazil must take a swab test on arrival at the airport;
        - Undertake, regardless of the swab test result in point b) above, to self-isolate under medical supervision for a period of 14 days, at their home or other place of residence, subject to communication of their arrival to the Prevention Department of the competent local health authority (except transport and haulage personnel engaged in transporting passengers and freight);
        - Take an additional molecular or antigenic swab test at the end of the 14th day of the self-isolation period.
- For travellers who, in the previous 14 days, have stayed in or transited ***the United Kingdom***, entry is permitted only if they have registered as residents in Italy since

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before 23 December 2020, or if they have a reason of absolute necessity. They are required to:

- Specify the reason for returning to one's own residence or the reason of absolute necessity in a self-declaration.
- Present, at the time of boarding, a certification stating that they have undergone, within the 72 hours preceding entry into the national territory, a molecular or antigenic test, to be carried out by means of a swab, with a negative result;
- Undergo a molecular or antigenic test, to be carried out by means of a swab, upon arrival at the airport, port, or border location, where possible, or within 48 hours of entry into national territory at the relevant local health authority. In case of entry into national territory by flight from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the swab must be taken upon arrival at the airport;
- Undergo, regardless of the result of the test referred to in point b), health surveillance and fiduciary isolation for a period of fourteen days at home or at the temporary place of residence, following notification of entry into the Italian national territory to the Prevention Department of the local health authority.

- **Country Groups:**
  - For travellers who, in the previous 14 days, have only visited ***List A*** countries (***San Marino*** and ***Vatican City***):
    - Neither COVID-19 testing nor 14-day self-quarantine are required.
  - For travellers who, in the previous 14 days, have only visited ***List B*** countries (identified, among those in List C, by the Ordinance adopted pursuant to article 6, paragraph 2 of the Prime Ministerial Decree of December 3, 2020.
    - Neither COVID-19 testing nor 14-day self-quarantine are required.
  - For travellers coming from a ***List C*** country, a negative result of a COVID-19 molecular or antigenic swab test, carried out within 48 hours prior to arrival, is required, but a 14-day self-quarantine is not required.
    - Entry is permitted if they reside in a List C country permanently and have not stayed in other List C countries for reasons other than necessity between 21 December 2020 and 6 January 2021; OR if they must travel from Italy to a List C country for any reason whatsoever; OR if they have travelled between 21 December 2020 and 6 January 2021 to a List C country for work, health and absolute urgency.
    - List C countries include *Andorra, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark (including Faroes Islands and Greenland), Estonia, Finland, France (including Guadeloupe, Guyana, Martinique, Mayotte, Reunion and excluding territories outside the European mainland), Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands (excluding territories outside the European mainland), Norway, Poland, Portugal (including the Azores and Madeira), Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain (including territories in the African continent), Sweden, Switzerland*:
  - For travellers who, in the previous 14 days, have only visited ***List D*** countries (***Australia, Japan, New Zealand, Rwanda, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand***):
    - 14-day self-quarantine is required.
  - For travellers who, in the previous 14 days, have visited ***List E*** countries (***rest of the world*** except Austria, Brazil and the United Kingdom***)***:

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        - entry is only permitted:
            - for specific, essential purposes (such as work, health, study, absolute urgency, return to one's own home); OR
            - for any reason for Italian/EU/Schengen citizens and residents and their family members).
        - 14-day self-quarantine is required.
    - The following ***exemptions*** from quarantine and swab testing exist for the following, provided they have not visited Austria, Brazil or the UK for more than 12 hours in the last 14 days:
        - transport crew members;
        - haulage workers;
        - persons entering Italy for work reasons regulated by specific security protocols approved by
        - the competent health authority;
        - persons entering Italy for reasons that cannot be postponed;
        - persons entering Italy for a period not exceeding 120 hours for proven work, health, or
        - absolutely essential reasons, subject to the obligation to immediately leave the country at the
        - end of the said period, or, if unable to do so, to self-isolate under medical supervision;
        - persons travelling through Italy, by private transport, for a period of no more than 36 hours, subject to the obligation to immediately leave the country at the end of the said period, or, if
        - unable to do so, to self-isolate under medical supervision;
        - citizens and residents of the countries and territories included in lists A, B, C and D entering
        - Italy for proven work reasons (persons arriving in Italy after visiting the Countries in List C
        - shall nevertheless be required to take a (molecular or antigenic) swab test;
        - health personnel entering Italy to practice a healthcare profession, also on a temporary basis,
        - pursuant to Article 13 of Decree Law 18/2020;
        - cross-border workers entering and leaving the country for proven work reasons and
        - returning to their home or place of residence;
        - employees of corporations or entities with headquarters or branch offices in Italy and
        - travelling abroad for proven work reasons for no longer than 120 hours;
        - officials and other servants, however designated, of the European Union or international organisations, diplomatic agents, administrative and technical staff of diplomatic missions, consular officials and personnel, and members of the armed forces and law enforcement
        - agencies engaged in their official duties;
        - students attending a study programme in a country other than the country of residence or
        - home country, to which they return on a daily basis or at least once a week;
        - persons travelling on "Covid-tested" flights, in accordance with the order issued by the

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        - Minister of Health of 23 November 2020, as amended;
        - athletes, sportspersons, coaches, sports judges, match commissioners and accompanying
        - personnel entering Italy to participate in professional sports competitions – recognised as being of pre-eminent national interest by the Italian Olympic Committee (CONI) and the Italian Paralympic Committee (CIP) – with a negative molecular or antigenic swab test result taken within the last 48 hours.
- 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.
- Effective 19 December, Delta and Alitalia airlines will allow quarantine-free travel between Atlanta, Georgia in the United States and Rome in Italy:
    - US citizens permitted to travel for specific, essential purposes, such as work, health, study, absolute urgency, return to one's own home, and all Italian/EU/Schengen citizens, can travel without quarantine on arrival if they obtain multiple negative COVID-19 test results:
        - A COVID-19 PCR test taken up to 72 hours before departing the US;
        - A rapid test taken at Atlanta airport before boarding;
        - A rapid test taken on arrival at Rome-Fiumicino airport;
        - A rapid test taken at Rome-Fiumicino airport before departure to the US.

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, *nulla osta* entry clearances for work permits or family reasons and the terms for conversion of study permits into work permits are extended until 30 April 2021.
- 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.

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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, Panama and USA.
- ***Jamaican citizens and residents*** may be subject to COVID-19 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 or antigen test within 10 days prior to travel, at an accredited facility in the country of residence.
    - A copy of the test result must be uploaded as part of the Travel Authorisation application.
- 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.

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- 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 14 January 2021, entry under the Business Track and Residence Track frameworks for foreign nationals from all 11 countries (*Brunei, Cambodia, China, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, Vietnam*) is ***suspended***.
    - The validity of ***visas already issued*** under the Business Track and the Residence Track and visas issued based on "new measures for border enforcement" are suspended.
    - The relaxation of restriction on movement during the 14-day quarantine period through the Business Track is ***suspended***.
- Effective until 7 February January 2021:
    - ***New entry*** is suspended for ***all foreign nationals***.
    - ***Re-entry*** is permitted for Japanese nationals, and for foreign nationals with residence status and a valid re-entry permit.
- From 14 January 2021 until further notice, all Japanese nationals and foreign nationals with residence status are required to ***sign and submit on entry a written p****ledge* to refrain from using public transportation for 14 days, to *quarantine* at home or other designated areas for 14 days, to retain the location data, and provide it to the health centres or other institutions, if requested. (If separate quarantine measures are to be taken, those also need to be pledged.) Those who do not submit the "Written Pledge" are requested to stay at a location designated by the Chief of the Quarantine Station (only at the accommodation booked by the quarantine office) for 14 days.
- All Japanese and foreign nationals must obtain "***Certificate of Testing for COVID-19***" from a medical facility in the country proving a negative test result having undergone a test for COVID-19 within 72 hours prior to departing from the country(from the sampling time).
- All Japanese and foreign nationals must:
    - ***Undergo a PCR test*** on arrival at the airport (free of charge);
    - Wait for the result of the PCR test at the designated area in the airport for a few hours;
    - If negative, proceed to the landing examination procedure at the immigration counter;
    - ***Undergo 14 days self-quarantine***;
    - ***Refrain from using public transport*** during the 14-day quarantine.
    - Secure private transport from airport to home/hotel.

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- For Japanese and foreign nationals with residence status who have in the previous 14 days visited the following countries***:***
    - ***Austria (from 5/3/21);***
    - ***Belgium (from 5/3/21);***
    - *Brazil* ***(whole country from 5/3/21;*** *Amazonas****)***;
    - ***Denmark (from 5/3/21);***
    - ***France (from 5/3/21);***
    - ***Germany (from 5/3/21);***
    - *Ireland;*
    - *Israel;*
    - ***Italy (from 5/3/21);***
    - ***The Netherlands (from 5/3/21);***
    - ***Nigeria (from 5/3/21);***
    - ***Slovakia*** (***from 5/3/21);***
    - *South Africa*;
    - ***Sweden (from 5/3/21);***
    - ***Switzerland*** (***from 5/3/21);***
    - ***The United Arab Emirates (from 5/3/21);***
    - *The United Kingdom****.***
        - These travellers must submit a certificate of a negative result from a test conducted within 72 hours prior to departure.
        - They must self-quarantine for 3 days at a location designated by the quarantine station chief (only at the accommodations booked by the quarantine office), even if the result of their pre-entry COVID-19 test is negative.
        - On the third day they are required to take another COVID-19 test. Those who have negative result in this test are still required to self-quarantine at home for 14 days after entering Japan.
        - They must submit a pledge to maintain their location information and install a COVID-19 Contact Confirming Application (COCOA) when entering Japan.
    - All Japanese and foreign nationals who have in the previous 14 days visited ***countries whose authorities have confirmed domestic infection of a new variant*** of Coronavirus (other than the UK and South Africa):
        - These travellers must submit a negative result of a COVID-19 test conducted within 72 hours before the flight, and a COVID-19 test will be conducted at the airport upon entry.
        - Those who cannot submit the negative COVID-19 testing result mentioned above will be requested to stay at specific facilities designated by the Chief of the Quarantine Station (limited to accommodation facilities designated by the Quarantine Station) for 14 days after arrival.
        - This applies to *Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil (Acre* ***from 1 March 2021****, Alagos from 1 March 2021, Bahia, Goiás, Paraiba, Rio de Janeiro* ***from 1 March 2021****, Rio Grande do Norte* ***from 2 March 2021****, Sao Paulo), Bulgaria, Cambodia (****from 1 March 2021****), Canada (Alberta, British Colombia, Ontario, Quebec), Chile, China (Beijing), Costa Rica* ***(from 2 March 2021),*** *Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Iran, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Kosovo, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania* ***(from 2 March 2021)****, Luxembourg,*

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*Malta, Mozambique, Netherlands, New Zealand (**from 1 March 2021**), Nigeria, North Macedonia, Norway, Pakistan (**from 1 March 2021**), Palestine, Philippines (**from 1 March 2021**), Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tanzania, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United States (California, Colorado, Connecticut,* Delaware*, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Maryland, Massachusetts, Mississippi, New Jersey, New York State, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, Virginia), Vietnam, Zimbabwe (**from 1 March 2021**).*

- ***Foreign nationals*** who have in the previous 14 days visited ***any travel ban countries*** must submit a certificate of a negative result from a ***pre-entry COVID-19 PCR test*** conducted within 72 hours prior to departure.
- ***Japanese and foreign nationals,*** who have in the previous 14 days visited ***any travel ban countries*** or ***Australia*** are subject to a ***PCR test on arrival***.
- ***Japanese and foreign nationals arriving from all countries*** must ***self-isolate for 14 days*** at a location designated by the quarantine station chief and must refrain from using public transportation.
- ***New visa applications are currently not accepted at Japanese embassies and consulates.***
- ***Travel ban 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, Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Malaysia, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Tajikistan, 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, Jordan, 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.*

Phased measures for resuming cross-border travel.

- **[SUSPENDED]** The Government of Japan is phasing in a ***Business Track/Residence Track framework*** of special measures for resuming cross-border travel on the condition of additional quarantine measures.
    - Foreign nationals intending to enter or re-enter Japan under this framework may require a ***new visa***.
    - On top of the current border control measures (i.e. undergoing PCR testing, refraining from using public transport and 14-day self-quarantine), applicants for ***both the Business Track and the Residence Track*** must take ***additional quarantine measures***:

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        - Present on arrival:
            - A copy of the written pledge, and schedule of activities.
            - a certificate of the result of pre-entry PCR testing.
            - a questionnaire including details of health monitoring for 14 days prior to departure.
        - Obtain private medical insurance.
        - Install LINE, COVID-19 contact tracing and map apps to record and report their health, location and contacts data for 14 days after entry into Japan.
    - **[SUSPENDED]** The "***Residence Track***":
        - This applies to holders of a Certificate of Eligibility (COE) for work or long-term stay who are nationals of *Brunei, Cambodia, China, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand* or *Vietnam*.
        - Entry is permitted under the Residence Track for holders of a Certificate of Eligibility (COE) for any type of status of residence, as well as cross-border travellers (short-term stay for business) ***from any country or region***, on condition that the person is hosted by a company / entity that can assure observation of quarantine measures. *However, the number of people to be permitted to enter Japan under this new provision will be restricted*.
        - If 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.
    - **[SUSPENDED]** The "***Business Track***":
        - This allows business travellers from *China**,** Singapore, South Korea* and *Vietnam* to conduct limited business activities during their 14-day stay-at-home period immediately after arrival in Japan, with a total stay of up to 30 days.
        - For business track travellers, testing on arrival is generally not required.
    - **[SUSPENDED]** Effective 1 October 2020, new entry is permitted for foreign nationals with residence status and cross-border business travellers from all countries and regions.
        - The foreign national must be hosted by a company/ entity that can assure observation of quarantine measures.
        - The number of people to be permitted to enter Japan under this provision is restricted.
    - **[SUSPENDED]** Japanese nationals and foreign nationals resident in Japan, ***returning from short-term business trips*** (up to 7 days):
        - No longer subject to 14-day quarantine, provided they refrain from using public transportation and save their smartphone data to aid in contact tracing during the first 14 days after their return and submit an itinerary detailing their plans during that period.
        - If returning from a travel ban country, the traveller is required to present a negative COVID-19 PCR test certificate from a test in the destination country no more than 72 hours before travel.
        - If returning from a non-travel ban country and it was not possible to obtain a negative COVID-19 PCR test certificate in the destination

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country, the traveller will be tested on arrival in Japan and must await the test result at home.

Suspension of visas and visa exemptions

- Effective 21 January 2021, the validity of visas already issued under the Business Track and the Residence Track and visas issued based on "new measures for border enforcement" are suspended.
- ***The validity of visas*** (both single and multiple entry) issued by the following Japanese consulates is suspended for the time being:
    - Visas issued ***by 8 March*** in mainland China, Hong Kong, Macau 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.
- ***Visa exemptions*** for nationals of the following countries are suspended for the time being: *Bangladesh, Brunei, Cambodia, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Laos, Macau, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Singapore,* ***Taiwan****, Thailand, Vietnam,* ***Australia****, Nauru,* ***New Zealand****, 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*

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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

- Certificate of eligibility which were issued between 1 October 2019 and 31 December 2020 will be valid until 30 April 2021
- Certificate of eligibility which were issued between 1 January 2021 and 30 January 2021 will be valid until 31 July 2021
- Certificate of eligibility which will be issued after 31 January 2021 will be valid for 6 months from the date of issue
- 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

- Effective 15 – 28 February :
    - All travellers must present before boarding a negative PCR test taken within 72 hours before the first embarkation.
    - All travellers aged 5 years or above must undergo another PCR test on arrival, at their own expense, pre-booked before boarding.
    - Passenger flights from and to the United Kingdom are suspended.
    - Passengers traveling to Jordan from ***the United Kingdom*** are required to stay 14 days outside UK before arrival to Jordan, except the following passengers who are allowed to enter Jordan on a non-direct flights through Queen Alia International Airport, and shall have 14 days self-quarantine after arrival:
        - Jordanian citizens and their families
        - Holders of Jordanian passports
        - Investors holding Investments Cards (A, B) and residing in UK
    - International transfer passengers are allowed at Jordanian Airports as follows:
        - Negative PCR test is required within 72 hours prior to the scheduled time of departure;
        - The planned transfer time is not exceeding 10 hours.

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- Passengers travelling out of Jordan can use their PCR test certificate (If required by destination station) to travel back to Jordan provided that PCR test is conducted within 72 hours prior to the scheduled time of departure of their return flight.

KAZAKHSTAN

Entry Restrictions

- Regular passenger flights have resumed with a number of countries, including Belarus, Egypt, Georgia, Germany, Kyrgyzstan, Maldives, Netherlands, Russia, South Korea, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan .
- The suspension of entry for foreign nationals is extended until further notice. Exemptions apply:
  - Residence permit holders and their family members (spouse, parents and children), and the family members of Kazakh citizens.
    - Those who left Kazakhstan ***before*** 11 November are permitted to return after 30 days since their last departure.
    - ***Effective 4 February 2021, those who left Kazakhstan after 11 November are also permitted to re-enter after 30 days since their last departure.***
    - These limits do not apply to holders of special entry permits or to citizens of countries with which direct flights have resumed.
  - Employees (specialists) of Kazakh and foreign companies holding a work permit, a work visa and a special entry permit, and their family members.
  - Citizens of countries with whom Kazakhstan has resumed direct flight connections, travelling from their country of citizenship, for any purpose, and holding an appropriate visa if required. A special entry permit is not required for these travellers.
- To obtain a special entry permit for foreign specialists, the host entity must first obtain a work permit, then submit an application for a special entry permit to the Akimat or respective ministry – this must be approved by both the Akimat/relevant ministry and by the Interdepartmental Committee.
- All consular visa applications must now be supported by special entry permission and a medical certificate showing absence of coronavirus infection, issued within 48 hours of the application.
- The suspension of the unilateral visa-free regime for nationals of 57 countries is extended until 1 May 2021. Citizens of these countries are unable to visit Kazakhstan without a visa.
- The suspension of the 72-hour visa-free stay for transit passengers from China and India is extended until 1 January 2021.
- Foreign nationals travellers are required to present a negative COVID-19 PCR test certificate (from a test taken no more than 72 hours before entry) on boarding.
  - Kazakhstan citizens and residents are strongly advised to present a negative COVID-19 PCR test certificate (from a test taken no more than 72 hours before entry) on boarding. If not, they are subject to 7-day quarantine.

Immigration Concessions

- The period of permitted stay has been extended until 5 June 2021.

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    - Visas, residence and work permits, passports and visa-free stays which expire before that date are considered valid until that date, and the holder is allowed to leave Kazakhstan before that date without incurring any administrative liability.
    - To stay beyond that date, a residence permit extension/renewal application must be submitted in time.
- Foreign nationals can re-apply for a residence permit until 5 June 2021 but expired documents issued in their home country cannot be submitted in support.

KENYA

Entry Restrictions

- Scheduled commercial passenger flights are permitted.
- All travellers boarding flights to Kenya are required to:
    - present a negative COVID-19 test result produced not more than 96 hours before travel;
    - present a completed Kenya Travellers Health Surveillance form *online* and present the corresponding QR code to health authorities at the port of arrival.
- Passengers may be subject to quarantine restrictions if they are from certain unexempted countries or if they are symptomatic.
- Travellers from *these countries* are exempt from quarantine.

Immigration Restrictions

- Visa and work permit endorsement can be completed for those who need to travel 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. Applications are to be submitted on Mondays at 7:30am only, and working hours are reduced (9am to 1pm).

Immigration Concessions

- 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.

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KUWAIT

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 24 February to 20 March 2021, land and sea borders are closed for all except shipping operations and their workers and the return of Kuwaiti citizens, their first-degree relatives and their house maids.
- Flights to and from the United Kingdom remain suspended.
- Effective 21 February 2021:
  - Entry is again permitted for non-Kuwaiti nationals.
  - Entry is permitted from ***high-risk countries***.
    - ***High-risk countries*** include *Angola, Argentina, Bolivia, Botswana, Cape Verde, DR Congo, Ecuador, Eswatini, France, French Guiana, Germany, Guyana, Ireland, Japan, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Paraguay, Portugal, Seychelles, South Africa, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tanzania, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, United Kingdom, United Arab Emirates, United States, Uruguay, Venezuela, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Yemen*.
  - Travellers arriving from ***high-risk countries*** are subject to a 14-day mandatory institutional quarantine at an approved hotel at their own expense, with a PCR test at the end of the quarantine period.
  - Travellers arriving from ***other countries*** are subject to a 7-day mandatory institutional quarantine at an approved hotel at their own expense, with a PCR test on day 6 and then, if negative, a week of home quarantine.
- Arriving travellers must:
  - Register on the Kuwait-mosafer platform;
  - Present a negative PCR test result valid for 72 hours;
  - Undertake a PCR test on arrival.
    - ***The following are exempt from institutional quarantine:***
      - ***Diplomats and their families;***
      - ***Kuwaiti patients receiving treatment abroad;***
      - ***Kuwaiti students studying abroad;***
      - ***Medical crews and their families;***
      - ***Minors below 18 years old.***
    - ***All exempted categories are subject to 14 days of home quarantine***.
  - Download and activate Shelonek mobile app.
- 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).
- Departing travellers must
  - register on the platform "*Kuwait mosafer*";
  - obtain health insurance covering COVID-19 and valid for the entire travel period;
  - sign an acknowledgement and pledge form available on the "Kuwait mosafer" platform (Kuwaiti citizens only);
  - present a negative PCR test result if required by the destination country.
  - 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.

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- 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 English, issued no more than four days previously, from each passenger before boarding.

Immigration Restrictions

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

Immigration Concessions

- Starting 1 December, the Ministry of Interior (MOI) daily rates for fines will apply to any residence violators.
- All holders of temporary residency (Visa 14) should have exited Kuwait before 30 November or to take the appropriate action to be granted a residency in accordance with MOI terms.
- Decisions regarding foreign residents will be valid for 12 months (rather than 6 months), even if the foreign resident is outside Kuwait.

KYRGYZSTAN

- Entry is now permitted for citizens of *Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, China, Georgia, Germany, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Pakistan, Portugal, Qatar, Russia, Slovenia, South Korea, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Turkmenistan, 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.
- Foreign nationals entering Kyrgyzstan must present at check-in a negative result of a PCR test undertaken at most 72 hours prior to travel.
- Kyrgyz citizens are subject to 14-day self-isolation.
- Foreign nationals with expired visas or registration can stay in Kyrgyzstan until further notice.

LAOS

Entry Restrictions

- All international borders remain closed and the issuance of visa on arrival remains suspended. Consular visa issuance is also suspended from any country with COVID-19 cases.
    - Exceptions may be granted for mandated experts, public officials, and foreign workers entering the country to work on important and necessary projects.

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- All foreign national travellers holding visas must present a Certificate of Entry (Issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs); a completed Health Declaration form and a 'Fit to Fly' certificate issued no more than 72 hours prior to travel.
- All foreign national travellers must undergo a COVID-19 test on arrival and will be subject to 14-day quarantine at a designated location at their own expense (or a home quarantine if travelling from a country with no COVID-19 community transmission.
- Foreign nationals working or studying in Laos will be granted authorization to return home.

Immigration Restrictions

- The Immigration Department has reopened.

Immigration Concessions

- The government will extend visas in country and suspend overstay penalties if visas expire due to COVID-19 restrictions.

LATVIA

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 26 February to 6 April, entry is suspended for third-country national residents of Latvia except, among others:
  - those crossing Latvia in transit, to return to the country of their permanent place of residence;
  - nationals of Latvia and other EU and EEA member states, Switzerland and the UK and permanent residents of these countries, returning to the country of residence, including Latvia;
  - employees and passengers of the transport service providers, freight or technical crews who arrive in or exit Latvia to perform work duties;
  - seafarers travelling to or from their work aboard ship.
- Effective 27 February:
  - Arrivals who have, in the previous 14 days, been in the following countries are ***subject to 10-day self-isolation:*** *Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom* or any other non-EU/EEA country.
  - *Arrivals who have, in the previous 14 days, been only in the following countries are* **not subject to 10-day self-isolation***: Australia, Iceland, New Zealand, Rwanda, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand and Vatican.*
- Effective 11 February 2021:
  - Entry to Latvia from the EU and EEA member states, Switzerland and the UK by international passenger carrier or private vehicle is permitted only for essential reasons, including work, training/studies, family reunification, medical treatment, transit, accompanying a minor, returning to one's place of residence and attending a funeral.

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        - The purpose of travel must be indicated on the covidpass.lv website and this self-certification must be checked by the carrier.
        - Proof of the purpose of entry must be presented to the State Border Guard or the State Police on demand.
    - Entry in a private vehicle is permitted for nationals of Latvia and other EU and EEA member states, Switzerland and the UK, and for permanent residents of the EU with a residence permit in Latvia.
- Effective 15 February:
    - Entry to Latvia must be done within 12 hours of registering at *covidpass.lv*.
    - Employees of transportation companies, including truck drivers and technical personnel involved in the transport, must cross the border within 72 hours of their registration at *covidpass.lv*.
    - Exceptions apply to passengers on international carriers that are in transit: such passengers have 48 hours to cross the border from the time of registering at *covidpass.lv*.
- Effective 25 January 2021, all travellers to Latvia are required to present a negative result of a COVID-19 ***PCR test*** (previously, other test were accepted) issued no more than 72 hours prior to entry, or a doctor's note confirming they have had COVID-19.
    - Exceptions exist for children under the age of 11, persons who can prove they are vaccinated against COVID-19, transport staff, transit passengers who do not leave the airport transit zone, diplomats and cross-border workers.
- Entry is permitted for foreign nationals resident in EU and EEA countries (including the microstates) and Switzerland, as well as Australia, Japan, New Zealand, Rwanda, Singapore, South Korea and Thailand.
- Arrivals from these countries are not subject to 10-day self-isolation, unless they have in the previous 14 days been in a country with a 14-day cumulative incidence that exceeds the case rate in Latvia.
- Land borders with Russia and Belarus are closed to public and private transport. International air traffic is suspended (apart from certain repatriation flights).
- 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.
- Some Latvia visa application centres have reopened.

LEBANON

Entry Restrictions

- Beirut Rafic Hariri International Airport is open.
- All travellers to Lebanon must complete a medical form before boarding their flight
- Travellers arriving from most countries must undergo a COVID-19 test within 96 hours of arrival. They must be tested again within 72 hours after arrival, at their own expense, or will be subject to10-day home or hotel quarantine.
- Travelers arriving from Syria, Turkey and all African countries must undergo a PCR test upon arrival in Beirut and then home quarantine for 48 hours until they receive the results of that test.

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- Travelers arriving from Iraq must undergo a PCR test upon arrival in Beirut and then must quarantine for 72 hours in a hotel designated by the Lebanese Ministry of Tourism for which they have a prepaid booking, and afterwards take another PCR test at the end of this period.
- Passengers who have left and returned to Lebanon within one week are not required to undergo a PCR test at their point of departure before returning but must undergo a PCR test on arrival (passengers from Iraq, Syria, Egypt, Turkey, African countries) or within 72 hours after arrival (passengers from all other countries).
- Children under 12 are exempt from all PCR test requirements.

LIBERIA

Entry Restrictions

- Roberts International Airport has reopened for commercial flights, although scheduled services remain limited.
- All arrivals are screened for COVID-19 symptoms.
    - Travellers presenting a negative COVID-19 PCR test issued within 72 hours prior to travel are permitted entry with symptom monitoring via USSD or mobile app.
    - Travellers not presenting a negative test result are subject to a Rapid Test and a swab (PCR) test on arrival.
        - If the Rapid Test is negative, entry is permitted with symptom monitoring via USSD or mobile app.
        - If the Rapid Test is positive, the traveller will be taken to a government quarantine facility to await the PCR test result (could be several days).
            - If the PCR test is positive, the travellers must stay in government quarantine until they have received two consecutive negative test results.

LITHUANIA

Entry Restrictions

- Entry is permitted from EEA countries, Switzerland, and the microstates, as well as from the third countries established at EU level (Australia, Japan, New Zealand, Rwanda, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand and the United Kingdom.
- Effective 22 February 2021, certain categories of travellers between Lithuania and another EU country on a daily basis are required to present a negative COVID-19 test taken no more than 7 days before arrival in Lithuania:
    - This applies to frontier workers, business travellers, students, school pupils, trainees.
    - Those who arrive without an adequate test have a period of 24 hours to take a test and send the result to the relevant authorities.
- All travellers who arrive from, or have travelled through, ***any country*** must:
    - Present a negative COVID-19 test result undertaken not more than 48 hours prior to arrival or register for a test within 24 hours after arrival.
    - Register online with the National Public Health Centre (NPHC) and present the QR code they receive on boarding their plane, ferry, bus or train.

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Individuals entering by land must register online with the NPHC within 12 hours of entry.

- All travellers are required to self-isolate for 10 days, (reduced from 14 days).
  - There is a possibility of shortening the self-isolation time by taking a COVID-19 test, at personal expense, on the 7th day of the self-isolation at the earliest, with a negative response thereof.
  - However, regardless of the shortened self-isolation time, it will be required for 14 days after arrival to restrict the number of contacts, and in the case of those working, it will be required to commute only between work and home and wear a face mask and keep safe distance and follow other general instructions for the prevention of the coronavirus in their interactions with others.
  - Third-country nationals arriving in Lithuania from countries not subject to enhanced measures for the purpose of performing work-related functions as authorized by one of the ministries are allowed to leave the place of self-isolation to go to the place required for handling work or business matters.
    - Persons subject to the self-isolation exemptions will be required to have documentation evidencing the exemption, which they will have to show at a request of the specialists or officers of the National Public Health Centre (NPHC), who check compliance with isolation requirements.
    - It is recommended that working people only commute between work and home if there is no possibility to work remotely.
- Effective 1 March 2021:
  - The list of ***countries subject to enhanced measures*** includes:
    - Albania, Andorra, Bahrain, Brazil, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Gibraltar, Ireland, Israel, Latvia, Lebanon, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, ~~***Portugal***~~, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, ~~***Spain***~~, Turks and Caicos Islands, United Kingdom, ***United States***.
  - The list of affected countries ***not subject to enhanced measures*** now includes:
    - Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Finland, France, Germany, Gibraltar, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Norway, Poland, ***Portugal***, Romania, Slovakia, ***Spain***, Sweden, Switzerland and all other third countries.
- Those arriving from ***countries subject to enhanced measures*** will not be allowed to leave the place of isolation unless they need urgent medical assistance and have to go to a medical facility, or they have to go to a mobile testing point.
  - People in isolation may go to a funeral, change the place of isolation, or go to a medical facility for other health care services with the permission of the National Public Health Centre (NPHC). They will have to self-isolate in a separate apartment or a house, or on another well-isolated floor of a private house or apartment or in a separate isolated room with a separate bathroom. Self-isolation will be possible in the same premises only with those that travelled together, except children, who will be allowed to stay with other family members, who will be subject to the same period of self-isolation.
- Those arriving from affected countries ***not subject to enhanced measures*** are exempt from self-isolation in the following cases:
  - workers or self-employed persons exercising critical occupations, frontier workers and posted workers, as well as seasonal workers;

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- transport workers or transport service providers, including drivers of freight vehicles carrying goods for use in the territory, ***who only deliver or pick up cargo or transit through our country, without staying.***
    - Transport workers are not subject to COVID-19 test requirements, and their families are not subject to self-isolation requirements.
    - The isolation period for carriers may be shortened no earlier than 7 days after isolation by a PCR test for COVID-19 with negative results if the individual does not develop symptoms of acute upper respiratory tract infection.
    - Managers of companies engaged in international commercial transport in Lithuania are obliged to check whether crew and crew members returning or arriving from international flights have completed the electronic form on the National Public Health Center under the Ministry of Health (NVSC); to check the correct completion of the electronic questionnaire; and to check the self-isolation.
    - Employers are also obliged to ensure that employees are properly informed about the registration, isolation and isolation control requirements for crews and crew members established in Lithuania. In addition, companies engaged in international commercial shipments in Lithuania are advised to organize testing of employees for coronavirus infection at the employer's expense.
- patients travelling for imperative medical reasons;
- pupils, students and trainees who travel abroad on a daily basis;
- persons travelling for imperative family or business reasons;
- diplomats, staff of international organisations and people invited by international organisations whose physical presence is required for the well-functioning of these organisations, military personnel and police officers, and humanitarian aid workers and civil protection personnel in the exercise of their functions;
- passengers in transit;
- seafarers;
- journalists, when performing their duties;
- high-performance athletes, high-performance sports specialists, sports instructors and sports medical personnel participating in international tournaments;
- Lithuanian citizens returning from Belarus: teachers involved in the Lithuanian education in schools in Belarus and clergy performing pastoral work in Belarus.

- Effective 1 March 2021. The
- Applications for temporary residence permits for highly qualified employees, lecturers and researchers are processed online. Where entry is granted, the original biometric data of the documents will need to be submitted only on arrival.

LUXEMBOURG

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 29 January until 28 February 2021:

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- Any person aged 6 or over, including foreign nationals and Luxembourgers, travelling to Luxembourg from any country, must present at boarding a negative PCR or antigen test carried out less than 72 hours before travel.
- Travellers from countries outside the EU/Schengen area must also undergo a test at the airport on arrival.
- These measures do not apply to travellers arriving by car or train or to cross border workers.
- Certain categories of people are exempt from the testing requirement:

    - People on duty employed in the transport sector and passengers in transit from the airport;
    - Persons making a return journey by air, for less than 72 hours, from the Grand Duchy to a country which is a member of the Schengen area or the European Union, provided they have not left the Schengen area or the territory of the EU Member States during this period;
    - Members of the diplomatic corps, personnel of international organisations and persons invited by these international organisations whose physical presence is required for the proper functioning of these organisations, military personnel, personnel in the field of development cooperation and humanitarian aid, and civil protection personnel in the exercise of their respective functions, provided that their stay in Luxembourg does not exceed 72 hours;
    - Persons who have had a recent SARS-CoV-2 infection within 3 months prior to travel and who have completed the applicable isolation period in the respective country with the disappearance of any symptoms of infection. These persons may present a medical certificate attesting to these facts, which allows them to board a flight to Luxembourg without having to undergo a new PCR or antigen test.

- Travellers who refuse to take a test, either prior to boarding or upon arrival, must quarantine accordingly once in Luxembourg.

- Effective until 28 January 2021, passengers entering Luxembourg from the United Kingdom must present before boarding either
    - a negative PCR or antigen test less than 48 hours old; OR
    - a negative PCR or antigen test between 48 and 72 hours old. These people need to undergo a new PCR test at the airport on arrival and self-isolate until the test result is obtained.
- Entry is permitted for citizens of the European Union and of the countries associated with the Schengen area, as well as citizens of San Marino, Andorra, Monaco and the Vatican/Saint See, regardless of the purpose of the stay and not only to return to their homes.
- The suspension of entry for third-country nationals (including UK nationals) is extended until 31 March 2021.
    - Exempt of this rule are persons (see FAQ) and nationals from the following third-countries: Australia; China, Hong Kong and Macau (subject to reciprocity at EU level); Japan, New Zealand, Rwanda, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand.
    - 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.

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- Other exemptions exist for citizens of the EU and Schengen countries 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

- *This page* shows the latest special quarantine requirements for travellers arriving from certain towns or regions.
- Effective 23 February 2021, people arriving into Macau who have been only in mainland China in the past 14 days are exempt from medical observation and health monitoring. A certificate showing a negative result for a COVID-19 PCR test issued within the past 7 days is still required.
- Effective 21 January 2021, people arriving in Macau are required to undergo - upon completion of an initial designated medical-observation period – an additional period of health self-management.
    - Those people currently required on arrival to undergo a 14-day period of medical observation in Macau, will – under the additional arrangements – be asked to undergo a minimum of 14 days of health self-management at the address where they intend to stay.
    - Those required to go through 21 days of medical observation on arrival in Macau, are asked to undergo at least seven days of health self-management.
    - All such arrivals to Macau would – during the period of their health self-management – be issued with a ‘yellow’ Macau Health Code digital certificate. Should such a person wish to leave Macau prior to the completion of their

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period of health self-management, they would need to obtain a certificate – issued within 48 hours of intended departure – proving they have tested negative from COVID-19 infection, and follow any other requirements imposed by their chosen destination.
    - All those undergoing a health self-management period in Macau will be required, at the end of the designated period, to take a nucleic acid test showing freedom from COVID-19 infection. Only upon successful completion of such a test, will the self-management period be deemed to be concluded.
- Visitors who are not residents of mainland China, Hong Kong or Taiwan are only permitted to enter in exceptional circumstances of family reunification or close relationship with Macau, provided they have stayed in mainland China for 21 days prior to entry and obtain advance approval from the health authority.
- Entry is suspended for foreign nationals.
- Foreign nationals who have been only in mainland China in the previous 21 days may be permitted to enter in the following circumstances:
    - spouse or child of a Macau resident;
    - holder of authorisation to stay in Macau;
    - student registered to local higher education institutions;
    - plan to visit Macau for an important business event or academic or professional activities;
    - have registered with authorities as a non-resident worker, or hold a permit to enter Macau for work purposes, or are a family member of such a worker, and have either obtained the relevant authorisation or meet the equivalent requirements to stay in Macau.
- Foreign nationals who have visited other countries outside mainland China prior to arrival may be permitted to enter for matters serving Macau's public interest, to ensure proper operation of public services in the community or to meet the basic day-to-day needs of the Macau public
- Residents of Macau, mainland China, Hong Kong or Taiwan are permitted to enter:
    - Those who have visited ***only mainland China in the previous 14 days*** must hold a certificate showing a negative result for a COVID-19 PCR test issued within the past 7 days but are exempt from centralised isolation medical observation.
    - Those who have visited ***certain towns in mainland China in the previous 14 days*** are subject to 14-day centralised isolation medical observation and 14 days of health self-management.
    - Those who have visited ***Taiwan in the previous 14 days*** must hold a certificate showing a negative result for a COVID-19 PCR test issued within the past 7 days and are subject to 14-day centralised isolation medical observation and 14 days of health self-management.
    - Those who have visited ***Hong Kong in the previous 21 days*** must hold a certificate showing a negative COVID-19 PCR test result issued within the previous 24 hours and must undergo a 21-day medical observation at a designated venue and 7 days of health self-management.
    - Non-Macau residents who have visited a country outside China, Hong Kong or Taiwan ***in the previous 21 days*** are ***not*** permitted to enter.
    - ***Macau residents who have visited a country outside China, Hong Kong or Taiwan in the previous 21 days must hold a certificate showing a negative result for a COVID-19 PCR test issued within the past 72 hours.***

Immigration Restrictions

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

MADAGASCAR

Entry Restrictions

- International flights have resumed to and from Nosy Be airport.
- Arrivals must present a negative result of a COVID-19 PCR test issued no more than 72 hours before travel.
- On arrival, an additional PCR test will be carried out at the airport and passengers are required to remain under strict hotel quarantine until the result is available (up to 4 days).
- The list of countries from which flights are suspended was updated on 16 January 2021:
    - Canada, United States, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Uruguay, South Africa, Botswana, Kenya, Morocco, Namibia, Tunisia, Zimbabwe, Bangladesh, China, South Korea, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iran, Japan, Malaysia, Philippines, Andorra, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Norway, Portugal, Russia, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, United Kingdom, Australia.

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

- Holders of long-term passes which have expired since 1 January 2020 and who are currently in Malaysia are permitted to exit the country (for good) within 14 working days from the end of the Movement Control Order (MCO) without having to apply for a Special Pass or obtain prior approval from the authorities.
    - Currently, the Recovery MCO (RMCO) is effective until 31 March 2021 and the MCO in certain states and federal territories is in place until 26 January 2021.
    - In order to legally remain in Malaysia, the expats and dependents would need to either renew their passes or obtain new long-term passes.

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    - It is thought that this also applies to tourist/social visit pass holders.
    - This does not apply to holders of passes which have not expired. If they wish to exit and re-enter Malaysia they must apply for permission to exit and enter.
- All foreign nationals entering Malaysia must pay for the cost of 10-day quarantine and testing before departure via the *MySafeTravel site*.
    - Returning Malaysians are encouraged to do the same, but it is not mandatory.
- The quarantine period for incoming travellers is reduced from 14 days to 10 days (if entering with no prior negative swab test) or 7 days (if entering with a negative swab test result not more than 3 days old.
- Returning travellers (citizens and foreign nationals) are now subject to PCR testing on arrival and mandatory 10-day/7-day quarantine at designated quarantine centres.
    - 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.)
    - ***Travellers presenting a negative result of a COVID-19 swab test not more than three days old may qualify for a reduced quarantine period of 7 days.***
    - ***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 (RM 250 per person).
    - 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. A negative result of an Antigen Rapid Test (RM 120) is required for discharge.
- 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

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        - 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 10-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.
- 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, must 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.
    - Entry Approval issued before 7 September 2020 is still valid and holders are advised to return to Malaysia within 60 days from issuance.
    - 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.
- A Permission to Exit and Return Letter (PERL) allows eligible foreign residents to exit and re-enter within 60 days of the approval letter being granted.
    - ***Business and official visits are now also eligible.***
    - Social visits and tourism are still not allowed.
    - Expatriates who wish exit Malaysia and not return during the RMCO will not need to apply for Exit Permission.

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    - Permission to Exit and Return issued before 7 September 2020 is still valid and holders are advised to return to Malaysia within 60 days from issuance.
- 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.
- Malaysia and ***Singapore*** 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.
- All new and renewal applications for Employment Pass (EP) and Dependent Pass (DP) at the Malaysian Investment Development Authority (***MIDA***) must now be submitted online via the Expatriate Services Division (ESD). The Immigration Unit at MIDA will no longer process any EP or DP applications.
    - Note that registration for ESD services can take 1-2 months.
    - Pre-approved Expatriate Posts (key posts and term posts) are still required.
    - However, an advertisement must be placed in Jobs Malaysia for 30 days before the application for Expatriate Posts is submitted.

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    - Certain applications can still be submitted to the Immigration Unit at MIDA: Transfer of endorsement; take-up balance of approved period; cancellation; special pass; DP applications of EP holders already holding MIDA-issued EPs.
- 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

- During the MCO (13-26 January 2021), the company rollout procedure should be carried out online.
    - Companies will need to e-mail: inspektorat.esd@imi.gov.my using their ESD registered e-mail ONLY, and attach the following documents:
        - Updated Letter of Undertaking (LoU);
        - Copy of NRIC / Passport of Director signing LoU.
- Effective 13 to 26 January 2021, Kuala Lumpur, Putrajaya, Selangor, Penang, Melaka, Johor, Sabah and Labuan are under Movement Control Order (MCO).
    - MYXpats Centre counter services will be operating with minimal support between 9am and 4pm.
    - Company representatives and Residence Pass - Talent (RP-T) holders are required to apply for MyHelp Online Appointment before proceeding with any

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passport/ payment submissions and endorsement processes at both the Expatriate Services Division (ESD) in Putrajaya and MYXpats Centre in Mutiara Damansara.
  - Strictly no walk-in is allowed. All counter transactions will be based on confirmed appointments made via the MyHelp Online Appointment system.
  - All application processes will operate as usual through online systems.

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

- All tourists and short-term visitors must present a negative PCR test for COVID-19 on arrival to Maldives. The test and negative PCR certificate must be issued no more than 96 hours prior to departure.
- All travellers to the Maldives must fill in a Traveller Health Declaration form 24 hours before departure to the Maldives.
- All non-tourist passengers travelling to Maldives by air (such as residents and returning students) need to self-isolate for 10 days and register on the Haalubelun portal.

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MALI

Entry Restrictions

- 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

- All travel to and from the United Kingdom is suspended.
    - Maltese citizens and foreign residents currently in the UK are permitted to return to Malta.
    - Authorised returning persons must present a negative COVID-19 PCR test taken no longer than 72 hours prior to arrival; they will be subject to testing on arrival and 14 days of mandatory quarantine, with a repeat PCR test required on day 5-7 of quarantine.
- The following is the list of ***corridor countries***: *Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, China (including Hong Kong and Macau), Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Rwanda, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Vatican.*
    - 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.
- Persons travelling from countries on the "***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.
    - Effective 13 February 2021, the amber list now includes: *Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy* (*all airports except Sicily and Sardegna*), *Japan, Jordan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg*, *Monaco, Morocco*, *Netherlands, Poland, Portugal (all*

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airports except Madeira, Azores), *Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia*, *Spain (all airports except Canarias)*, *Sweden, Switzerland*, *Thailand*, *Tunisia, Turkey, Uruguay and Vatican.*

- 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 has started to accept new single permit applications.
  - 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 principal 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*.

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- 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

- Travellers are required to present a negative PCR test carried out within 72 hours prior to arrival. Passengers showing symptoms on arrival may be required to take another test and may be subject to a 14-day state quarantine at their own expense.
- Some international flights to and from Mauritania have resumed.

MAURITIUS

Entry Restrictions

- The suspension of entry for travellers from Brazil, Japan, South Africa and the United Kingdom is extended until at least 28 February 2021.
- Mauritian citizens, foreign national residents and tourists are permitted to enter.
- All travellers must present a negative result from a COVID-19 PCR test taken not more than 7 days prior to boarding, as well as completed passenger *health declaration* and *locator* forms and proof of purchase of a travel package including full-board accommodation at a designated hotel for a mandatory 14-day in-room quarantine.
- All travellers must undergo a COVID-19 PCR test on arrival at the airport, as well as on days 7 and 14 following arrival.

MEXICO

Entry Restrictions

- Mexico has extended restrictions on non-essential travel by land across its northern border with the United States until 21 March 2021.
- There is no quarantine for arriving travellers.
- Visa services at certain Mexican consulates have recommenced, depending on local conditions.

Immigration Restrictions

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- The National Immigration Institute offices in Mexico City and Toluca reopened on 15 February 2021.
    - The terms for temporary and permanent resident's processes are still suspended.
    - The Immigration Offices in Mexico City and Toluca extend their working hours from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm; however, it is requested that the fingerprinting appointments for foreign nationals be during the mornings. Please consider that this information may change without prior notice.
    - Considering that the immigration authorities are focused on submitting pending processes, fingerprinting appointments will be scheduled from 22 February 2021.
    - Submission of applications will be through daily turns given by the immigration authorities.
    - Regarding the Local Registry process ("Canje"), the immigration authorities in Toluca and Mexico City will admit and resolve all processes until 31 March 2021, even if the Immigration Multiple Form (FMM) has expired in the period 18 December 2020 to 22 February 2021.
- Effective 22 June, appointments can be booked, online or via telephone, to obtain an ordinary Mexican passport at 41 offices in Mexico City and in other states. Appointments are currently being issued under normal basis but with some delay, due to the system is overcrowded.
- 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.

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 for residence 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

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- Effective 1 March, "***Red zone"*** countries include *Albania, Andorra,* ***~~Bahrain~~****,* ***Brazil****, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Israel,* ***Italy****, Latvia,* ***~~Lebanon~~****, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro,* ***Netherlands****,* ***Peru****, Portugal, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Arab Emirates,* ***~~United Kingdom~~****, United States*.
- Entry is suspended for travellers from red zone countries, with the following exceptions:
    - immediate family members of Moldovan citizens and foreign residents,
    - those traveling for "professional interest",
    - holders of a long-stay visa, residency permit, or other document issued by Moldovan authorities,
    - diplomats accredited to Moldova and members of international organizations and their family members,
    - personnel who can provide humanitarian aid,
    - passengers in transit,
    - persons travelling for health and humanitarian reasons,
    - cross-border workers,
    - drivers and service personnel, for the purpose of transportation of goods (aircraft, ship and train crew),
    - foreign pupils/students who are being admitted or are enrolled in educational institutions in Moldova,
    - foreign citizens working as teachers in Moldova.
- Travellers entering from or transiting red zone countries are required to self-isolate for 14 days after arrival, with the following exceptions:
    - drivers and service personnel carrying out the carriage of goods and means of transport; the crews and service personnel of aircraft/ships, and brigades and service personnel of trains,
    - persons travelling for health and humanitarian reasons, including their attendants,
    - foreign students who travel for the purpose of admission or are enrolled in educational institutions in Moldova,
    - holders of diplomatic and service passports, members of diplomatic missions and consular offices accredited to Moldova,
    - in transit through Moldova.

MONGOLIA

Entry Restrictions

- The suspension of all international air and rail services has been extended until further notice. All borders with China and Russia are closed.
- 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.

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- 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*).
- 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***.
- 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.

MOROCCO

Entry Restrictions

- Entry is permitted for certain visa-exempt foreign nationals with proof of a hotel reservation or business invitation.
- Entry is permitted for Moroccan citizens and foreign residents of Morocco, as well as their families.

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- All travellers to Morocco over the age of 11 are required to present a negative PCR COVID-19 test taken within less than 72 hours of the flight before boarding their flight. All travellers must also complete a *passenger health form* before travel and present a printed copy on arrival.

Immigration Restrictions

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

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- 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 31 January.
- 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 14 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.

Immigration Concessions

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- The period from 29 March until the lifting of the COVID-19 entry restrictions will be excluded when calculating whether a resident director meets the minimum residency requirement.
    - A private company must have at least one director who is ordinarily resident in Myanmar. To qualify as "ordinarily resident", the person must reside in Myanmar for at least 183 days in each 12-month period.
    - Similarly, an overseas corporation registered with DICA must have an authorised officer who is ordinarily resident in Myanmar. It is not clear whether this temporary relief also applies in this scenario.

NAMIBIA

Entry Restrictions

- International travel is permitted.
- 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

- Effective 31 January 2021:
    - The following passengers and their family members can obtain a visa on arrival at Tribhuvan International Airport without any pre-approval letter or recommendations:
        - Foreign nationals holding diplomatic/Official passport or UN *laissez-passer*.
        - Foreign employees working in UN agencies and other international organisations;
        - Foreign nationals of Nepalese origin or relatives of Nepali citizen or Non Residential Nepalese card holders.
    - All other foreign nationals without a prior visa for Nepal should obtain a tourist entry visa from the Nepalese consulate abroad, or should obtain a pre-approval/recommendation letter from the Nepalese government authorities for obtaining a visa on arrival.
- All travellers aged over 5 years are required to present a negative result of a COVID-19 (RT-PCR/Gene Xpert/True NAAT or equivalent) test taken within 72 hours prior to first point of embarkation.
- All travellers are subject to health and security related protocols of the government of Nepal.
- TD and emergency passport holders are not eligible to get visa on arrival at entry points.
- Issuance of tourist entry visa from Nepali consulates is resumed.

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- Effective until further notice, all passengers from countries with new COVID-19 variants:
    - Must obtain a prior visa from the Nepali missions abroad;
    - Are subject to mandatory quarantine of 10 days at their own cost, at hotels listed by the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation;
        - After 5 days of home quarantine, those with a negative COVID-19 test result are permitted to spend the remaining 5 days in home quarantine.
    - Nepali nationals, NRNs and their children visiting Nepal to attend the funeral or severe medical treatment of their relatives can manage an alternate quarantine in coordination with the CCMS secretariat;
    - Foreign nationals working in diplomatic missions in Nepal and international organisations can manage their quarantine as per the request of their respective organisations;
    - Professionals travelling abroad for official programmes and returning within 5 days of their departure are allowed to enter Nepal on the basis of the COVID-19 negative report submitted at the time of departure.
- International flights have resumed and entry is permitted by air for foreign visitors
- Land borders remain closed to foreign nationals until further notice, except for holders of a pre-approval letter or recommendations.
- All travellers aged over 5 years are required to present a negative result of a COVID-19 PCR test taken within 72 hours prior to travel.
- All travellers are subject to health and security related protocols of the government of Nepal.
- TD and emergency passport holders are not eligible to get visa on arrival at entry points.

NETHERLANDS

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 23 January 2021:
    - All flights are suspended from ***Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Cabo Verde, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, French Guiana, Guyana, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, South Africa, Suriname, Uruguay and Venezuela.***
    - All flights and ferries are suspended from ***the United Kingdom (effective immediately)***
    - All passengers travelling to the Netherlands by air or sea from high-risk areas must:
        - ***Present a negative result of a rapid COVID-19 test performed not more than four hours prior to boarding*** the aircraft or ship.
        - ***Present a negative test result for a PCR test performed no more than 72 hours before arrival*** in the Netherlands.
        - These measures also apply to people travelling to the Caribbean parts of the Netherlands.
        - Travellers must ***self-quarantine for 10 days*** on arrival in the Netherlands. After five days they can get tested. If the result of this PCR test is negative they may end their self-quarantine.
    - Travellers from outside the EU who are business travellers, students, highly-skilled migrants, professionals from the cultural and creative sectors and

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people in long-distance romantic relationships wishing to travel to the Netherlands for a short period will no longer be granted entry.

- **Entry is permitted** from the European Union member states and the rest of the Schengen countries (Switzerland, Norway, Liechtenstein, Iceland), Australia, China, Japan, New Zealand, Rwanda, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand 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 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, including the UK.***
- ***Entry is permitted for*** holders of a residence card or permit for long-term residence, a valid residence permit for Netherlands, those who derive their residence from another EU directive or the law of a Schengen country and holders of a long-stay visa (MVV) and their family members.
- ***Entry is permitted for*** cross-border commuters, key workers, seasonal workers, transport workers, energy workers, seafarers, diplomats, members of the armed forces, NGO workers, those with compelling reasons to visit their family, those travelling through the Netherlands to a non-EU country (with proof of a connecting flight within 48 hours) and knowledge migrants (highly-skilled migrants) and students with an IND approval letter (kennisgeving).
- ***Entry is permitted for*** Highly-skilled migrants (knowledge migrants - including holders of Blue Cards, ICT Permits or researcher permits), and their family members.
    - They still require an MVV unless they are of a visa-exempt nationality (Australia, Canada, Japan, New Zealand, South Korea, United Kingdom, United States);
    - If they are ***visa-exempt and travelling from an entry-ban country***, then
        - they must fly direct to Netherlands (no transit);
        - they must present the IND approval letter (kennisgeving) stating that they will receive a residence permit;
        - the must also present a written statement from their employer stating that they must be in the Netherlands for their work and why. It should also state why they cannot come to the Netherlands at a later time.
    - If they arrive from a high-risk area, they must submit a health declaration and undergo a 10-day self-quarantine.
- **Entry is permitted** for business visitors from non-EEA countries to which the entry ban applies***,*** 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 from the Netherlands Foreign Investment Agency (NFIA);
    - 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.-.

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        - 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.
    - An application must be submitted to the Netherlands embassy in the country of residence of the applicant, stating the purpose of the journey.
    - Once the embassy has assessed the application it will issue the traveller with a ***note verbale*** giving permission for the planned trip. If it has any doubts, the embassy will consult the Netherlands Foreign Investment Agency (NFIA) in The Hague (if the application concerns a foreign investment) or the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' International Enterprise Department (DIO) (if the application concerns foreign trade). The traveller and the inviting entity must sign a declaration stating that the journey is essential, has demonstrable value for the Dutch economy and Dutch society, and meets the criteria specified above.
    - On arrival, the traveller must present the note verbal, a valid passport, a return ticket, a hotel reservation and - in the case of a visa national - a valid Schengen visa.
    - Dutch rules on self-quarantine are fully applicable, with the exemption of the business meetings.
    - A limit has been set on the number of travellers that may enter the Netherlands each month under this scheme.
- **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

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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.
- If the Netherlands embassy is closed or not accepting MVV applications, the applicant's sponsor can submit the application to the IND in the Netherlands.
    - However, the applicant will have to visit the embassy once the IND has made a positive decision.
    - MVV's can be collected from the embassy within 9 months of the original date of approval (if the applicant can explain why they could not collect their MVV sooner because of the corona crisis).
    - If an MVV sticker has expired, the applicant can obtain a reissued MVV within 90 days after expiry of the original sticker approval (if the applicant can explain why they could not travel in time because of the corona crisis).
- 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*.
- ***All travellers***, including Dutch, EU and Schengen citizens, and including air transit passengers, must present a printed ***negative COVID-19 test result*** from a test taken within 72 hours before arrival.
    - A printed *statement/declaration* about their test, completed by the traveller, must also be presented.
    - The following travellers are exempt:
        - Children aged 12 years or under;
        - Cross-border commuters (including workers, students and schoolchildren);
        - Persons with a residence permit from the Netherlands or another EU / Schengen member state and holders of a diplomatic identity card issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
        - Nationals of Australia, Iceland, Japan, New Zealand, Rwanda, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand;
        - Holders of a long-stay visa, including persons with a provisional residence permit (MVV);
        - Persons employed in the transport of goods and other transport personnel as necessary. This includes persons working on container ships, bulk carriers (for example ore or coal), tankers (fuels and chemicals), fishing. And also persons working in the energy sector, i.e. oil and gas platforms and wind farms, offshore companies that provide services to this sector, and air, cruise and ferry crew when they travel in the performance of their duties;

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        - Seafarers in possession of a seaman's book when they travel in the performance of their duties. The exceptions do not apply to seafarers on commercial yachts and pleasure craft;
        - Heads of state and members of a foreign governments.
        - Passengers with a NATO Travel Order or a NATO-2 visum.
    - A negative test result is not a substitute for self-quarantining. People with a negative test result should still self-quarantine for 10 days on arrival in the Netherlands.
- Certain travellers are **exempt from self-quarantine** unless showing symptoms:
    - Cross-border commuters, students or schoolchildren;
    - Goods transport or passenger transport workers crossing the border for work;
    - Visiting spouse, partner, child or parent in Belgium or Germany.
    - Travelling to the Netherlands to visit parent or child.

Immigration Restrictions

- Appointments at the IND desk continue as usual.
- 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 with a short-stay visa which has expired or will expire within one month but cannot leave (flight cancelled, cannot book new flight, tested positive for COVID-19) can apply for an extension if they still meet the conditions for a short-stay visa.
    - This visa extension is only valid within the Netherlands.
- 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.);

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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 25 January, all travellers to New Zealand ***from most regions*** are required to present, before boarding, a negative COVID-19 result from a test (PCR, LAMP or antigen) taken no more than 72 hours before scheduled departure.
    - This requirement does not apply to travellers from the following regions: Antarctica, Australia, Cook Islands Cook Islands, Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Caledonia, Niue, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Wallis and Futuna.
    - Travellers from locations where the approved pre-departure testing is not available are exempt. Instead, travellers will need to get a certificate from a registered health professional confirming that they have no symptoms, less than 72 hours before travelling. Countries which fall under this exemption include:
        - Albania, Belize, Dominica, Kenya, Laos, Montenegro, Myanmar, Slovenia, St Kitts and Nevis, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan.
- Effective 15 January 2021, all travellers coming from ***the United Kingdom*** or ***the United States*** arriving in or transiting through New Zealand are required to present, before boarding, a negative COVID-19 result from a test (PCR, LAMP or antigen) taken no more than 72 hours before scheduled departure.
- It is no longer permitted to transit New Zealand to China.

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- 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.
    - ***Effective 21 January 2021, entry is permitted from Cook Islands without quarantine.***
    - 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.
- Travellers to New Zealand must register for a voucher, allocating them a place in a managed isolation facility. The voucher is free, although the stay in managed isolation facilities may not be.

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    - Travellers are legally required to obtain a voucher in before boarding. Otherwise, boarding will be prohibited, unless the traveller is exempt from using managed isolation facilities.
    - Places in Managed Isolation and Quarantine are extremely limited leading up to the holiday period.
- 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.
- 24-hour transit is only permitted for Australian or New Zealand citizens or New Zealand residents (including immediate family) and individuals who meet one of the COVID-19 travel exceptions.
- 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.
- Visa waiver travel for tourism or business is suspended.
- The suspension of offshore visa processing is extended until 6 February 2021. Exceptions include:
    - Relationship-based visas for dependants of NZ citizens or residents;
    - Visas for diplomats, consular and official staff, and their dependent family members;
    - Individuals travelling for a critical purpose;
    - Antarctic work and traveller visitor visas;
    - Recognised Seasonal Employer (RSE) limited visas.
- Entry is permitted for certain work visa holders who left NZ between 1 December 2019 and 9 October 2020 and held Essential Skills Work Visa (mid-skilled or higher or assessed as at or above the medium wage), Work to Residence Visa or Entrepreneur Work Visa when they left.
    - Must be able to show they have the same job or continue to operate the same business in NZ.
    - Must have been resident in New Zealand for at least two years, or between one and two years.
        - If they lived in New Zealand for between 1 and 2 years they must also have:
            - had 1 or more dependent children with them in New Zealand for at least 6 months of that 12-month period;
            - parents or adult siblings who are currently in, and who are ordinarily resident in, New Zealand; or
            - submitted their application for their current resident visa by 10 August 2020.
    - If the visa expires before 1 January 2021, the holder must have applied for a new visa to remain in the same job before 10 August 2020.
    - Exception requests may include partners and dependent children who held or currently hold a temporary visa or resident visa based on their relationship with the principal applicant and include any children born overseas after 1 December 2019 while the applicant was unable to return to New Zealand.
    - Applicants whose resident visa has been approved since they left NZ and have made a successful request under this exemption will be contacted.
    - Exception requests are expected to take two weeks to consider. This is in line with timeframe for 'other critical worker' border exceptions.
- Entry is permitted for partners of NZ citizens and residents.

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    - 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.
- 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.
- The following 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.

Immigration Restrictions

- The suspension of off-shore visa processing for most temporary visas has been extended until May 2021 from the previously announced 8 February 2021.
- Under Alert Level 2, Immigration offices will process more visa applications, according to a new priority scheme.
- For skilled migrant and residence for work visa applications, first priority is given to applicants who earn more than $106,080 per year; or who hold current occupational registration (where required). Prioritised applications are being allocated to a case officer within two weeks of entering the queue. Other applications are put in a low-priority queue – processing of these cases is currently beginning about six months after submission, and applicants in New Zealand may need to renew their temporary entry visas.
- 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.

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Immigration Concessions

- Visitor visas have been automatically extended by two months from date of expiry for those who are in New Zealand on 19 February and with visas due to expire between 19 February and 31 March inclusive.
    - There is no application fee and no application needs to be submitted.
    - The extension does not apply to COVID-19 short-term visitor visas.
    - Although the new expiry dates are not yet visible on visas, the extension is valid. Visa holders who are eligible for the extension are not considered unlawful, even if an automatic extension notification has not yet been issued. New expiry dates will be available on the Visa Verification Service after 5 March.
    - Visitor visa holders who wish to remain in New Zealand for longer, you will need to apply for another visa before your visa expires.
    - The rule where visitor visa holders can only be in New Zealand for nine months out of an 18-month period has been waived temporarily. This applies to people in New Zealand who apply for visitor visas before the end of June. If all other requirements for a visitor visa are met, applicants will be eligible for a visitor visa of up to six months.
- The following categories of work visas will be automatically extended by 6 months if they are due to expire between January 2021 and 30 June 2021:
    - Essential skills work visa; work to residence visa; special and skilled work visas for China, Indonesia, Philippines, South Korea and Vietnam; employer-specific work visas granted under section 61 of the Immigration Act 2009; fishing crew visa; religious worker visa; Silver Fern practical experience visa.
    - Partners and dependent children of eligible work visa holders will also have their visas extended.
    - Impacted individuals will be contacted by INZ in March 2021, confirming their visa extension. Visa extensions may also be confirmed by checking the Visa Verification Service, from March 2021.
- Visa restrictions have been relaxed for some visa holders to work in supermarkets when a region is in Alert Level 3 or 4, from 20 August 2020 to 31 July 2021. These changes have been made as supermarkets are facing immediate labour supply issues during COVID-19 and to meet the increased demand for shelf re-stocking.
- A new short-term visitor visa is 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.
- 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 should have received an email from INZ by 25 August, confirming their visa extension.
    - INZ provides an online Visa Verification Service *here*.

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- 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, had their visa extended until 25 September 2020 with no fee. Extension emails have been sent to all visa holders.
- 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 how 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.

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NIGERIA

Entry Restrictions

- International flights and the issuance of visas on arrival and electronic visas has resumed.
- Effective 11 January:
  - All passengers must present a negative result of a COVID-19 PCR test taken no more than 96 hours prior to boarding (at the first point of departure).
  - All passengers (including diplomas and children under the age of 10) must register via the *online national travel portal*, where they must complete the online Health Declaration/Self-Reporting Form, upload their negative PCR test result and make payment for the repeat COVID-19 PCR test on day 7 of arrival in Nigeria (diplomats and children less than 10 years old are exempt from the payment).
  - All passengers must download the Permit to Travel Certificate/QR Code, save and print the form for presentation at the point of boarding. A copy of the Permit to Travel /QR code will also be sent to the email address provided by the passenger.
  - Passengers are advised to bring a hard copy of their negative COVID-19 PCR test result for presentation at the airport.
  - Passengers departing from the United Kingdom and South Africa must show evidence of having paid for their post-arrival day-7 COVID-19 PCR test.
- All new arrivals are expected to self-isolate at one location in the city of their arrival until the result of their second PCR test (which should be taken on day 7 of arrival) is known. If the second test is negative travellers can exit self-isolation from day 8 onwards.

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

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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 22 February, employers who make accommodation available to foreign employees must have this location pre-approved by the Norwegian Labour Inspection Authority.
    - When applying to the Norwegian Labour Inspection Authority for approval of accommodation, the employer must document that it is possible to reside in that location without coming into contact with other people. Employees must have their own bathroom and their own kitchen or dining facilities, as well as access to a private room offering television and internet facilities.
    - A processing fee is due in order to have an application to the Norwegian Labour Inspection Authority considered.
- Norwegian employers/sponsors can apply for permission for an exemption from the current travel ban for foreign workers to travel to Norway who are strictly necessary to maintain the activity of the business. The key criteria in relation to this exemption are:
    - Only for technical experts that will come to Norway to install, disassemble, inspect repair or perform maintenance on machinery or technical equipment.
    - The relevant work must be strictly necessary/critical for maintaining the business of the sponsor in Norway.
    - It is not possible to find other people with the required skillset in Norway to carry out the tasks.
    - The tasks have to be completed in Norway i.e. must demonstrate it is not possible to complete the work remotely from outside Norway.
    - The Norwegian employer/ sponsor must submit the application electronically through the Norwegian Maritime Authority and provide certain supporting information and documents.
    - The applicant must still hold any relevant visas or residence permits as required by immigration law (i.e. the exemption is only in relation to the current travel ban). The applicant must also still comply with the COVID entry restrictions including quarantine.
- The suspension of entry for non-resident foreign nationals and the strict entry measures introduced on 29 January 2021 have been extended until further notice.

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- The testing, travel registration, quarantine and quarantine hotel requirements will remain in force for travellers who are exempt from the entry restrictions.
- All Norwegian nationals may continue to travel into Norway.
- Foreign nationals who have already begun a journey to Norway before the restrictions take effect will be granted entry.
- No longer permitted to enter:
  - foreign nationals residing in the EEA and EEA nationals residing in third countries (unless covered by exemptions that also apply to third-country nationals);
  - family members apart from nuclear families in which the children are minors, for both EEA nationals and others, meaning that grandparents, adult children, parents of adult children and romantic partners may no longer visit;
  - foreign nationals from countries outside the EEA who are granted a residence permit in connection with work or study, including as a seasonal worker or student;
  - a foreign national who is to work with film or series production or as a researcher who is exempt from the requirement of a residence permit.
- Still permitted to enter:
  - foreign nationals who reside in Norway;
  - foreign nationals for whom special reasons indicate they should be granted the right to enter, such as specific care responsibilities for persons in Norway or other compelling welfare considerations;
  - foreign nationals who are to carry out agreed or formalized parent-child contact;
  - close family members of persons residing in Norway, i.e. spouses/registered partners/cohabitants, minor children or stepchildren, parents or stepparents of minor children or stepchildren;
  - journalists and other personnel on assignment for a foreign media institution;
  - foreign nationals who plan an airport stopover in Norway (both in international airport transit and within Schengen);
  - seafarers and aviation personnel;
  - foreign nationals who perform commercial transport of goods and passengers;
  - foreign nationals who work in critical public functions;
  - health personnel from Sweden and Finland who work in the Norwegian health and care services;
  - children who cross the border on a daily basis to attend school in Norway.
  - ***Effective 1 March***, day commuters from Sweden and Finland are permitted to enter for work under strict test and control regime.
    - Day commuting includes evening and night work, but commuters cannot spend the night in Norway between work sessions. They must travel in and out of Norway for each shift to be covered by the provision for day commuting.
    - Daily commuters from Sweden and Finland must document residence in Sweden or Finland at the border control and must have a certificate from their Norwegian employer confirming that they are a commuter. The certificate must include information about the place of work, working hours and that the distance to

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their home does not prevent them from day commuting. They must also register in the entry registration system before each entry.
        - If they commute to work, they are exempt from the entry quarantine requirement during working hours if tested for Covid-19 every seven days.
- All travellers are required to complete ***registration*** at the time of entry to Norway with a new digital travel registration system.
- Foreign nationals travelling from red countries/regions subject to quarantine must present a certificate of a negative result from a PCR or rapid antigen COVID-19 test taken ***less than 24 hours before entry***.
    - For persons arriving by airplane, the test may be taken within the 24 hours prior to the scheduled departure time of the first leg of air travel
    - The certificate must be in Norwegian, Swedish, Danish, English, French or German.
    - This requirement does not apply to persons who, by approved laboratory method, can document that they had a COVID-19 infection during the last six months.
    - This requirement does not apply to:
        - foreign nationals who are essential for maintaining safe operations of critical functions in society or the fundamental needs of the Norwegian population, and there is a danger to life and health if entry is refused
        - foreign nations who are in transit
        - foreign nationals who regularly arrive in Norway from Sweden or Finland to work or study, except for health personnel who have been outside Norway for more than seven days
        - asylum seekers and quota refugees
        - foreign nationals with a family immigration permit
        - diplomatic and consular personnel accredited to Norway
        - foreign nationals who have been invited by the Norwegian authorities to participate in international negotiations and similar, and foreign nationals who are part of delegations that are visiting Norway in accordance with Norway's international obligations
        - military personnel arriving in Norway by non-commercial transport.
- Travellers who in the last 10 days before arrival in Norway have stayed in ***Austria, Brazil, Ireland, Netherlands, Portugal, South Africa*** and ***the United Kingdom*** are subject to a PCR test on arrival at the border.
    - Persons who have stayed in these countries between 15-25 January and are already in Norway must be tested with PCR as soon as possible.
    - This requirement applies in addition to the requirement for a negative test before entry to Norway for specific groups and the requirements for quarantine hotels and quarantine after entry.
    - Children under 12, personnel with critical social functions, border commuters, HGV drivers and diplomats, people who have proof of having had COVID-19 in the last 6 months are exempted.
- ***Travellers*** who have resided in an area with a quarantine duty during the last 10 days before arrival are subject to COVID-19 PCR or rapid antigen testing on arrival at the border.
    - This requirement applies in addition to the requirement for a negative test before entry to Norway for specific groups and the requirements for quarantine hotels and quarantine after entry.

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- Children under 12, personnel with critical social functions, border commuters, HGV drivers and diplomats, people who have proof of having had COVID-19 in the last 6 months are exempted.
- Any positive result from a rapid COVID test taken at the border must be followed by a PCR test in the case of all travellers. A PCR-test is necessary in order to do further analysis to establish if the sample contains one of the mutated and more contagious variations of the virus.

- Effective 1 March:
  - The ***red*** list, from which travellers may enter Norway but are subject to a ten-day quarantine, now includes the following: *Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark (except* ***~~Greenland~~****), Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary,* ***~~Iceland~~****, Ireland, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, Vatican and parts of Finland.*
- A 10-day ***quarantine*** is required for all arrivals from ***red countries*** or areas within the EEA/Schengen region, or countries outside the EEA/Schengen region.
  - Persons visiting loved ones who are seriously ill or participating in a funeral service or burial of a loved one are exempt from quarantine.
  - Those under quarantine duty who are not resident in Norway and do not have a home or holiday home in Norway must stay at a ***quarantine hotel*** during the 10-day quarantine period.
    - Persons who are able to document access to a permanent residence in Norway will be permitted to quarantine at that location, regardless of whether this residence is owned or rented.
    - The requirement to stay in a quarantine hotel does not apply to people who are in Norway to work and who can present confirmation that their employer undertakes to provide suitable accommodation during the quarantine period, where it is possible to avoid close contact with others, with a private bedroom including TV and internet access, appropriate bathroom facilities, and a separate kitchen or eating facility.
    - Other persons whose stay is for purposes other than work or an assignment and who can document that they have access to a suitable location do not need to stay in a quarantine hotel for their quarantine stay.
      - A suitable location must be a private room with access to dedicated bathroom facilities, a separate kitchen or eating facility, and it must be possible to avoid close contact with others.
      - The traveller must provide confirmation that this accommodation fulfils the stipulated requirements, issued by the individual placing the accommodation at the disposal of the traveller
        A standard confirmation form is available via regjeringen.no and helsenorge.no. This will not apply to those persons who quarantine in their own homes, regardless of whether their home is owned or rented.
      - Persons who are married to or have children with a person who has a permanent residence in Norway, as well as their children under the age of 18, may undergo quarantine in the home of their spouse in Norway, or the home of their co-parent.

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        - Persons in the same household who enter Norway together who are not arriving for the purposes of work or an assignment may undergo quarantine within the same suitable accommodation without any additional requirements in terms of private bedrooms for each member of the household.
        - Long-distance hauliers and allied military departments are also exempt.
        - People staying at a quarantine hotel must pay a set charge of NOK 500 per night for private individuals and NOK 500 per night (reduced from NOK 1500) for employers. Children under the age of 10 years old staying in a room with their parent or guardian will not be required to pay an excess. Children aged 10 to 18 years old will be required to pay an excess of NOK 250 per day.
    - ***Effective 23 February, people in entry quarantine who are not staying in a quarantine hotel must be tested with a PCR test seven days after the arrival day.***
  - Time spent in transit through yellow countries or areas is counted as quarantine time.
  - Transiting through red countries or areas does not trigger quarantine duty, provided the traveller does not use public transport, does not stay overnight in the area and keeps a distance to others than those they normally live with.
  - Stopping in transit in a red country as part of a flight itinerary does trigger quarantine duty.
  - Anyone arriving in Norway from a red area/country need to complete their full quarantine period in mainland Norway prior to travelling on to Svalbard, including residents.
  - Foreign national workers from countries classified as ‘red’ by the EU are no longer exempt from the 10-day quarantine requirement.
- ***Test Certificate***: Travellers from red countries/regions must present a certificate (in Norwegian, Swedish, Danish, English, French or German) of negative result from a PCR or rapid antigen COVID-19 test taken ***less than 24 hours before entry***. This ***does not apply to the following***:
  - Norwegian citizens, foreign residents of Norway or persons in transit.
  - People regularly entering Norway for work (except heath personnel who have been outside Norway for more than 7 days).
  - Foreign nationals with a family immigration permit.
  - Personnel in critical functions when necessary to avoid danger to life and health.
  - Diplomatic and consular personnel accredited to Norway.
  - Foreign nationals who have been invited by the Norwegian authorities to participate in international negotiations and similar, and foreign nationals who are part of delegations that are visiting Norway in accordance with Norway’s international obligations.
  - Military personnel arriving in Norway by non-commercial transport.
  - asylum seekers and quota refugees.
- Travellers arriving from ***Denmark*** should get themselves tested again upon arrival in Norway, and inform the municipality they are visiting that they have been to Denmark.
- ***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

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during the past 10 days have stayed in or been travelling in non-red 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.

- ***Exemptions from quarantine duty:***
  - Employees and contractors with *frequent border crossings* who arrive in Norway from areas in Sweden or Finland with quarantine duty are exempt from entry quarantine during working hours if they are tested for SARS-CoV-2 in Norway at least every 7 days. This also applies for healthcare workers who commute from Sweden and Finland, as long as they are not also working in the Swedish or Finnish health service.
  - Cross-border workers from EEA or Switzerland who have not spent time in areas with particularly high transmission levels are exempt from entry quarantine and are allowed to work after they have tested negative after arrival in Norway.
    - They must be in quarantine during leisure time, be tested once every three days and be given accommodation in a single room for the first 10 days of their stay in Norway.
    - The employer is now explicitly required to ensure that it is possible to maintain social distancing when undergoing quarantine during leisure time.
  - People invited by Norway because of foreign policy, as well as people who cross Norway's borders in connection with planned or stipulated visits between parent and child, or shared residence for children, are completely exempt from entry quarantine. The NIPH still recommends that they take a test on arrival in Norway. They should also remain in quarantine and wait to start school / work until there is a negative test result, but this is only a recommendation and not a requirement according to the regulations. They should monitor their own health and have a low threshold for testing if symptoms arise.
- Effective 25 January 2021, there are ***changes to the quarantine exemptions***:
  - Managers in organisations with critical functions in society can make exemptions from quarantine duty for employees with essential roles in maintaining safe operations. This applies regardless of the reason for the employee being in quarantine. The exemption from quarantine duty can only be used in cases where it is necessary to avoid danger to life and health. Such persons must receive a negative result from a COVID-19 PCR test before they begin working. This test must be taken no sooner than 72 hours after their arrival in Norway. In situations of urgency where it is not possible to await the result of a PCR test, a person may begin work after a negative test using a rapid test taken on the same day that work is due to be performed.
  - The exemption from the requirements to quarantine through testing upon arrival for those travelling for work-related reasons in connection with international sporting competitions has been terminated until 31 January. The government will carry out a re-assessment of the situation prior to this date.
  - Persons who are scheduled to work on board vessels in Norwegian ports must take a PCR test when being tested at the end of their quarantine period.
  - The quarantine upon arrival rules for military personnel will also be tightened. Quarantine may be completed in groups of up to 5 persons, but the

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Norwegian Armed Forces Joint Medical Services may, at its discretion, determine that more persons may be included in such groups on a case-by-case basis and groups shall still be limited to no more than 30 persons.
    - The current exemption from quarantine upon arrival for commuters who regularly arrive in Norway from Sweden and Finland and who undergo testing once every seven days is being amended to ensure that the exemption cannot be used by persons who have been in an area outside of Sweden and Finland that necessitates quarantine within a period of 10 days prior to their arrival.
    - The exemptions from quarantine applicable to persons crossing the border to facilitate custodial obligations involving minors and their parents, and to persons who have been invited by the Norwegian state authorities to the country on foreign policy grounds are to be tightened. There is now a requirement to undergo testing 72 hours after arrival in order to be exempt from quarantine during working or school hours. Exemptions will no longer be available during leisure hours. Custodial access to children may be undertaken during quarantine.

- 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

- Effective 25 February 2021, entry is suspended from Brazil, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Lebanon, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sudan, Tanzania.
    - The ban also applies to those who have visited these countries in the previous 14 days;
    - Exempt from the ban are Omani citizens, diplomats of foreign missions and healthcare workers employed in Oman and their families.

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- Latest travel protocols, effective 15 February:
  - All travellers are required to present a certified negative result of a ***pre-departure PCR test*** conducted at least 72 hours prior to the scheduled travel.
  - All travellers are subject to a COVID-19 ***PCR test on arrival***, subject to prebooking through *https://covid19.emushrif.om*. and payment of OMR 25 (includes the fitting of the Tarrasud+ wristband). Children under the age of 15 are exempt.
  - All travellers must download Tarrasud+ app before arrival and complete registration *here*.
  - All travellers arriving in Oman must undergo 7-day institutional ***quarantine*** and wear the Tarrasud+ bracelet until they receive a negative test result, which will be sent to the Tarrasud+ app within 24 hours.
    - The operating airlines are required to ensure the availability of pre-confirmed hotel reservations for all travellers on their flights covering the mandatory quarantine period (7 nights at least).
    - Travelers arriving in Oman can book accommodation at any hotel in Oman, or takes advantage of the hotels list prepared and updated by the competent authorities for institutional isolation and published via (Oman Vs Covid19) platform. https://twitter.com/OmanVSCovid19
    - After quarantining for 7 days, travellers are required to take a new PCR test on the 8th day, if the test result is negative the quarantine period will end.
    - The test results will be available within 24 hours.
    - The test report can be viewed and printed electronically on https://covid19.emushrif.om.
  - It's no longer allowed for travelers arriving in Oman to stay for a period of less than 8 days. Airlines must ensure that there are no travel reservations made to depart Oman before the mandatory quarantine period ends (7 days with negative PCR test result on the 8th day).
  - GCC citizens, residents with valid residency permits, and travelers with a valid visa are allowed to enter the Sultanate without prior approval.
  - All travelers arriving in the Sultanate of Oman are required to have international health insurance covering the cost of COVID-19 treatment valid for one month, except for citizens, GCC nationals, and passengers with free treatment card.
  - Travellers under the age of 15 are exempt from the tracking bracelet and PCR test requirements.
  - Diplomats working at foreign embassies accredited to the sultanate of Oman and diplomats visiting the Sultanate are exempted from the COVID-19 PCR test. Tarassud+ and the bracelet, however, are subject to a seven-day quarantine.
  - Aircraft crew is exempt from the PCR test, Tarrasud+ bracelet requirements, the isolation requirements, and are subject to the precautionary measures issued by the Ministry of Health.

PAKISTAN

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 22 December 2020:

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- Pakistani passport holders who travelled to the UK on visitor/temporary visas will be allowed to return with the following protocols:
    - Negative result of a PCR test taken a maximum of 72 hours prior to boarding the flight in the UK.
    - PCR test on arrival in Pakistan as arranged by the federal and provincial government. Passengers will be required to stay in the airport or will be taken to a government facility until the test is taken.
    - Mandatory enforced home quarantine for 7 days.
- Non-Pakistanis & Dual Nationals (holding both UK and Pakistan passports)
    - Direct or indirect travel from the UK is temporarily suspended.
    - All travellers who are in or have been in the UK over the past 10 days will not be allowed entry into Pakistan.
    - However, passengers in transit in the UK, who do not leave airside during the transit will be allowed to enter Pakistan.

- International flights are permitted to resume from all airports.
- All arrivals must submit a health declaration form online or through the "PassTrack" app within 48 hours of arrival.
- Non-Pakistani travellers from countries in ***Category C*** are restricted and only allowed to enter as guided by NCOC decision:
    - Botswana, Brazil, Colombia, Comoros, Ghana, Ireland, Kenya, Mozambique, Netherlands, Peru, Portugal, South Africa, Tanzania, United Kingdom, Zambia.
- All travellers aged 12 years and above arriving by air, ***except for those under Category A***, must present a negative result of a COVID-19 PCR test taken within 96 hours before arrival, and self-isolate for 14 days.
    - Effective 1 March, Category A includes Australia, ***Bhutan***, China, ~~***Cuba***~~, ~~***Finland, Ghana, Iceland, Iraq***~~, ***Fiji, Japan***, Kazakhstan, ***Laos***, ~~***Madagascar, Maldives***~~, ***Mauritania***, Mongolia, ***Morocco***, Myanmar, ***Nepal***, New Zealand, ~~***Qatar***~~, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Korea, ~~***South Sudan***~~, Sri Lanka, ***Tajikistan***, ~~***Togo***~~, Trinidad and Tobago, Vietnam.
- Travellers may 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.

Immigration Concessions

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

PANAMA

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 12 February, all foreign nationals in Panama can register for vaccination *here*.
- Effective 21 December, entry is suspended for all travellers who have stayed in or transited through the United Kingdom or South Africa in the last 20 days prior to entry.
    - Entry is permitted for Panamanian citizens and residents arriving from these two countries, but they must take a PCR or antigen test on arrival, and remain

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in quarantine in a hospital hotel for as long as determined by the authorities, regardless of the result of the PCR test.

- Effective 8 January 2021, all travellers arriving in Panama must present a negative PCR or antigen 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. Isolation is not required.
    - Authorities have the right to carry out random PCR or antigen tests to all travellers at the points of entry.
    - Travellers arriving without an adequate negative COVID-19 test certificate will be required to undertake a rapid test on arrival at their own cost. If the result is negative, isolation is not required. If positive, isolation in a designated facility is required, with a further test after 7 days.

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.
- 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 since 13 March 2020 are extended until 30 June 2021.
- Permanent residents who are outside Panama can now remain outside Panama until 30 June 2021 without this affecting their residence status.

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- Previously issued birth and marriage certificates that have expired from 30 March 2020 to 31 January 2021 are extended until 30 June 2021.
- 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

- Incoming travellers on designated charter flights will be fitted upon arrival with a GPS tracking ankle bracelet at their own expense, for the designated quarantine period.
- Only certain flights are permitted to land in Papua New Guinea, namely those run by Air Niugini, PNG Air, Hevilift, Tropic Air or Pacific Air Transport from Australia, Hong Kong, Japan, Singapore or the Solomon Islands, or if exempted in writing by the Controller.
- Nobody may enter Papua New Guinea unless they have a written exemption from the Controller or his delegate, and evidence of a negative RT-PCR test result for COVID-19 taken within a 7-day period prior to arrival.
- A valid reason to travel is:
    - Students returning to their usual place of residence or educational institution;
    - Persons returning to their usual place of residence;
    - Essential services;
    - Essential exempted business travel; and
    - Emergency transport.
- All international visitors must apply for their exemption to enter Papua New Guinea by emailing the NCC Travel Desk at *covid19-travel@police.gov.pg* with the following documents:
    - completed and signed Air Passenger Transport Form (APTF), including details of travel date to Papua New Guinea, quarantine hotel (if required) and a scanned copy of passport biodata page as the ID;
    - letter to the Controller, including reason for travel, visa details, passport details (including the expiry date) and, if applicable, work permit details (or letter from employer) and/or resident permit details;
    - copy of passport biodata page.
    - copy of visa for Papua New Guinea and, if applicable, a copy of work permit and/or resident permit
    - copy of reservation at a designated hotel for quarantine (if required)
    - copy of flight itinerary
- Travellers should submit their completed documents at least two weeks prior to travel.

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- Travellers will be required to show evidence of their approved exemptions, negative COVID-19 test and hotel reservation (if required) to be allowed to board a flight to Papua New Guinea.
- Travellers to Papua New Guinea must also complete an online electronic health declaration form within 24 hours of departure. The barcode generated should be saved as evidence of submission.
- Travellers arriving in Papua New Guinea must self-isolate in a government-approved hotel for 14 days.
    - For travellers who have spent the 7 days prior to travel in *Australia (except the state of Victoria), Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall islands, Micronesia, Nauru, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu or Vanuatu*, the period of self-isolation is reduced to 7 days and can take place either at home or in a government approved hotel.
    - Non-PNG citizens and non-Permanent Residents self-isolating at a government approved hotel must self-fund their stay.
    - PNG Citizens and Permanent Residents must fund their stay at their own cost, or can, at the Controller's sole discretion, have their stay funded at the Government's cost.
    - During the quarantine period, all persons will undertake a COVID-19 test at the government's cost. The result of the test will not affect the duration of the quarantine.

Immigration Concessions

- For foreign nationals who are unable to travel out of Papua New Guinea due to the international travel ban, the Immigration and Citizenship Authority of Papua New Guinea is extending visas and considering Change of Status applications.
    - This applies to short-term business, tourist, visitor, yachtsperson, restricted employment, journalist and reporter visas, as well as to students and occupational trainees and temporary resident visa holders and their dependents.
    - Short-term visa holders in 14-day quarantine are allowed to apply for a thirty-day extension to compensate for the loss of days spent in quarantine.
    - Non-citizens who are temporary residents in the country and have not met the change of status requirements are exempted from exiting the country and are eligible to apply for a new visa onshore;
    - Non-citizens on short-term visas who are intending to apply for change of status in the country will be given special consideration on a case-by-case basis.
    - Change of status in-country is available for:
        - all classes of visitor visa changed to a dependent of a principle applicant who is working in the country;
        - All classes of visitor visa who are 18 years and under changed to a dependent of a citizen residing in the country;
        - Single business visa to working residence employment;
        - Restricted employment visa to working residence employment;
        - Consultant specialist visa to working residence employment.

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PARAGUAY

Entry Restrictions

- The Silvio Pettirossi International Airport has reopened.
- All travellers are required to complete an *online health form* within 24 hours before travel.
- Non-resident foreign nationals aged 10 and above must present a negative result of a COVID-19 RT-PCR/LAMP/NAAT test conducted within 72 hours before travel.
- Paraguayan citizens and foreign national residents can present a negative result of a COVID-19 RT-PCR/LAMP/NAAT test OR undergo a test within 24 hours after arrival and self-isolate until obtaining the result.
- Tests are not required for people who have been diagnosed with COVID-19 between 14 and 90 days before the trip.
- Non-resident foreign nationals (except Mercosur nationals) are required to have proof of international health insurance.
- The land border with Brazil has reopened. Those arriving from areas of Brazil affected by yellow fever are required to show proof of vaccination.

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 following measures are extended until 14 March 2021:
  - Entry is suspended for all non-resident foreign nationals who have been in Europe, South Africa or Brazil in the previous 14 days.
  - Passenger flights from Brazil and from destinations more than 8 hours from Peru are suspended.
- All arrivals must:
  - Present, before boarding, a negative result of a PCR test undertaken not more than 72 hours prior to travel;
  - Complete an online electronic health declaration, and commitment to isolate or quarantine.
  - Self-isolate for 14 days.
    - Exceptions exist for transport crew; as well as special missions, political, diplomatic, medical, police, personnel sent by other States or international organizations to provide humanitarian aid or international cooperation.
    - Likewise, institutions or companies that require the services of foreign workers are exempted. They must notify the International Health Directorate 72 hours in advance of the list of people who will enter the

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country and will be responsible for the daily monitoring of COVID-19 symptoms of their visiting workers.
        - Air transit passengers who make their connection within 16 hours and do not leave the airport transit area are also exempt.
        - Air transit passengers who require more than 16 hours to make their connection are subject to a temporary quarantine in the facilities provided by the Health Authority, until the departure of their connecting flight. The transportation and food expenses that this quarantine entails are covered by the passenger.
    - Isolation may end early if the traveller obtains a negative result of a PCR test carried out at least six days after entering the country.
- All departures must present, before boarding, a negative result of a PCR test undertaken not more than 72 hours prior to travel.

Immigration Restrictions

- 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

- Travellers arriving at Francisco Bangoy International Airport (DVO) are required to submit a negative 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.
- 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

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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.
- Entry requirements:
    - All holders of immigrant visas must present on arrival a valid Re-entry Permit.
    - All holders of non-immigrant visas must present a Special Return Certificate .
    - All foreign nationals arriving in the Philippines must have a valid and existing visa at the time of entry, except for those qualified under the Balikbayan program
    - All foreign nationals travelling to the Philippines (except section 9(e) visa holders), regardless of origin, must have pre-booked accommodation for at least 6 nights in an accredited quarantine hotel/facility, and are subject to COVID-19 testing on the sixth day.
    - Unless the passenger exhibits symptoms at an earlier date while on quarantine, a COVID-19 PCR test will be conducted on the sixth day from date of arrival in the Philippines;
    - If the RT-PCR test yields a negative result, the passenger shall be endorsed to their local government units of destination who shall then coordinate transfer of said passenger from quarantine facility to the Local Government Unit (LGU) and strictly monitor the remainder of the fourteen-day quarantine through their respective Barangay Health Emergency Response Teams.
    - Outbound travel to countries with reported new variants is subject to the existing exit protocols of the Philippines as well as the entry protocols of the respective countries.
    - Passengers who only transited the airport in one of the above countries are exempted from facility-based quarantine and may be permitted home quarantine upon testing negative at the point of entry.
    - All unaccompanied minor Filipino citizens coming from the travel restriction countries are not permitted to enter except if returning under the repatriation programme.
    - Entry is subject to the maximum capacity of inbound passengers at the port and date of entry.
- Entry is permitted, ***without Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) authorization/endorsement***, subject to the above requirements, for foreign nationals holding the following valid and existing visas:
    - Those with visas ~~**issued as of 20 March 2020, and**~~ still valid and existing at the time of entry, and who were not permitted to enter the country under previous IATF resolutions.
    - Holders of valid and existing Special Resident Retirees Visas (SRRV) and Temporary Visitors or Section 9(A) visas, provided they present an entry exemption document to the Bureau of Immigration upon arrival.
    - 9(E) visa holders – diplomats accredited to Philippines including foreign embassies and Foreign Government and International Organization Officials
    - Foreign Airline Crew
    - 9(C) visa holders – Foreign Seafarer visa
    - 9(D) visa holders – Treaty Trader visa (US, Japan and Germany)

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- Section 13 Series of Commonwealth Act No. 613, as amended (13 quota, 13A, 13B, 13C, 13D, 13E, 13G visas) – Immigrants
- RA 7919 visa holders (The Social Integration Act of 1995) – granted to qualified foreign nationals who have entered the country prior to 30 June 1992
- EO324 visa holders – Legal residence granted under EO 324 for qualified foreign nationals who entered the Philippines before 1 January 1984
- Native Born (NB) visa holders – foreign children born to foreigners with permanent resident status in the Philippines
- Temporary Resident Visa (TRV) holders (based on MO ADD-01-038/ADD-02-015 [Indians])
- MCL-07-021 Permanent Resident visa holders – Chinese nationals married to Filipino citizens
- The following shall be allowed entry, PROVIDED, they have a valid (new or existing) visa and the principal Philippine national is in the country:
  - Foreign spouses of Filipino nationals;
  - Foreign minor children, and foreign children with special needs regardless of age, of Filipino nationals; and
  - Foreign parents of minor Filipino children and of Filipino children with special needs regardless of age.
- Foreign nationals in possession of Recognition Certificate (RC) or Citizenship Retention and Reacquisition Act of 2003 (CRPC) under RA9225 Certificate
- EO226 visa holders (to include SIRV visa holders issued under EO 226; BUT NOT issued under EO63)
- RA8756 visa holders – Regional Office Headquarters (ROHQ) visa, intended for executive positions for multinational companies
- 47(a)(2) visa holders issued by the Department of Justice – employees of PEZA and/or BOI-registered companies
- Visas issued by the following:
  - Aurora Pacific Economic Zone and Freeport Authority;
  - Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority;
  - Authority of the Freeport Area of Bataan;
  - Cagayan Economic Zone Authority; and
  - Clark Development Corporation.
- The following under items 17 and 18 shall be allowed entry under the Balikbayan Privilege (RA6768) (only nationals from non-visa required countries under EO408)
- Filipino citizens' foreign spouses and children, regardless of age who are travelling with them:
  - Refer to rule 11 if not traveling with principal Philippine national;
  - Refer to rule 11 for visa-required nationals.
- Former Filipino citizens, together with their foreign spouses and children, regardless of age, who are traveling with them.
- 9(G) visa holders
  - Those who departed the country on 17 December 2020 or later; and
  - Must present a valid ACR I-Card and ECC-SRC (Special Return Certificate) upon arrival.

- The Department of Foreign Affairs - Office of Consular Affairs (DFA-OCA) is considering requests for exemption from the entry ban imposed on foreign nationals. These requests must be endorsed by the relevant government agency such as the Philippine Economic Zone Authority (PEZA) or the Department of Trade and Industry Board of Investments (DTI-BOI).

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- Requests for exemption should provide complete and accurate details of the foreign national, the Philippines company, the position and the purpose of entry, and the existing visa ***or intended consulate of visa application***.
- PEZA advises that PEZA endorsement of a request for exemption should only be requested by PEZA-registered companies for essential and emergency reasons, in a company letter-request with a detailed justification for the request.
- The DTI-BOI may, on a case-by-case basis, endorse travel exemption requests to the DFA:
  - Companies whose activities are considered critical or essential operations in manufacturing or export activities, Regional Headquarters (RHQ) or Regional Operating Headquarters (ROHQ);
  - Foreign nationals holding top-level/managerial positions or highly technical roles which are critical and urgent to the resumption of the firm's operations or continuation of its existing or expansion projects;
  - Foreign nationals should hold valid visas, submit to government travel and health protocols, testing and quarantine requirements.
- Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority (SBMA)-registered companies can request endorsement of a request for travel ban exemption for essential and emergency reasons, adequately justified in the request.
- The Philippines Retirement Authority (PRA) may also endorse travel ban exemption requests to the DFA-OCA from applicants who are holders of Special Resident Retiree's Visa (SRRV).

- Previously issued but unused Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) letters of exemption (from the temporary suspension of visa issuance and entry into the Philippines) with the following signatories remain valid for single usage:
  - Undersecretary Brigido J. Dulay (applicable until 25/10/20);
  - Assistant Secretary Neil Frank R. Ferrer (applicable 26/10/20 – 17/1/21);
  - Assistant Secretary Ma. Theresa P. Lazaro with new DFA letter design for travel-restricted countries (applicable 18/1/21 – 31/1/21);
  - Assistant Secretary Ma. Theresa P. Lazaro with new DFA letter design (starting 1/2/21);
  - Assistant Secretary Ma. Theresa P. Lazaro, containing a validity period of ninety (90) days from the date of issuance (starting 8/2/21).
- 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, dependents and parents of Filipino citizens, and foreign diplomats.
- 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.
- 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

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their Alien Certificate of Registration Identity Card (ACR I-Card), and without an ACR I-Card waiver order.

Exit Restrictions

- Effective 1 March 2021, all foreign nationals holding visas (apart from 9(a) visas) and departing from the Philippines but not holding an Emigration Clearance Certificate (ECC) are required to obtain a ***Travel Pass*** from the same agency which issued their visa, valid for 30 days for a single use.
- Philippines citizens are permitted to exit the country subject to the following guidelines:
    - For those travelling on tourist or short-term/visitor visas, submission of confirmed round-trip tickets and adequate travel and health insurance to cover travel disruptions and hospitalization in case of COVID-19 infection during their stay abroad;
    - Execution of a Bureau of Immigration Declaration acknowledging the risks involved in travelling, including risk of delay in their return trip, to be provided at the check-in counters by the airlines;
    - Pre-boarding COVID-19 testing is no longer required by the Philippines authorities. However, whenever required by the country of destination or the airline, a negative COVID-19 test result should be taken in accordance with the health and safety protocols of such destination country or airline; and
    - Upon return, they shall follow the Guidelines of the National Task Force (NTF) for Returning Overseas Filipinos.

Immigration Restrictions

- Effective until 31 March 2021:
    - The following areas are under General Community Quarantine (GCQ):
        - Metro Manila, Apayao, Baguio City, Kalinga, Mt Province, Batangas Province, Tacloban City, Davao City.
    - 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.

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    - 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.
- The Bureau of Immigration – Philippine Economic Zone Authority (BI PEZA) Extension Office has implemented 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 subport 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

- The Bureau of Immigration (BI) will:
    - accept the submission for extension/renewal of expired visas upon submission of an affidavit of explanation for late submission;
    - accept the submission of affidavit of guarantee and other supporting documents in lieu of hearings in person for visa applications;
    - suspend the imposition of fines and mandatory penalties for non-filing, late filing and failure to comply with compulsory notifications and other reportorial requirements for visa application, Temporary Visitor's Visa updating, downgrading and order to leave.
- 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.

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    - 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

- 10-day quarantine is mandatory for anyone arriving in Poland by plane, bus, train or ship.
    - Persons with a negative COVID-19 result from a test taken up to 48 hours before entry, and those who have received a full vaccination course against COVID-19, are exempt from this quarantine.
- International flights are permitted from EU, EEA and EFTA countries and microstates not on the above list, as well as from Algeria, Australia, Canada, Japan, Morocco, New Zealand, Rwanda, South Korea, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, Uruguay.

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- 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 or Switzerland;
    - Nationals or residents of Australia, Canada, Georgia, Japan, New Zealand, 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 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;
    - Fishermen and seafarers;
    - 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

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- 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.

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- 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 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

- Land border controls between Portugal and Spain are extended until 1 March.
- Flights are permitted from and to the EU, the non-EU Schengen countries (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland) and the following non-EU/Schengen countries: Australia, New Zealand, Rwanda, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand and Uruguay (and China, Hong Kong, Macau once reciprocal permission is granted).
    - Passengers on these flights are not required to present a negative COVID-19 test result certificate.
- Passengers from countries with an incidence rate of 500 cases or more per 100,000 inhabitants in the last 14 days - ***Czech Republic, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Estonia, Ireland, Lithuania, Latvia*** - must present a negative COVID-19 RT-PCR test carried out within 72 hours before boarding and must undergo 14-day isolation on arrival. Isolation does not apply to passengers on essential trips and whose length of stay in national territory, certified by return ticket, does not exceed 48 hours.
- Passengers coming from countries that have an incidence rate between 150 and 500 cases per 100,000 inhabitants in the last 14 days - ***Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Croatia, Denmark, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Sweden, Switzerland*** - must present a negative COVID-19 RT-PCR test carried out within 72 hours before boarding.
- Flights from and to Brazil and the United Kingdom are suspended.
- 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.

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- 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.
- Portuguese citizens are prohibited from travelling outside mainland Europe via any means of transport, except for essential travel, including properly documented professional activities, residents of other countries, family reunion of spouses and immediate family members and travel to the Azores and Madeira.

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

- Visas that expired from 15 October, or in the 15 days before, are considered valid in Portugal until 31 March 2021.
- 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 immediately, people fully vaccinated in Qatar against COVID-19 are exempt from quarantine requirements.
    - 14 days must have passed after receiving the second dose.
    - A negative PCR test is required on return to Qatar following travel or following exposure.
    - The quarantine exemption is valid for a period of three months, starting 14 days after the second dose, and this may be extended in the future with the availability of more clinical evidence.
    - The exemption does not currently apply to people vaccinated in other countries.
- Effective 14 February, all travellers arriving from non-Green List countries are required to undergo hotel quarantine ***with no exceptions***.
- Entry into Qatar is currently only allowed for:
    - Qatari nationals
    - The children and spouses of Qatari citizens
    - Permanent resident permit holders
    - Entry is also permitted for regular resident permit holders, subject to re-entry approval

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- Qatari citizens and residents travelling from *low risk* ***Green List*** countries will be allowed to enter Qatar without providing a negative COVID-19 test pre-departure:
    - Effective 24 January 2021, Green List countries include*: Australia, Brunei,* ***~~Canada~~***, ***~~Chile~~***, *China (including Hong Kong and Macau),* ***Cuba***, ***~~Estonia~~***, ***~~Finland~~***, ***~~Greece~~***, ***Iceland***, ***Ireland***, ***~~Iran~~***, *Japan,* ***~~Latvia~~***, *Malaysia,* ***Maldives ("Safe Travel Bubble" Package only),*** ***~~Malta~~***, *Mauritius, Mexico,* ***~~Morocco~~***, ***Myanmar***, ***~~the Netherlands~~***, *New Zealand,* ***~~Norway~~***, ***Oman***, ***~~Romania~~***, *Singapore, South Korea,* ***~~Sweden~~***, *Thailand,* ***~~Turkey~~*** *and Vietnam*.
    - Required steps: ***COVID-19 test upon arrival*** in-country; ***home quarantine*** for 7 days; ***another COVID-19 test*** at the end of the home quarantine period.
- Qatari citizens and residents travelling from ***non-Green List*** countries are required to take the following steps:
    - Present negative result of a ***pre-departure COVID-19 test*** taken within the previous 48 hours of travel at a MOPH-approved testing centre; ***hotel quarantine*** for 7 days; ***another 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.
- Effective 22 December, travellers arriving from ***the United Kingdom*** are required to quarantine in one of two specified hotels.
- Effective 24 January 2021, certain categories are exempted from hotel quarantine and can self-isolate at home.
    - This applies to Qatari citizens and residents, their family members, and their travelling party who share the same national address, regardless of the country they are departing from.
    - Qualifying groups include:
        - People aged 65 years or above.
        - People who have undergone organ or bone marrow transplantation.
        - Patients with health conditions that require immunosuppressive therapies.
        - Patients with heart failure or coronary artery disease.
        - Patients with asthma (moderate and severe asthma).
        - Cancer patients, including patients who undergo treatment sessions (chemotherapy and radiation therapy).
        - Pregnant women.
        - Breastfeeding mothers who are caring for children aged from 0 to 5 years.
        - Patients with acute kidney failure (end-stage renal failure) or those who undergo dialysis treatment.
        - Patients with chronic liver disease.
        - Patients who have had lower limb amputations.
        - People with disabilities who are dependent on other people to carry out their daily activities.
        - Children with disabilities and their mothers.
        - Patients with epilepsy who receive epilepsy treatment.
        - Patients with diabetic foot disease.
        People who have a first-degree relative who passed away within the past 10 days.

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        - People with mental health problems who are treated with medication, and whose health condition may deteriorate if they are kept in enclosed spaces.
        - Diabetics who suffer from neuropathy, kidney or retinal diseases or other types of diabetes complications.
        - Minors (aged below 18 years) who travel without their parents/guardians (not accompanied by an adult).
- Employers of foreign residents can apply online for an Exceptional Entry Permit for re-entry.
- Residents who are currently in the State of Qatar and wish to travel and return will automatically receive an "Exceptional Entry Permit". The resident or their employer will be able to printout the permit from the Ministry of Interior's website or "Metrash2" application at any point after their departure. Residents currently abroad are still required to get the "Exceptional Return Permit" via the "Qatar Portal" website if they wish to return to the State of Qatar.
- Travelers returning to the State of Qatar must download and activate the Ehteraz app on their mobiles upon arrival at Hamad International Airport. To achieve that:
    - A Qatari SIM Card from a local telecom operator (Ooredoo and Vodafone).
    - Internet access.
    - A smartphone that supports either Android 6 and up or IOS 13.5 and up.
    - Download the application on your mobile phone either via Google Play or Apple App Store or from any search engines on the internet.
- Health status on Ehteraz will remain YELLOW until the completion of the full quarantine course and a negative COVID-19 result is obtained as per the quarantine policy stated above.

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 13 November:
    - The list of countries/areas with a high epidemiological risk includes *Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, French Polynesia, Georgia, Guam, Hungary, Italy, Jordan, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg*, *Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Northern Macedonia, Poland*, *Portugal*, *San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia*, *Spain, Switzerland.*

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    - Entry is permitted from these countries for citizens of EEA member states and Switzerland, 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 or Switzerland, 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:
    - *Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Latvia, Norway, the Vatican; and Algeria, Australia, Canada, 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 and Switzerland 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 or Switzerland, 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 18 February 2021, entry is permitted for all categories of foreign national for the purpose of work (not only Highly Qualified Specialist (HQS) employees, as previously).
    - The employer must apply to Rostrud for FSB entry permission.
- Temporary restrictions on entry via land and waterway borders are lifted for the following categories of foreign national:

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    - Family members of Russian citizens;
    - Holders of permanent residence permits;
    - Persons performing installation and technical support of equipment produced outside Russia;
    - HQS and their family members;
    - Foreign nationals entering for the purpose of work;
    - Citizens of countries with which air traffic has reopened (entry permission form the FSB may be required);
    - Citizens of Abkhazia entering from Abkhazia;
    - Citizens of South Ossetia, entering from South Ossetia.
- Effective 6 February, multiple entry is permitted for approved Highly-Qualified Specialists (HQS) and their family members.
- Effective 8 February, passenger railway between Russia and Belarus will resume for Russian citizens and citizens/permanent residents in Belarus travelling on the following routes: Minsk – Moscow – Minsk and Moscow – Kaliningrad, Kaliningrad – St. Petersburg with train stop in Minsk.
- The suspension of flights between Russia and the UK is extended until at least 16 March 2021. All persons arriving in Russia from the UK are subject to 14-day self-isolation.
- Russia has now lifted entry restrictions for citizens and permanent residents of Azerbaijan, Armenia, Belarus, Cuba, Egypt, Ethiopia, Finland, ***Greece***, India, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Maldives, Qatar, Serbia, Seychelles, ***Singapore***, South Korea, Switzerland, Tanzania, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates, Vietnam (*and the United Kingdom – suspended until 16 February 2021).*
    - 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 on obtaining invitations and work permits for foreign nationals who are currently abroad. To obtain these documents, it is still necessary to include such foreign nationals in the state approved lists.
    - Entry into Russia remains limited to air travel.
- Simplified entry by air from Belarus and Armenia for citizens of the Eurasian Economic Union countries (Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Armenia and Kyrgyzstan) is extended until 1 April 2021.
    - Upon entry they will need to provide valid ID documents as well as proof of a negative COVID-19 test completed not more than 3 days before, reflected in the mobile application "Путешествую без COVID-19" (Travelling without COVID-19).
- Foreign national applicants for entry permission can check the status of their application online by registering at the government services portal (*http://www.gosuslugi.ru/*).
- Entry to Russia for foreign citizens is currently only allowed for citizens and residents of the open countries (see below) travelling by air from those countries and approved Highly Qualified Specialist employees (**and their family members**) from any country. If the employee (and family) have already entered Russia in 2020 on the basis of permission granted from the Federal Security Services, it will not be necessary to apply for entry permission to enter Russia before 10 January 2021. For any HQS employee (and family) who did not enter Russia in 2020 based on the Federal Security Services clearance, the employer and employee has to apply to the appropriate Ministry in order to request entry permission.

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- Foreign nationals, as well as family members, re-entering Russia after spending New Year and Christmas holidays abroad up and until 10 January 2021, must provide a negative COVID-19 test result. Results should be in Russian or English (or both) and confirm a negative test performed via the PCR method, which must be completed no earlier than 3 days before entering the Russian Federation.
- 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;
    - ***The family members of HQS employees;***
    - Participants in sports events and their family members;
    - 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;
    - Change of crew on sea and river vessels staying in Russian ports;
    - Quality control of equipment produced by Russian companies and supplied according to the contracts, signed for atomic energy facilities situated abroad as well as according to the international agreements and provided such persons are listed on special requests from State Corporation Rosatom to the Federal Security Service and the Internal Affairs Ministry;
    - Certification of new aircraft and technical support of companies using aircraft produced in Russia, provided such persons are listed on special requests sent from the Ministry of Trade and Industry to the Federal Security Service and the Internal Affairs Ministry.
- 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.
- The inviting entity (company or individual) must:
    - Provide the foreign national with its contact details;
    - Guarantee to provide financial, medical and accommodation security according to letters of guarantee provided during the arrangement of invitation letters;

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    - Perform the stipulated actions to assist the foreign national to fulfil their purpose of entry (i.e. arrange business meetings, sign an employment or services contract and a workplace, arrange for studies, carry out migration registration or accommodation rental etc.)
    - Inform the MIA of Russia, within 2 business days, if it loses contact with the foreign national.
- 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.
    - 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).
- Applicants for a work permit, work patent, temporary residence permit (TRP) or permanent residence permit (PRP) (but not for an HQS work permit) must submit negative COVID-19 test results (in addition to the test results that are already required).
- Foreign nationals are permitted to 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 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

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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.
- 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

- Employers in Moscow are required to send 30% of their staff and contractors at any one time to work from home.
    - All workers over 65 years old or with chronic illnesses must work from home, and do not count towards the 30%.
    - Workers whose presence in the office is essential are exempt.
- Employers in Moscow must report online every Monday to the Moscow Mayor's office regarding staff sent to work from home. Failure to do so can attract fines of up to RUB 30,000 for citizens, or up to RUB 300,000 for companies.
- 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.
- 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

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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 suspension of terms for foreign citizens has been ***extended until 15 June 2021.***
    - All types of visas, migration cards, permanent and temporary residence permits (PRP and TRP) expiring in the period 15 March 2020 to 15 June 2021 are automatically extended for 458 calendar days after the expiration date;
        - This does ***not*** apply to HQS work permits, standard work permits, corporate work permits and work patents. Holders of these immigration documents and their employers have to submit an extension application in the standard manner. ***Work patents can be renewed without the holder first leaving Russia***;
        - This applies only to citizens (permanent residents) of countries with which transport communications **have not** yet been restored.
        - Holders of immigration documents which expired in the period 15 March 2020 to 15 June 2021 who are citizens of countries with which transport communications ***have*** been restored have 90 days from 17 December or from the date when transport communications are restored to depart from Russia. No additional immigration documents will have to be obtained in such cases.
    - It is expected (but not confirmed) that between 15 March 2020 and 15 June 2021, it is not necessary to apply for extension of address registration, except in the case of change of place of stay in Russia, and arrival from abroad.
    - The period of suspension of the six-month permitted stay abroad for PRP and TRP holders, and for participants of the state program for relocation of compatriots living abroad, is also ***extended until 15 June 2021***.
    - Foreign nationals who have not extended their migration documents in time before 15 March 2020 and who apply to the territorial offices of the Internal Affairs Ministry or were stopped by police, will be photographed, their fingerprints will be taken, they will be registered at the address of their stay and Migration Cards will be issued to them if necessary.
    - The period for voluntary exit for deportation, readmission and administrative removal cases is extended until 15 December.
    - Foreign citizens whose passports expire during this period can exit Russia to their country of citizenship without transit through third countries;
    - During this period, decisions will not be taken on undesirability of stay, administrative removal, deportation, readmission or annulment of immigration status in relation to foreign citizens.
    - Visa-free nationals can apply for a work patent 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 can apply for work permits for them irrespective of the purpose of entry, provided the employer has a valid corporate work permit.
- 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,

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employment contract and salary notifications, address registration, work patents, temporary and permanent residence permits and citizenship.

RWANDA

Entry Restrictions

- Scheduled international passenger flights have resumed. All passengers, including those in transit, are required to present a negative COVID-19 test result taken within 120 hours before travel, 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.
- Land borders remain closed.
- Rwandan citizens and foreign residents will be subject to a compulsory 14-day government quarantine.

SAINT LUCIA

Entry Restrictions

- Entry is permitted for all nationalities.
    - All arrivals (aged 5 years and over) must submit before travel via email a negative result from a COVID-19 PCR test taken no more than 7 days prior to arrival.
    - All arrivals (aged 18 years and over) must complete and submit (at least 3 days before travel) a Travel Authorization Form. An auto-response email will be generated.
    - All arrivals must carry a copy of the test results, a copy of the Travel Authorisation Letter they will receive from the St Lucia authorities and a copy of the auto-response email.
    - Travellers who have been in travel bubble countries (*Antigua and Barbuda, Anguilla, Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, Montserrat, St. Kitts and Nevis* or *St. Vincent and the Grenadines*) for at least 21 days prior to arrival, and are not symptomatic on arrival, are exempt from quarantine.
    - Non-symptomatic travellers who have not arrived in Saint Lucia as Bubble travellers will be transferred by certified taxi to approved COVID-19 accommodation or to a government quarantine facility, and are required to remain on property for the duration of their stay except to transfer to another Covid-19 certified property to continue their stay, or to participate in certified activities, tours and excursions.
    - Guests who spend 14 days in a COVID-19 certified property may then leave the property and travel freely within Saint Lucia.
- Effective 15 October, returning nationals and residents must pay to reserve a space in a state quarantine facility.

SAUDI ARABIA

Entry Restrictions

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- Effective 3 February, travellers who have passed through the following 20 countries in the previous 14 days will be banned from entry: Argentina, Brazil, Egypt, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Lebanon, Pakistan, Portugal, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, the UAE, the UK, and the U.S.
    - Diplomats, Saudi citizens, and medical professionals are exempt from this ban.
- All arrivals (except Saudi citizens and children below 8 years of age) must provide a negative PCR test certificate issued within 72 hours before departure.
- Non-Saudi Citizens arriving from the United Kingdom, South Africa as well as from any other country specified by the competent health authorities, in which the strain of the new coronavirus (B.1,7,1,7) is spread, must spend at least 14 days outside the country in which the new strain of coronavirus is spread before entering the Saudi Arabia, with a PCR examination after the expiration of this period proving that the passenger is free from COVID-19 infection.
- Saudi Citizens who are allowed to travel into Saudi Arabia for humanitarian and urgent cases arriving from countries where the strain of the new coronavirus is spread are excluded from the provision above and shall be quarantined in their homes for a period of 14 days.
- Passengers who are arriving from countries in which cases of the strain of the new coronavirus were registered shall be quarantined in their homes for 7 days.
- For passengers arriving from other countries, the 7-day mandatory home quarantine applies or 3 days at least with a mandatory laboratory PCR test.
- All travellers must complete and sign a Health Disclaimer Form and submit this on arrival.
- On arrival all travellers are subject to a 3-day self-quarantine at home and must take a PCR test by the end of this period. If this test is not undertaken, the self-quarantine period continues for 7 days.
- All travellers must download and register themselves son the Tatamman and Tawakkalna apps. They must assign their home location within 8 hours of arrival and report their health daily via the Tatamman app.
- Entry is suspended for all travellers who have been in Argentina, Brazil or India in the previous 14 days.
- 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.
- The period of international flight suspension will not be counted towards the overall duration of any issued tourist visa and its associated insurance policy. This applies to visa holders who have not yet used their tourist visa and those who were in Saudi Arabia at the time of the suspension.

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- 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

- Entry is not permitted for EU citizens.
    - Some airlines may not permit travel for non-resident foreign nationals;
    - Some airlines may accept as proof of residency only a full residence card, not a “récépissé”.
    - Some airlines may require a letter of support from a Senegalese embassy.
- Travellers over the age of two must present a negative result of a COVID-19 PCR test taken not more than 5 days earlier.
- Travellers must complete and submit a Public Health Passenger Locator form on arrival.

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 is lifted for visitors from permitted countries.
- Permitted countries in **Category 1** include Australia, Bahrain, Botswana, Burundi, Cambodia, China, Cote d'Ivoire, Cuba Cyprus, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, Ghana, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mauritius, Monaco, New Zealand, Niger, Norway, Pakistan, Qatar, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, South Africa, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Togo, Vietnam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.
    - Pre-departure, visitors who have spent at least 14 days in **Category 1** countries must submit a negative result of a COVID-19 PCR test taken no

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more than 72 hours prior to departure, along with flight and accommodation details. For health travel authorisation *here*.
    - Visitors transiting through countries not on the permitted list of countries in category 1 will be allowed entry only if they do not exit the airport during transport.
    - Accommodation (for the entire duration of the stay) must be booked only at *licenced establishments* or *liveaboards* that have been certified by the Public Health Authority.
    - Visitors must stay in not more than two accommodations during their first 7 days.
    - Visitors must have valid travel insurance with COID coverage for the duration of their stay.
    - Airport transfers will be done by authorised transport.
    - A PCR test is required after the 5th night (on the 6th day).
- Permitted countries in **Category 2** include Austria, France, Germany, Italy, Switzerland, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom.
    - Visitors in **Category 2,** including infants and children, must have a negative COVID-19 PCR certificate issued by an accredited laboratory 48 hours prior to departure from the country of origin.
    - Visitors from Category 2 countries are required to spend the first six nights in a designated establishment and may not leave the premises and must strictly adhere to all the conditions in place at the establishment.
    - A repeat PCR test will be performed on the 6th day. If the test result is negative, the visitors will be free to continue with their planned holiday and follow terms and conditions outlined as per the Category 1 permitted countries
    - If the test result is positive, they will be required to stay in a designated hotel until cleared by the Public Health Authority.

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.

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- 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 13 February:
    - Singapore Citizens (SCs), Permanent Residents (PRs) and Long-Term Pass holders entering Singapore with travel history to ***Vietnam*** within the last 14 days before departure for Singapore, are subject to an on-arrival COVID-19 PCR test, 14-day SHN at dedicated SHN facilities, and a PCR test before the end of the SHN period;
    - Short-term travellers holding an Air Travel Pass (ATP) with travel history to Vietnam within the last 14 days before departure for Singapore, are not allowed to enter Singapore.
    - All travellers who are not SCs or PRs will need to take a COVID-19 PCR test within 72 hours before departure. These travellers are still required to undergo an On-Arrival Test (OAT) and serve their SHN upon arrival and be tested at the end of SHN.
    - Travellers from Vietnam are allowed to opt out of dedicated SHN facilities and serve their 14-day SHN at their place of residence, if they fulfil the following criteria:
        - Travelled to no other country/region than above-mentioned country/region [1], in the last consecutive 14 days prior to entry; and
        - Are occupying their place of residence (i.e. residential address) alone, or only with household members who are also persons serving SHN with the same travel history and duration of SHN.
        - The COVID-19 tests will continue to be administered before the end of the SHN.
- Effective 11 February, SCs, PRs and Long-Term Pass holders returning from ***New South Wales, Australia*** will undergo a COVID-19 PCR test upon arrival at the airport in lieu of a 7-day SHN, and if the result is negative, they will be allowed to go about their activities in Singapore.
- Short-term visitors travelling from NSW, Australia can also apply for an ATP for entry into Singapore on or after 16 February 2021. They will undergo a COVID-19 PCR test upon arrival at the airport in lieu of a 7-day SHN, and if the result is negative, they will be allowed to go about their activities in Singapore.
- ***Senior executives based in Singapore*** with regional or international responsibilities who need to travel regularly for official and business purposes can apply for a Business Travel Pass (BTP).
    - Travellers on this pass can be required to abide by a strict, controlled itinerary when they travel overseas for work.
    - Upon return, the traveller will be undergo an on-arrival COVID-19 PCR test (OAT) in lieu of a Stay-Home-Notice (SHN) and self-isolate until a negative test result is received.
    - BTP travellers are required to use TraceTogether, avoid all forms of public transport within 14 days of return, comply with safe management measures at

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their workplace and abide by all other prevailing measures applicable to local residents.
    - Travellers on this scheme are now required to undergo COVID-19 PCR Tests on Day 3, Day 7 and Day 14 of their return. An additional serology test will also be required on Day 3. Travellers are also to avoid events with more than 8 attendees within 14 days of returning to Singapore.
- Effective 5 February:
    - The post-Stay Home Notice (SHN) 7-day testing regime has been extended to all newly-arrived Work permit and S Pass workers in Construction, Marine and Process (CMP) sectors from higher-risk countries/regions.
        - This will apply to Work Permit and S Pass holders (including those with In-Principle Approval (IPA) letters) from CMP sectors, as well as FDWs and CNs who are issued with an entry approval by MOM and are subject to a 14-day SHN at dedicated SHN facilities on arrival.
        - Previously only those headed to dormitories needed to be subject to the additional 7-days testing.
    - Foreign domestic workers (FDW) and confinement workers (CW) who have recent travel history to higher-risk countries/regions will have to take an On-Arrival Serology test. This is in addition to the On-Arrival Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test requirement already in place from 24 January 2021.
- ***The Reciprocal Green Lane (RGL)/Fast Lane arrangements with Germany, Malaysia and South Korea are suspended between 1 February and 30 April 2021.***
    - Travellers who have received approval to enter Singapore under the RGL arrangements from these 3 countries can still do so.
    - The RGL arrangements with Indonesia and Japan remain suspended.
    - The RGL arrangements with Brunei Darussalam and with selected cities in mainland China (Chongqing, Guangdong, Jiangsu, Shanghai, Tianjin and Zhejiang) are not affected.
- Effective 22 January 2021, cargo drivers and accompanying personnel entering Singapore at the Singapore Tuas and Woodlands checkpoints will be subject to Antigen Rapid Test (ART). Tested drivers and personnel with a negative result may proceed to enter Singapore.
- Effective 31 January 2021, visitors applying to enter Singapore under the ***Air Travel Pass (ATP) and Reciprocal Green Lanes (RGLs)*** will need to have travel insurance for their COVID-19-related medical treatment and hospitalisation costs in Singapore, with a minimum coverage of S$30,000.
- All travellers who are not Singapore citizens (SC) or Permanent Residents (PR), except those from lower-risk countries/regions, are required to present a negative result of a ***pre-departure PCR test*** taken within 72 hours before departure.
    - Only travellers aged 6 years old and below are exempted from the pre-departure COVID-19 PCR test requirement.
- All travellers who are not Singapore citizens (SC) or Permanent Residents (PR), except those from lower-risk countries/regions, are required to take a COVID-19 ***PCR test on arrival***.
    - For arrivals at the airport, employers must book and make payment for the on-arrival tests ($160 per person including GST) at https://safetravel.changiairport.com before their In-Principle Approval (IPA) / pass holders arrive in Singapore. Otherwise, the company's subsequent entry approval requests may be rejected.

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    - Other travellers are strongly encouraged to register and pre-pay for their on-arrival COVID-19 PCR test prior to departing for Singapore at https://safetravel.changiairport.com.
- Effective 24 January 2021, ***all travellers***, including Singapore Citizens and Permanent Residents, will need to take a ***PCR test on arrival***.
- Effective 18 January 2021:
    - Returning Singapore Citizens and Permanent Residents with recent travel history to ***South Africa*** or ***the United Kingdom*** within the last 14 days are required to undergo a COVID-19 PCR test upon arrival in Singapore, then undergo a 14-day SHN at dedicated facilities. **This will be followed by an additional 7-day self-isolation at their place of residence.** Another COVID-19 swab test will be administered after the SHN period and again after the 7-day self-isolation. These test requirements do not apply to those who are only transiting through Singapore.
    - All long-term pass holders and short-term visitors with recent travel history to ***South Africa*** or ***the United Kingdom*** within the last 14 days will not be allowed entry into Singapore, or transit through Singapore. This restriction will apply to those who have obtained prior approval for entry into Singapore.
- Effective 11 January 2021, Malaysian Citizens holding Singapore Permanent Resident status who are working in Singapore are eligible to apply for the Periodic Commuting Arrangement (PCA) Scheme.
- Effective 1 January 2021, the Singapore government will no longer cover the cost of COVID-19 treatment for pass holders if they develop COVID-19 symptoms or test positive within the first 14 days of their arrival. This is regardless of when the pass holders left Singapore.
    - Accordingly, the Ministry of Manpower (MOM) has introduced a new Entry Requirement. For all Work Permit, Training Work Permit and S Pass holders entering Singapore from 1 January 2021, employers are required to buy a 14-day COVID medical insurance which must meet these requirements:
        - Has a coverage of **at least $10,000 for medical expenses** if the worker develops COVID-19 symptoms or test positive within the first 14 days of arrival in Singapore; and
        - Includes coverage for workers on In-Principle Approval (IPA) Letters.
    - After the workers have obtained MOM's Entry Approval, employers must buy the insurance before they arrive in Singapore.
    - The Entry Approval request forms will require employers to declare that employers of Work Permit, Training Work Permit and S pass holders will purchase the appropriate medical insurance before the traveller arrives in Singapore.
    - Employers should check that they have purchased the appropriate Medical Insurance.
    - For all other pass holders (e.g. Employment Pass holders or dependants), they are encouraged to buy Medical Insurance with the appropriate coverage before entering Singapore as they are responsible for their own medical expenses if they develop COVID-19 symptoms or test positive within 14 days of arrival in Singapore.
    - Employers are advised to familiarise themselves with the additional requirements and responsibilities to bring pass holders into Singapore before seeking Entry Approval from the MOM. More details about the mandatory insurance requirement for COVID-19 related medical expenses can be found in the list of frequently asked questions.

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- Effective 26 December:
    - All travellers who have a travel history (including transit) in the past 14 days to ***South Korea*** will be required to serve a 14-day SHN at dedicated SHN facilities (rather than at a suitable place of residence).
    - The 14-day SHN at dedicated SHN facilities also applies to returning Singapore-based travellers under the Singapore-ROK Reciprocal Green Lane (RGL).
- Effective 23 December:
    - All travellers from ***Australia*** will be required to declare their travel history prior to boarding;
    - Singapore Citizens (SCs), Permanent Residents (PRs) and Long-Term Pass holders entering Singapore with travel history to NSW, Australia within the last 14 days before departure for Singapore, will be subject to a 7-day SHN at their place of residence with a COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test before the end of the SHN period.
    - Short-term travellers holding an Air Travel Pass with travel history to NSW, Australia, within the last 14 days before departure for Singapore, will not be allowed to enter Singapore.
    - All other travellers departing from Australia who have been in Australia (excluding NSW) in the last 14 days prior to travel will continue to be subject to a COVID-19 test upon arrival at the airport, in lieu of their SHN.
- Effective from mid-January 2021, the new ***Connect@Singapore*** initiative will permit a limited number of business, official and high-economic-value travellers from all countries to enter for short-term stays of up to 14 days.
    - Travellers will be required to undergo an enhanced testing regime. They will have to present a valid negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test prior to leaving their home country, obtain a PCR test on arrival in Singapore, and Antigen Rapid Tests (ART) on days 3, 5, 7, and 11, insofar as the traveller remains accommodated in the facility.
    - Travellers entering Singapore under the initiative will be required to stay within a “bubble” at appointed facilities. These facilities will have to put in place measures to separate travellers under this initiative from other individuals. For example, while travellers will be allowed to meet with local visitors, there will be floor-to-ceiling dividers separating travellers from local visitors. Staff working in the appointed facilities will undergo routine testing.
    - Within the appointed facilities, travellers will have to stay within their pre-declared travel group of up to five travellers. They will not be allowed to mingle with other travellers outside of this group. They will also have to abide by all prevailing national SMMs, and use Trace Together and Safe Entry.
- Visitors entering Singapore who have remained in ***Taiwan*** in the last consecutive 14 days prior to entry can apply for an ***Air Travel Pass (ATP)*** at no charge between 7 and 30 days before their intended date of entry into Singapore.
    - The Air Travel Pass is valid for single entry into Singapore anytime from the visitor’s intended date of entry and up to seven calendar days after.
    - Visitors who hold a visa-required passport must separately obtain a valid visa prior to departure for Singapore, after receiving their Air Travel Pass approval. Such visitors are strongly encouraged to apply for their Air Travel Pass early.
    - If the visitor already has an existing valid visa which has been suspended due to COVID-19, ICA will lift the suspension and there is no need to obtain a new visa.

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- Air Travel Pass holders must submit their health, travel history, and accommodation declarations electronically via the SG Arrival Card, no earlier than three days prior to his/her date of arrival in Singapore.
- When checking in at the departure airport, the visitor must present to the airline staff:
  - a valid Air Travel Pass approval letter (electronic or physical copy) for the specified period of entry into Singapore;
  - a valid visa (for visa-required passport holders); and
  - a mobile device with the TraceTogether app downloaded.
- They are not required to serve a Stay Home Notice (SHN).
  - Instead, travellers will undergo a COVID-19 test upon arrival at the airport and only be allowed to go about their activities in Singapore after waiting in isolation (1-2 days) to receive the test result.
  - Travellers are encouraged to register and pre-pay for the COVID-19 swab test before travelling.
  - Travellers must book accommodation in advance to serve the isolation period.
  - Children aged 12 years old or younger in that calendar year are not required to undergo a COVID-19 PCR test at the airport upon arrival in Singapore.
- Returning Singapore Citizens, Permanent Residents and Long-Term Pass holders do not need to apply for an Air Travel Pass (ATP).
  - However, Long-Term Pass holders still need to apply for Entry Approval / Approval Letter of Entry (ALE) and undergo a COVID-19 swab test on arrival.

- All travellers entering Singapore who have a travel history in the past 14 days to ***Malaysia*** are required to serve a 14-day Stay-Home Notice (SHN) at dedicated SHN facilities.
  - This requirement also applies to travellers entering Singapore to work under the Periodic Commuting Arrangement and returning Singapore-based travellers under the Singapore – Malaysia Reciprocal Green Lane (RGL).
- All travellers (except Singapore citizens (SC) and permanent residents (PRs) entering Singapore who have a travel history in the past 14 days to ***Malaysia*** are required to take a COVID-19 PCR test within 72 hours prior to departure.
  - This requirement does not apply for returning Singapore-based travellers under the Singapore – Malaysia RGL. However, they are required to take a COVID-19 PCR test before they complete the 14-day SHN.
  - Currently, travellers who are not Singapore citizens or Permanent Residents, and have recent travel history to Sabah state of Malaysia within the last 14 days prior to entry into Singapore, are required to take a COVID-19 PCR test within 72 hours before departure.
- The inaugural flights under the ***Air Travel Bubble (ATB)*** agreement with ***Hong Kong*** have been postponed until early 2021.
  - Meanwhile, travellers with a travel history in the past 14 days to Hong Kong from Hong Kong and with valid entry approvals may still travel to Singapore on non-ATB flights.
  - Such travellers are subject to a ***14-day Stay-Home Notice (SHN)*** upon entry into Singapore, as well as a COVID-19 swab test before the end of their SHN.
  - Travellers from Hong Kong are permitted to opt out of dedicated SHN facilities and serve their 14-day SHN at their place of residence, if they fulfil the following criteria:

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        - Travelled to no other country/region than Fiji, South Korea, Sri Lanka and Thailand, in the last consecutive 14 days prior to entry; and
        - Are occupying their place of residence (i.e. residential address) alone, or only with household members who are also persons serving SHN with the same travel history and duration of SHN.
        - There is no one ordinarily residing at the place of residence (e.g. domestic helper) who does not share the same travel history, and the traveller has already made all necessary arrangements to ensure that any such person will not reside at the place of residence until the conclusion of the SHN period.
    - For non-resident foreign nationals, the request to opt out of serving the SHN at the dedicated SHN facilities should be indicated when the Entry Approval request to Singapore is submitted.
    - Travellers serving SHN at their own place of residence will be issued with an electronic monitoring device at the checkpoints, after immigration clearance. They will need to activate the electronic monitoring device upon reaching their place of residence. If the device is not activated as required, the authorities will follow up to determine their location, and assist to resolve any technical difficulties, or take enforcement action, as the case may be.
    - Effective 18 December at 23:59 hours, all travellers (except Singapore citizens and permanent residents) must undergo a ***COVID-19 PCR test*** within 72 hours before travel at a testing centre recognised by the Hong Kong government and obtain a certificate in English stating a negative result.
- Travellers from **Fiji, Hong Kong, South Korea, Sri Lanka** and **Thailand** who have visited no other country in the last consecutive 14 days can ***opt out*** of dedicated Stay Home Notice (SHN) facilities and serve their 14-day SHN at their place of residence instead.
    - They must be occupying the place of residence alone or only with household members who are also serving the same duration of SHN with the same travel history.
    - For Singapore Citizens (SCs) and Permanent Residents (PRs), the application to opt out must be made prior to arrival via the Safe Travel Office website.
    - Travellers who are not SCs or PRs may apply to opt out as part of the entry approval process.
    - All travellers must present the approval to opt out upon arrival in Singapore.
    - As the list of countries will be updated from time to time depending on the public health risk assessment.
    - All travellers who opt to stay at their place of residence for SHN must remain in their declared place of residence at all times. They will be subject to close monitoring of their whereabouts, through electronic monitoring as well as physical spot-checks. Such travellers will also be required to utilise specially designated transport services from the checkpoint to their place of residence and to their respective testing facilities and bear the costs for these transport arrangements. Strict enforcement action will be taken against those who breach the requirements of the SHN or make false declarations.
- Effective 1 January 2021:
    - All returning SCs and PRs who last left Singapore before 27 March 2020 will be responsible for the cost of stay at dedicated SHN facilities.
    - All returning SCs and PRs and Long-Term Pass Holders (LPTH) who last left Singapore before 27 March 2020 as well as new SCs/PRs/LTPHs will also be

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responsible for their inpatient medical bills should they develop symptoms within 14 days of their arrival in Singapore. They will be able to use regular healthcare arrangements for their inpatient medical bills.

- ~~Singapore and ***Indonesia*** have established a Reciprocal Green Lane (RGL) for essential travel for business and official purposes between the two countries.~~
  - ~~*Indonesian nationals* travelling to Singapore via Jakarta's Soekarno-Hatta International Airport (Tangerang) or Batam Center Ferry Terminal, who have remained in Indonesia 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 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.~~
  - ~~If the result is negative, the traveller can proceed on the pre-declared controlled itinerary. If positive, the traveller will undergo prescribed medical treatment at his/her cost.~~
- ***Short-term visitors*** who require a visa to enter Singapore can apply for visas though a local contact, Singapore overseas mission, or authorised visa agent. Visitors who had already been issued with visas which are still valid, as well as those who are eligible for the visa-free transit facility, do not need to re-apply/ apply.
  - Note that possession of a valid visa alone does not guarantee entry into Singapore. All short-term visitors must still seek prior approval via appropriate COVID-19 travel channels (e.g. obtain a Safe Travel Pass under Green/Fast Lane arrangements, or Air Travel Pass) before they can enter Singapore. More information will be available at ICA's website (https://www.ica.gov.sg/covid-19).
- Travellers from ***Macau***, ***China*** and ***Taiwan*** are required to serve a reduced SHN of 7 days at their place of residence. A COVID-19 test will be administered before the end of the 7-day SHN.
  - Singapore Citizens and Permanent Resident may serve their 7-day SHN at their place of residence. Long-Term Pass holders may serve their 7-day SHN at a place of residence that they or their family members own or are sole tenants of, or in suitable accommodations such as a hotel.
  - All incoming travellers, including Singapore Citizens, Singapore PRs, Student Pass holders, Work Pass holders and their related dependants (including IPA holders) entering Singapore, who will be serving their SHN outside of SHN dedicated facilities (SDFs) need to wear an electronic monitoring device throughout the 14-day SHN. Those aged 12 and below will be exempted from this requirement.

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- Travellers arriving directly from ***Australia, Brunei, China, New Zealand, Taiwan ~~and Vietnam~~***, who have remained in these countries in the last consecutive 14 days prior to entry, will undergo a COVID-19 test upon arrival, in lieu of serving SHN.
    - These travellers are strongly encouraged to register and pre-pay for their post-arrival COVID-19 PCR test prior to departure for Singapore *here*.
- ***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.
- All travellers (including Singapore citizens and Permanent Residents) with recent travel history to ***India*** within the last 14 days are required to take a serology test (non-fasting blood test) during the 14-day SHN period, instead of the COVID-19 swab test. However, depending on the results of the serology test, a COVID-19 swab test may still be required before the end of the SHN period.
- Travellers entering Singapore who have remained in either ***Australia, Brunei, China, New Zealand, Taiwan (from 18 December) ~~or Vietnam~~*** in the last consecutive 14 days prior to entry must apply for an ***Air Travel Pass (ATP)*** at no charge between 7 and 30 days before their intended date of entry into Singapore.
    - The Air Travel Pass is valid for single entry into Singapore anytime from the visitor's intended date of entry and up to seven calendar days after.
    - Visitors who hold a visa-required passport must separately obtain a valid visa prior to departure for Singapore, after receiving their Air Travel Pass approval. Such visitors are strongly encouraged to apply for their Air Travel Pass early.
    - If the visitor already has an existing valid visa which has been suspended due to COVID-19, ICA will lift the suspension and there is no need to obtain a new visa.
    - Air Travel Pass holders must submit their health, travel history, and accommodation declarations electronically via the SG Arrival Card, no earlier than three days prior to his/her date of arrival in Singapore.
    - When checking in at the departure airport, the visitor must present to the airline staff:
        - a valid Air Travel Pass approval letter (electronic or physical copy) for the specified period of entry into Singapore;
        - a valid visa (for visa-required passport holders); and
        - a mobile device with the TraceTogether app downloaded.
    - They are not required to serve a Stay Home Notice (SHN).
        - Instead, travellers will undergo a COVID-19 test upon arrival at the airport and only be allowed to go about their activities in Singapore after waiting in isolation (1-2 days) to receive the test result.
        - Travellers are encouraged to register and pre-pay for the COVID-19 swab test before travelling.
        - Travellers must book accommodation in advance to serve the isolation period.
        - Children aged 12 years old or younger in that calendar year are not required to undergo a COVID-19 PCR test at the airport upon arrival in Singapore.
    - Returning Singapore Citizens, Permanent Residents and Long-Term Pass holders do not need to apply for an Air Travel Pass (ATP).

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        - However, Long-Term Pass holders still need to apply for Entry Approval / Approval Letter of Entry (ALE) and undergo a COVID-19 swab test on arrival.
- ***Senior executives based in Singapore*** with regional or international responsibilities who need to travel regularly for official and business purposes can apply for a Business Travel Pass (BTP).
    - Travellers on this pass can be required to abide by a strict, controlled itinerary when they travel overseas for work.
    - Upon return, the traveller will be undergo an on-arrival COVID-19 PCR test (OAT) in lieu of a Stay-Home-Notice (SHN) and self-isolate until a negative test result is received.
    - BTP travellers are required to use TraceTogether, avoid all forms of public transport within 14 days of return, comply with safe management measures at their workplace and abide by all other prevailing measures applicable to local residents.
    - Travellers on this scheme are now required to undergo COVID-19 PCR Tests on Day 3, Day 7 and Day 14 of their return. An additional serology test will also be required on Day 3. Travellers are also to avoid events with more than 8 attendees within 14 days of returning to Singapore.
- ~~Singapore and ***Germany*** 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).***~~
    - ~~The Singapore-Germany RGL is only applicable for travel between airports in Singapore and Germany which have available non-stop flight routes.~~
    - ~~Travellers of any nationality, resident in Germany, who have remained in Germany 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.~~
- ~~Singapore and ***Japan*** 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 Japan, who have remained in Japan 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:~~

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        - ~~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.~~
- ~~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.~~
- 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:

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        - 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.
- 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 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.~~
        - ~~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 Malaysian citizens and Malaysian permanent residents holding Singapore work passes and Malaysian citizens holding Singapore permanent resident status who are working in Singapore.
        - Eligible travellers utilizing the PCA should remain in Singapore for work for at least 90 days, after which they are permitted to return to Malaysia for a short period of time, and then re-enter Singapore for at least an additional 90 days - no daily commuting is allowed.
        - The entry and exit between Singapore and Malaysia must be via at the Johor-Singapore Causeway and Malaysia-Singapore Second Link.
        - 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 ***Green / 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

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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 company transport.
- 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;

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    - 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 Entry Approval before entering Singapore.
- 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.
- 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

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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 23 December 2020, all work pass holders, excluding foreign domestic workers (FDWs), are required to update the Ministry of Manpower (MOM) on their new residential address or mobile number within five days of any change, as part of their work pass conditions under the Employment of Foreign Manpower (Work Passes) Regulations (EFMR).
    - Employers should inform their foreign employees that they are to update MOM of their new details via the following channels:
        - Work Permit holders: FWMOMCare mobile application
        - S Pass holders: FWMOMCare mobile application
        - Employment Pass holders: Employment Pass Online (EPOL).
    - All Work Permit holders (excluding FDWs) and S Pass holders are required to download the FWMOMCare mobile application, register their details. Thereafter, they must continue to update their details within 5 days of any change.
    - Currently, under the EFMR, Work Permit holders are required to inform their employers upon any change to their details, within 5 days. Employers of Work Permit holders (excluding FDWs) are also required to update any change in their Work Permit holders' residential address or mobile number in the Online Foreign Worker Address Service (OFWAS).
- Exit declaration and cancellation request forms are no longer required for the cancellation of a Malaysian employee's pass.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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

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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.

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- 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 any travel plans). 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

- 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 Artiste, 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.

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SLOVAKIA

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 17 February:
  - ***All travellers from all countries*** are subject to 14-day self-isolation upon entry.
    - Those who have, in the previous 14 days, visited only EU and EEA countries, Switzerland or the United Kingdom can undergo a PCR test on day 8 of self-isolation, at the earliest, and end self-isolation early if the result is negative.
    - Those who have, in the previous 14 days, visited any other country, cannot end self-isolation without a negative result of a PCR test taken no earlier than on day 8 of isolation.
    - Children under the age of 10 must be tested only if the attending physician so decides , their isolation will end at the same time as the other members of the common household.
  - Travellers arriving in Slovakia in the following categories are ***exempt*** from quarantine and testing measures:
    - Commuters to neighbouring countries, students, carers, land managers, the cultural sector, news and media production, certain athletes (require a negative antigen test not older than 48 hours or RT-PCR test not older than 72 hours) and some others;
  - Commuters from more distant EU countries, Norway, Liechtenstein, Switzerland, Iceland and the United Kingdom, people who have survived COVID-19 and people who have been vaccinated with a second dose of the vaccine more than 14 days ago:
    - Upon entry into the territory of the Slovak Republic, they must be proved by an antigen or RT-PCR test not older than 48 hours;
    - At the latest upon entering the territory of the Slovak Republic, they must register at http://korona.gov.sk/ehranica;
    - They must undergo isolation, which ends with a negative result of the RT-PCR test - however, they can also undergo the test immediately at their own expense after entering the territory of the Slovak Republic. If they do not pass the immediate test, they will start isolation after registration (RT-PCR test at the earliest on day 8, if negative, the isolation ends; without testing, asymptomatic isolation lasts 14 days).
- All arrivals are required to register at the obligation to register at *http://korona.gov.sk/ehranica* at the latest immediately after entering Slovakia.
  - Those arriving by air must also complete the electronic form at *https://www.mindop.sk/covid*.
- Effective 8-16 February:
  - Those arriving from European countries can avoid isolation by submitting a negative test:
    - Those who visited exclusively EU countries, Iceland, Norway, Liechtenstein and Switzerland in the last 14 days and do not prove a negative RT-PCR test performed outside the territory of the Slovak Republic not older than 72 hours / in the case of the Czech Republic and Austria it can also be a negative antigen test not older than 72 hours /, must go to home isolation. The person will be tested at the earliest on the eighth day , in case of receiving a negative test result,

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the isolation ends. If the person did not participate in the test and has an asymptomatic course of isolation, the isolation ends after 14 days.
        - Children under the age of 10 do not need to be tested, their isolation ends with other members of the common household.
    - Those arriving from other countries are obliged to self-isolate for 14 days:
        - Persons who have visited countries other than those mentioned above in the last 14 days must go to home isolation and undergo RT-PCR testing on the eighth day at the earliest. They terminate the isolation only by receiving a negative test result. It cannot be terminated without testing or prevented by submitting a negative test result for COVID-19.
- Entry is restricted until 19 March 2021. The following can enter Slovakia:
    - Travellers arriving from EU/Schengen countries.
    - Persons related to a Slovak citizen or to a temporary/permanent resident in Slovakia, i.e. spouse, minor child, parent of a minor child.
    - Persons with a valid residence in Slovakia, who can prove a valid residence permit, residence registration certificate or are holders of a national visa issued by the embassy of the Slovak Republic, the entry of third-country nationals for the purpose of attending nursery or study at a primary, secondary or higher education institution in Slovakia
    and demonstrating confirmation of this fact is considered a valid residence according to this point,
    - Residents of Australia, China, Finland, Iceland, New Zealand, Norway, Singapore, South Korea and Taiwan.
    - Cross-border workers, permanently or temporarily residing in neighbouring border areas of Ukraine within 30 km from an open border crossing to the territory of the Slovak Republic and who have an employment relationship, a similar employment relationship or a place of work (e.g. for self-employed persons) in the territory of the Slovak Republic within 30 km by road from an open border crossing to the territory of the Slovak Republic and hold a certificate of such performance of work,
    - Persons transiting to the EU Member States where they have a permanent or temporary residence or to the EU Member State which have issued their national (D) visas,
    - Persons transiting without stopping through the countries not listed as low-risk countries, as long as they are able to provide the evidence of their residence or the evidence of their visit in the country of commencement of the transit and the time of entry into the country not listed in Annex 1 of the Measure,
    - Persons permanently or temporarily residing in Slovakia and providing urgent care for their close relatives, who are unable to take care of themselves, in the territory of Ukraine, including one accompanying person,
    - Persons permanently or temporarily residing in Ukraine and crossing the border in order to provide urgent care for their close relatives in Slovakia who are unable to take care of themselves, including one accompanying person,
    - Foreign nationals who belong to certain categories defined in point 4 of the Measure,
    - holders of an exemption in accordance with point 6 of the Measure.

Immigration Restrictions

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- The Foreign Police department will reopen on 15 February and will handle online clients.
    - Clients who have ordered via the electronic ordering system since 1 February 2021 and have a reserved date from 15 February 2021 do not need to re-order. Other clients will need to re-order from 10 February 2021.

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 February:
    - The list of EU/Schengen countries where the 14-day incidence rate of COVID-19 per 10,000 infection is higher than in Slovenia includes:
        - Czech Republic, Estonia
    - The following persons from are permitted to enter Slovenia from the above countries without a home quarantine if they present a negative result of a PCR test or rapid antigen test taken not more than 7 days before travel:
        - Daily commuting cross-border workers who have an employment relationship in another EU Member State or Schengen Area country, of which they provide proof or a signed statement justifying the reason for crossing the border as a daily commuting cross-border worker, and who return within 14 hours of crossing the border;

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        - Persons who daily or periodically cross the border for reasons of education, training or scientific research in the Republic of Slovenia or an EU Member State or a Schengen Area country and provide sufficient proof thereof. If the person is a minor or cannot travel alone for other reasons, the same conditions of entry apply to the person driving them, who must return across the border immediately afterwards;
        - Citizens of EU Member States or Schengen Area countries coming from another EU Member State or Schengen Area country where they provided care and assistance to persons in need of support, care and assistance to family members, parental care or maintained contact with their child, performed maintenance work on a private property or land owned, leased or used, or eliminated imminent danger to health, life and property and returning across the border within 12 hours of crossing the border;
        - Persons who have a medical appointment in the Republic of Slovenia and exit the Republic of Slovenia immediately following their appointment. If a minor has a medical appointment, their guardian may enter Slovenia under the same conditions provided that they are traveling together.
- Effective 26 February 2021
    - The ***red list*** includes:
        - Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland (Helsinki, Uusimaa), France (except Guyane, La Réunion and Martinique); Germany, Greece (Attica, Central Greece, Western Greece), Hungary, Ireland, Italy (except Aosta Valley and Sardinia), Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, the Netherlands, ~~***Norway***~~, Poland, Portugal (except the Azores), Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the Vatican;
        - 127 third countries (including the United Kingdom).
    - All countries that are not explicitly listed on the red list are considered to be without a high risk of infection and persons coming from these countries or administrative units of countries may enter the Republic of Slovenia without being put under home quarantine and without submitting a negative test for the presence of SARS-CoV-2.
- A 10-day quarantine is required for travellers who enter Slovenia from a country on the ***red list*** or who are resident in one of those countries. If a negative test result is obtained during quarantine, the quarantine can end early.
    - No quarantine is required if the traveller submits a negative result of a COVID-19 PCR test taken no more than 48 hours before arrival.
    - No quarantine or negative PCR test result is required in the following circumstances:
        - a cross-border daily labor migrant who has an employment relationship in one of the EU Member States or another Schengen country, for which he has proof or substantiates the reason for crossing the border as a daily labor migrant;
        - a person seconded to perform tasks in or out of the international transport sector;
        - a person who carries out the transport of goods or persons to or from the Republic of Slovenia in commercial traffic and for freight and

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passenger transport in transit and leaves Slovenia within 12 hours after crossing the border;
    - a person traveling in transit through the Republic of Slovenia and leaving it no later than 12 hours after entry;
    - a person with a diplomatic passport;
    - a member of a foreign official delegation arriving in the Republic of Slovenia on the basis of a certificate or official invitation from the competent state body, or a member of an official delegation of the Republic of Slovenia returning from abroad;
    - a representative of a foreign security body (police or judiciary) who performs an official task and leaves the Republic of Slovenia as soon as possible after the completion of the task;
    - a member of the Slovenian Armed Forces, the police or an employee of a state body returning from work abroad, and an employee of state bodies on a business trip abroad (must pass a test for the presence of SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) on arrival in Slovenia) ;
    - a person who crosses the border (daily or occasionally) due to involvement in education or scientific research in the Republic of Slovenia or abroad and proves this with appropriate evidence, and his parents or another person who transports him and returns across the border within 24 hours after crossing the border;
    - a person who crosses the border due to urgent personal affairs or urgent business reasons and proves this with appropriate evidence and returns across the border in the shortest time necessary to perform the task, but not more than 48 hours after crossing the border (also applies to family members of the person);
    - a person who has been transported to the Republic of Slovenia by ambulance or ambulance and accompanying medical staff in that vehicle;
    - a person who has proof of a planned emergency medical examination or intervention in an EU Member State or the Schengen area and returns across the border immediately after the completion of the medical examination or intervention or as soon as his medical condition allows (together with his companion urgently needed).
    - A person crossing the border for familial reasons in order to maintain contact with close family members and returning within 72 hours of entry;
    - A person under the age of 14 who crosses the border together with a close family member who has submitted a negative test result.
  - No quarantine or negative PCR test result is required for entry from a neighbouring red or orange country in the following circumstances:
    - a dual owner or tenant of land in the border area or on both sides of the state border who crosses the state border with a neighbouring country for the purpose of performing agricultural-agricultural-forestry works (also applies to close family members of a person);
    - a citizen of the Republic of Slovenia or a foreign national residing in the Republic of Slovenia who owns real estate or a residential vessel in a neighbouring country or has the right to use real estate, residential vessel or a plot in a motor camp in a neighbouring country on the basis of a lease agreement enters the Republic of Slovenia, and proves this

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with appropriate documents if he returns to the country within 48 hours of exit (also applies to close family members of the person);
    - a person who assists a citizen of the Republic of Slovenia or a foreign national residing in the Republic of Slovenia who owns or rents agricultural land in a neighbouring country in the seasonal harvesting of agricultural products and proves this with appropriate proof if he returns across the border within 24 hours of leaving the Republic Slovenia.
- 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

- Some international flights have resumed.
- Entry is permitted with proof of a negative result of a COVID-19 test taken no more than 96 hours before travel.
- Exit is permitted with proof of a negative COVID-19 test taken no more than 72 hours before travel.
- Additional screening measures are in place at Egal International Airport (Hargeisa, Somaliland). Travellers with no negative test result may have to quarantine for 14 days at a government-approved facility. Temperature checks may also be carried out.
- Land borders remain closed.

SOUTH AFRICA

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 15 February 2021, 20 land borders are reopened (the rest remain closed). Entry by land is permitted as follows:
  - those in need of emergency medical treatment; those involved in the transportation of fuel, cargo and goods, returning South African citizens, permanent residents and long-term visa holders, South African citizens and

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permanent residents departing for the purposes of employment, study or residence outside of the country, foreign nationals returning to their country of nationality or permanent residence, diplomats, daily commuters from neighbouring countries who attend school in South Africa and those attending the funeral of a family member within the first degree of kinship of the deceased person.

- Entry is permitted.
  - 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 (including transit passengers) must present negative PCR test results dated within 72 hours prior to boarding, from an accredited laboratory. Those without an adequate negative test result or showing symptoms will be subject to government quarantine for 14 days at their own cost.
  - All travellers must install the COVID Alert South Africa mobile app.
  - Entry is permitted for leisure and business from all African countries and from countries not deemed high-risk.
  - For travellers from certain ***high-risk countries***, entry is not permitted for leisure or tourism purposes.
    - Currently, high-risk countries include *Argentina, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Italy, Mexico, Netherlands, Peru, Philippines, Russia, Spain, United Kingdom, United States*.
    - Any person from a high-risk country wishing to enter South Africa ***for business purposes*** may apply to the Minister of Home Affairs by email and demonstrate the reasons for their request.
    - ***Seasonal visitors*** from high-risk countries in Europe who generally spend the summer months in South Africa during the winter season in the Northern Hemisphere may also apply for permission to enter the country.
    - Holders of ***long-term visas*** who are located in high-risk countries may travel to South Africa without any prior approval. Those who wish to apply for long-term visas may also proceed to do so without prior approval.
- The visa waivers/exemptions for the undermentioned countries which were withdrawn have been re-instated. This implies that citizens of these countries, subject to meeting admission requirements, may be issued with a Visitor's Visa upon arrival in the country for the stated period of the exemption; however, please note that *citizens of these countries who are currently resident in the high-risk countries listed above are still prohibited from travelling to South Africa without prior approval from the DHA*: France, Germany, Hong Kong, Iran, Italy, Portugal, Singapore, South Korea, Spain, United States, United Kingdom.
- South African citizens and permanent residence permit holders may exit the country without first applying for special permission.

Immigration Restrictions

- The Department of Home Affairs (DHA) has resumed normal operations, which implies the full resumption of the processing of all visa, permit, passport and identity document applications at the central permitting hub in Pretoria. It has also started

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adjudicating applications for all categories of Temporary Residence Visas including, but not limited to, visitor's, work, study, crew, medical treatment, relative's, retired persons', business, corporate, exchange visas, waiver requests and appeal and review requests in respect of adverse decisions taken.

- The South African Missions abroad and the provincial Visa Application Centres within South Africa have resumed accepting the abovementioned Temporary Residence Visa applications, waiver requests and appeal/review applications.
- The DHA remains officially closed for the acceptance and adjudication of new Permanent Residence Permit applications; therefore, foreign nationals wishing to apply will have to continue to wait and those with applications under adjudication should anticipate further delays. It is unclear whether the Permitting Hub in Pretoria is currently adjudicating applications which were submitted prior to the hard lockdown commencing in March.
- Applications for Lesotho Exemption Permits and Zimbabwe and Exemptions Permits have also reopened.

Immigration Concessions

- Holders of Intra-Company Transfer Visas which have already been issued for the maximum four years and which have expired or will expire between 26 March 2020 and 31 June 2021 can reapply for a further period of two years from within South Africa (rather than having to exit the country to reapply as normal). The following criteria must be fulfilled:
    - Proof that the sponsoring South African branch, subsidiary or affiliate still requires the services of the foreign national must be submitted.
    - Verifiable documents must be submitted to prove that a skills transfer to a South African citizen or Permanent Residence Permit holder was completed during the four-year transfer period to date.
    - The application will be considered as a new application as opposed to an extension/renewal of the existing ICT Work Visa with no accumulation or continuation of the validity period of the current work visa.
    - The validity period of the new work visa cannot accrue towards the 5-year period of holding a work visa to enable a foreign national to apply for a Permanent Residence Permit in terms of section 26(a) of the Immigration Act.
    - The holder must remain employed with the same employer abroad, and they must continue working for the same sponsoring branch, subsidiary, or affiliate company within South Africa. No changes of employer, or other conditions, as per the current ICT Work Visa, will be allowed.
    - No application to change status from the existing ICT Work Visa to any other category of visa will be allowed from within the country.
- The special permit and visa dispensation introduced to address the difficulties arising from the Covid-19 lockdown has been extended to 31 March 2021.
- Foreign nationals in South Africa whose visas have expired and were automatically extended until 31 January 2021 will have their visas automatically extended again up to and including 31 March 2021.
- Foreign tourists who arrived in South Africa prior to 11 January 2021 will also have their visa automatically extended to 31 March 2021.
- 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.

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SOUTH KOREA

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 24 February, all ***Korean citizens*** must present on arrival an original certificate showing a negative result of a COVID-19 test issued by a designated hospital within 72 hours before travel.
- Effective 8 January, ***all foreign nationals aged 6 years and over***, including ARC holders, must present on arrival an original certificate showing a negative result of a COVID-19 test issued by a designated hospital within 72 hours before travel.
    - *Some Korean embassies have received updated guidance, effective 4 January 2021, that for travellers arriving by a transit flight from a third country, the negative PCR test certificate must have been undertaken within 48 hours before boarding, while for transit passengers, the certificate should have been issued within 72 hours.*
- The suspension of flights from ***the United Kingdom*** is extended until 11 February 2021.
- Issuance of visas and isolation exemption certificates is suspended at the South Korean embassies in ***the United Kingdom*** and ***South Africa***, including for holders of a valid VIN.
- All entrants coming from ***the United Kingdom*** and **South Africa**, including those who depart from these two countries and take a transit flight in a third country before arriving in South Korea:
    - are required to submit their negative Covid19 test result certificate upon arrival in South Korea. Medical test requirements will be updated on the respective Embassies' websites by 31 December 2020.
    - are required to get another PCR test prior to the end of their 2 weeks quarantine period in South Korea.
    - Exceptions: Official/Diplomat passport holders and those coming for humanitarian purpose (e.g. attending family's funeral) can get their visas from the Korean Embassy in London and/or Pretoria.
- All visa applicants must submit ~~***a negative result of a COVID-19 PCR test (issued within 48 hours before application submission),***~~ a health condition report and a facility quarantine agreement.
- South Korea and ***Japan*** have agreed to start implementing a special entry procedure for Korean and Japanese business travellers.
- ***The South Korea/Singapore Reciprocal Green Lane/Fast Lane arrangement is suspended between 1 February and 30 April 2021.*** ~~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-19 PCR test in Singapore.~~

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        - ~~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.~~
- 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.
- 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-authorised 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.

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    - 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.
- Some consulates are again accepting applications for C-type short-term visas.
- 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

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of up to KWW 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

- The waiver of re-entry permits for Alien Registration Certificate (ARC) holders is currently suspended until further notice.
    - All ARC holders with visas other than A1, A2, A3 or F4 visas must apply online for a re-entry permit 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.
    - Re-entry permit applications for new-born babies who have never used their passport can be submitted directly to the immigration office (rather than online).
    - Re-entry permits are granted for approximately 3 months beyond the planed date of re-entry.
    - Extension of a re-entry permit is rarely possible.
    - 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 onboarding 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.
- 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.

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- 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

- Effective 22 February 2021, persons arriving from Brazil and South Africa must remain in quarantine for 10 days after arrival, or for the duration of stay if less than 10 days. This period may end earlier if they obtain a negative COVID-19 test result on the 7th day.
- Land border controls between Spain and Portugal are extended until 1 March.
    - The following are permitted to enter Spain via certain land border crossings from Portugal:
        - Citizens of Spain together with their spouse or partner “with whom they maintain a union analogous to the conjugal one registered in a public registry“;
        - Spain’s residents who are required to prove their habitual residence, and students who pursue their studies in Spain;
        - Residents in the other Member States or Schengen Zone who go to their place of habitual residence;
        - Cross-border workers, transport workers as well as health workers
        - Persons who need to enter the country for a humanitarian reason or other specific reason;
        - Members of diplomatic missions and other persons working in organisations located in Spain provided that their travel is related to their work.
- The suspension of entry for travellers arriving from Brazil, South Africa and United Kingdom by air or sea is extended until 16 March 2021.
    - Exemptions exist for Spanish citizens, and residents of Spain or Andorra

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- Travellers arriving by air from high-risk countries must obtain a certificate of a negative PCR test taken within 72 hours prior to arrival.
    - The online health declaration form will include a question on whether the passenger obtained a negative PCR test result within 72 hours prior to entry and travellers may at any time be asked to present the original certificate of this test in English or Spanish, in paper or electronic format.
    - If the health declaration form has not been completed online it may be presented in paper format before boarding along with the original test certificate.
    - Travellers whose temperature or visual or documentary checks indicate they may be COVID-19 positive must undergo diagnostic testing at the airport on arrival.
    - Travellers who arrive without the requisite certification must take a diagnostic test for antigens, will have to pay a fine and, if from third countries, may be refused entry.
    - Effective 22 February to 7 March:
        - High-risk countries ***in the EU/EEA*** include *Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, **~~Denmark~~**, Estonia, **Finland**, France (except Guadeloupe, La Reunion and Martinique), Germany, **Greece** (except the Anatoliki Makedonia Thraki, Dytiki Ellada, Dytiki Makedonia, Ionia Nisia, Kentriki Makedonia, Kriti, Notio Aigaio, Peloponnisos, Sterea Ellada, Thessalia, Voreio Aigaio and Ipeiros regions), Hungary, Ireland, Italy (except the Aosta Valley), Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, **~~Norway~~**, Poland, Portugal (except the Azores), Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden.*
        - High-risk countries ***outside the EU/EEA*** include *Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Aruba, Bahrain, **~~Barbados~~**, Belarus, Bolivia, **~~Bonaire~~**, Botswana, Brazil, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, **~~Costa Rica~~**, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, **Eswatini**, Falkland Islands,* **French Polynesia***, Georgia, Gibraltar (UK), **Guernsey (UK),** Israel, Kuwait, Lebanon, **Malaysia**, Maldives, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, **~~Namibia~~,** North Macedonia, Pakistan, Palestine, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Puerto Rico, **Qatar**, Russia, Saint Lucia, , San Marino, Serbia, Seychelles, Sint Maarten (Dutch part), South Africa, **~~Suriname~~**, Switzerland, Tunisia, Turks and Caicos, **~~Ukraine~~**, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States, Uruguay, **~~US Virgin Islands~~**.*
- The suspension of entry for non-essential travel from most non-EU countries is extended until 31 March 2021.
- Non-essential entry is permitted for travellers from:
    - European Union and Schengen associated countries;
    - Australia, China (including Hong Kong and Macau), ***~~Japan~~***, New Zealand, Rwanda, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand, ***~~Uruguay~~***.
- 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; exclusively labour-related reasons, including seasonal work, healthcare or

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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.
    - Adequate documentary proof of purpose of stay is required.
- 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.
- All travellers to the Canary Islands, aged 7 years and above, who are booked into regulated tourist accommodation are required to present a negative COVID-19 test taken no more than 72 hours earlier when checking into their accommodation, and to download and activate the Radar COVID notification app throughout their stay, and for 15 days after returning home.
- 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.

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- 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

- Commercial airlines are operating outbound flights from Sri Lanka. Inbound flights operating for repatriations of Sri Lankan nationals are currently suspended but are expected to resume from January 2021.
- All valid Resident Visa holders with Civil Aviation Authority/Foreign Ministry approvals may enter Sri Lanka.
- All foreign passport holders, including ex-Sri Lankans holding foreign passports, need to obtain fresh visas, along with Civil Aviation approvals, to enter Sri Lanka.
- Fresh visas for Sri Lanka will only be issued at the Department of Immigration and Emigration and need to be processed and obtained by a local party on behalf of the foreign nationals.
- All Sri Lankan passport holders, and their spouses and children, with Civil Aviation Authority approvals may enter Sri Lanka.
- Foreign nationals arriving should carry a negative COVID-19 PCR test report (English) done within 96 hours of embarkation.

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- Sri Lankan citizens/ Dual citizens should carry a negative COVID-19 PCR test report (English) done within 96 hours or a Rapid Antigen test done within 48 hours of embarkation.
- Effective 26 January 2021:
    - All arrivals from United Kingdom and any nationals, who have been in UK during last 14 days are not allowed to enter Sri Lanka with an online ETA for the purpose of tourist..
    - Nationals of Russia, Ukraine, Tajikistan, Armenia, Belarus, Uzbekistan, Moldova, Azerbaijan, Lithuania, Latvia, Georgia and Kazakhstan currently resident in Russia, Ukraine and Kazakhstan only are allowed to enter Sri Lanka with a tourist ETA for the purpose of tourism.
    - Visitors from Cameroon, Nigeria, Ivory Coast and Ghana, who intend to apply for an ETA may apply through a Sri Lankan sponsor for their ETA from the Head Office of the Department of Immigration & Emigration of Sri Lanka.
    - Other nationals apart from the above are allowed to apply for the ETA through the online ETA system.
    - It is strongly advised to all applicants, before requesting ETA permission to consult the airlines with permission & approval for departure to Sri Lanka from those countries and get directions and check the flights availability in advance to apply ETA to avoid unnecessary payments on the official ETA site.
    - Travellers should have a confirmed booking in a safe and secure certified, Level 1 hotel for the initial 14 days of their stay before applying for their visa, along with pre-purchased PCR tests and a mandatory COVID-19 Insurance Cover. The hotel will issue a reference number which will be automatically checked with your passport during the application process of ETA.
    - Dual Citizens or Sri Lankan spouses of foreign passport holders any paid commercial passengers with foreign passport must follow the tourist route under the same guideline.
- 14-day quarantine is mandatory for all those travelling into Sri Lanka, usually followed by 14 days self-isolation at home.

Immigration Restrictions

- Consular 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

- On 27 October, the government announced a 60 day visa extension (until 5 December) for all foreign nationals currently in Sri Lanka.

SUDAN

Entry Restrictions

- Khartoum International Airport has reopened for passenger flights.
- Travellers of Sudanese origin are subject to testing on arrival. Some airlines may require a negative test certificate before boarding.

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- All other travellers must present a negative certificate for a COVID-19 test taken less than 72 hours prior to travel.

SURINAME

Entry Restrictions

- Travelers from the Netherlands and Dutch-speaking Caribbean Community (CARICOM) countries are permitted to enter the country. On arrival, travelers must provide a negative COVID-19 PCR test and are required to quarantine for 10 days in a government-approved facility.

Immigration Restrictions

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

SWEDEN

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 6 February through 31 March, all foreign citizens over the age of 18-years-old will be required to present a negative COVID-19 test upon entry into Sweden. The test must be no older than 48 hours.
    - Swedish work and residence permit holders are exempt from this new requirement.
- The restriction of travel from Denmark, Norway and the United Kingdom is extended until 14 February 2021.
    - Entry is permitted for:
        - Swedish citizens;
        - People
        - People in the transport sector;
        - people with imperative family reasons;
        - People entering to receive certain kinds of care;
        - Parents travelling to be with their children who live in Sweden;
        - Children travelling to be with a parent who lives in Sweden, and the person accompanying the child on such trips;
        - Diplomats and Consular Officers who are employed in Sweden by foreign states and their families and employees;
        - People who work in international organisations or are invited by such organisations and whose presence is necessary for the organisations' activities;
        - People in need of international protection or who have other humanitarian grounds;
        - People who are to undergo surgery or other types of care that cannot be delayed;
        - Military personnel and other personnel within the scope of international defence cooperation.

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    - Those exempted from the entry ban for work must present a negative test result of a PCR test taken no more than 24 hours before travelling.
        - This test requirement does not apply to those transporting goods, nor to Swedish citizens, but is recommended for both categories.
- The suspension of entry from outside the EU, the EEA, the microstates and Switzerland is extended until 31 March 2021.
- Exemptions from the entry ban include:
    - (Effective 1 January 2021) those entitled to residence status in Sweden following Brexit.
    - Swedish citizens and their family members;
    - Citizens of EEA member states, 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, Japan, New Zealand, Rwanda, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand ***~~and Uruguay~~***.
    - Effective 20 January, residents of Uruguay are no longer exempted from the entry ban on the basis that they are residents of that country. However, other exemptions from the entry ban may continue to apply to residents of 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.
- Sweden has now lifted the advice against non-essential travel to the following countries: Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, ***~~the United Kingdom~~*** and Vatican City.
    - For other countries in the EU, the EEA and the Schengen area (namely, Estonia, Ireland and Latvia) the advice against non-essential travel is extended.
    - The advice against non-essential travel to third countries (outside the EU, the EEA and the Schengen area) is extended until 15 April.

Immigration Restrictions

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- 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

- Proof of a negative COVID-19 PCR test taken not more than 72 hours before entering must be presented at boarding for the following:
    - Persons aged 12 and above arriving by air from any country;

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    - Persons aged 12 and above who have stayed in a country with an increased risk of infection within the 10 days before leaving Switzerland, even if arriving by bus, car, rail etc.
- Effective 22 February 2021, those who have been travelling too long or whose test result is not available quickly enough can submit a rapid immunological test conducted less than 24 hours previously before boarding.
    - Proof of a negative COVID-19 PCR test is still required for the second check which may be carried out at the Swiss border. If this is not possible, the traveller must undergo a test at their own expense immediately after entering Switzerland.
- Anyone entering Switzerland who has in the previous 10 days spent time in '***high risk'*** countries or regions is subject to a ***mandatory ten-day quarantine*** and must report their arrival to the cantonal authorities within two days.
    - Travellers can leave quarantine after 7 days if they again test negative (antigen rapid test or PCR test).
    - Effective 8 March:
        - **List of areas from neighbouring countries**: *Austria (**Karnten**, **Niederosterreich**, Salzburg, **Steiermark**), France (Centre-Val de Loire, Hauts-de-France, Île de France, Normandie, Nouvelle-Aquitaine, Occitanie, Pays de la Loire, Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur), Italy (**Abruzzo**, **Campania**, Emilia Romagna, Fiuli Venezia Giulia, **Liguria**, Marche, **Molise**, Puglia, **Toscana**, Umbria).*
        - **List of countries and areas**: *Albania, Andorra, **Antigua and Barbuda**, Bahrain, **Barbados**, Brazil, **Chile**, Czechia, Estonia, Ireland, Israel, **Kuwait**, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, **Luxembourg**, **Maldives**, Malta, **Moldova**, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, **Peru**, Portugal, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Serbia, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States.*
    - Effective 25 February:
        - **List of areas from neighbouring countries**: *Austria (Salzburg), France, (Centre-Val de Loire, Hauts-de-France, Île de France, Normandie, Nouvelle-Aquitaine, Occitanie, Pays de la Loire, Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur), Italy (Marche, Puglia, Umbria, Emilia Romagna, Fiuli Venezia Giulia).*
        - **List of countries and areas**: *Albania, Andorra, Bahrain, Brazil, ~~**Colombia**~~, Czechia, Estonia, Ireland, Israel, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, ~~**Panama**~~, Portugal, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Serbia, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States.*
- The list of countries not considered high-risk, from where entry is permitted, is as follows:
    - All states in the Schengen area, Andorra, Australia, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Ireland, Monaco, New Zealand, Romania, Rwanda, San Marino, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand and the Vatican.
- Travellers from other 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

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        - 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 legitimation 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.
    - From 1 January 2021, service providers from the United Kingdom require confirmation of notification under the online notification procedure if they wish to work in Switzerland for up to 90 days in any calendar year.
    - 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;
    - 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.
- 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 certain cases – for example:
    - Entry to continue essential medical treatment that began in Switzerland or abroad;
    - Entry on essential official visits in terms of Switzerland's international commitments;
    - 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 grandparents, parents, siblings, children, or grandchildren who live in Switzerland if there is an important family reason for doing so (birth, wedding, serious illness). This also includes the immediate family of the person entitled to enter (i.e. husband/wife, registered partner and minor children), provided the family all enter Switzerland together;
    - 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 (including the United Kingdom rom 1 January 2021) 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

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essential (e.g. practical education and training courses and/or training on the job;
    - 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;
    - There are also exceptions from the quarantine requirement for:
        - Persons in transit;
        - Professional transportation activity;
        - Essential activities;
        - Other professional compelling activities (***five-day limit no longer applies***);
        - Medical reasons (***five-day limit no longer applies***);
        - Return to Switzerland after sport, cultural or professional events where appropriate sanitary measures were in place.
- Almost everyone entering Switzerland must complete an electronic entry form available *here* before entry. Exceptions as follows:
    - Those entering from regions on the border with Switzerland with which close economic, social and cultural exchanges take place;
    - Those transporting passengers or goods across borders in the course of their professional duties;
    - Those entering solely for transit purposes and travelling on directly to another country;
    - Those entering in their own means of transport, who have not stayed in a country or area with an increased risk of infection within the last 10 days.

TAIWAN

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 3 March, Australia is moved to the list of low-risk countries.
- Effective 1 March, during the home isolation period, individuals placed in home isolation cannot live with other persons not required to home isolate in the same residence.
    - Furthermore, if all members of a household living in the same residence are required to home isolate, and their last contact with a confirmed case falls on the same day, they can all isolate in the same residence but each of them needs to have a separate room (including a separate bathroom), abiding by the one person per room rule.
- Effective 1 March, foreign nationals are again permitted to enter Taiwan for medical purposes.

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- Effective 24 February, short-term business travellers from low-risk and medium-risk countries are eligible to apply for shortened quarantine periods.
- Effective 24 February, Cambodia is moved to the list of medium-risk countries, and Bhutan is added to the list of low-risk countries.
- Travellers who have travelled to ***Brazil, Eswatini, South Africa or the United Kingdom*** in the past 14 days are required to proceed to ***group quarantine facilities*** to undergo quarantine for 14 days after entry. Before they complete the quarantine period, they will be tested for COVID-19 and must complete a subsequent 7-day self-health management period.
- Effective 15 January 2021:
    - Prior to arrival, all passengers must provide a quarantine residence certificate for the 14-day quarantine (should be group quarantine facilities or a quarantine hotel).
    - If they choose home quarantine, no other family member (who doesn't need to quarantine) is allowed to stay in the same apartment during the quarantine period. The incoming passengers also need to sign the affidavit to the above.
- Entry is permitted for:
    - ***Taiwanese nationals***.
    - ***Foreign nationals***.
        - *ARC holders* for any purpose of entry.
        - *Non-ARC holders*.
            - Spouse/minor child of Taiwan national;
            - Personnel on official/diplomatic business;
            - Personnel to fulfil contractual obligations;
            - *Special humanitarian reasons;*
            - Other special permission (those who have received approval from central authorities or agencies, such as white-collar workers, migrant workers, and foreign students, and foreign nationals who obtained special entry permits on or before 30 December 30 2020, from Taiwan overseas missions.
    - ***Hong Kong/Macau residents***
        - *ARC holders* for any purpose.
        - *Taiwan Entry Permit holders*.
            - Spouse/minor child of Taiwan national;
            - To fulfil contractual obligations or as part of internal transfers within multinational enterprises.
    - ***Mainland Chinese nationals***
        - *ARC holders for any purpose;*
        - *Taiwan Entry Permit holders.*
            - Spouse/minor child of Taiwan national.
- Foreign nationals must apply for ***special entry permits*** to enter Taiwan for reasons other than tourism, general social visits and study.
    - Permitted purposes of travel include internship, training, participation in international conferences and exhibitions, international exchange, volunteering, missionary work, working holidays, youth exchange, job seeking, visiting relatives, fulfilling contractual obligations, inspection, after-sales service, technical guidance and training and contract signing.
    - Special entry permits may be issued regardless of the traveller's nationality, country of origin or travel history.

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- ***All travellers*** entering or transiting through Taiwan airports, regardless of nationality or purpose of travel, must provide ***a negative result of a COVID-19 RT-PCR test*** (not antigen or antibody test) issued within 3 working days before boarding.
    - The test report must be issued by a medical institution approved by the government agency of the place of departure;
    - The test report should be written in Chinese and/or English. Documents in languages other than Chinese or English, such as French and Spanish, are accepted if they are in the "official language of the place of departure" and the ground staff can confirm the contents of the report.
- Travellers who have ***symptoms*** on arrival or who have experienced symptoms in the last 14 days are required to undergo a test at the airport or at a hospital after arrival.
    - These travellers must stay at a group quarantine facility to await their test result.
    - Those who obtain a negative test result will undergo another test at least 24 hours after the first test.
    - Those who obtain two negative test results and whose symptoms have improved may return to home or proceed to a quarantine hotel to complete the subsequent home quarantine period.
- ***All travellers*** who are permitted to enter are required to undergo 14-day home quarantine, to log into the *Quarantine System for Entry* and fill out a health declaration form.
- The suspension of entry for all Indonesian migrant workers is extended indefinitely beyond 18 December.
- 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 ***Australia***, Bhutan, Brunei, East Timor, Fiji, Laos, Macau, the Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Nauru, New Zealand, Palau or a ***medium risk*** of infection (currently Cambodia***,*** Singapore***,*** 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.

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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, who have been allowed to stay for 180 days or more and who have not overstayed their allowed period of stay (including their initial visa and all previous extensions) will be granted a ***fifth*** automatic 30-day extension.
- 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

- All travellers must complete a *Traveller Surveillance Form* and submit to port authorities on arrival.
- All travelers whether foreign nationals or returning residents entering or leaving the United Republic of Tanzania will be subjected to enhanced screening for COVID-19 infection. There will be no 14-day mandatory quarantine upon arrival;

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- All travelers whether foreign nationals or returning residents whose countries or airlines require them to get tested for COVID-19 and turn negative, as a condition for traveling, will be required to present a certificate upon arrival. Travelers from other countries with symptoms and signs related to COVID-19 infection, will undergo enhanced screening and may be tested for COVID-19;
- Borders are open and international flights have resumed.

Immigration Restrictions

- The Department of Immigration is fully operational.

THAILAND

Entry Restrictions

- Flights restrictions continue but are lifted for some 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.
- Thai nationals and foreign national residents, work permit holders, business travellers, students and teachers may be permitted to enter Thailand. Foreign nationals must contact the relevant Thai consulate at least 10 days before departure to check the specific requirements to apply for a “Certificate of Entry” (COE).
    - For the COE application, foreign nationals work permit holders or business travellers may require (among others, depending on the purpose of entry):
        - Passport copy;
        - Copy of a valid Thai visa;
        - Completed and signed *declaration form*;
        - Copy of work permit, WP3, letter of work permission, letter of support from employer, invitation letter for business meetings;
        - Copy of bank statement;
        - Copy of health insurance policy covering COVID-19 medical expenses up to at least USD 100,000;
        - Copy of Alternative State Quarantine (ASQ) booking confirmation (uploaded after pre-approval 1-3 days after initial application);
        - Copy of flight booking confirmation (uploaded after pre-approval 1-3 days after initial application).

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- On arrival, travellers must present (among others, depending on the purpose of entry):
  - Valid visa (if required. 30-day visa exemption is currently suspended);
  - Certificate of Entry, issued by the relevant Thai embassy/consulate, in support of which are required:
    - Copy of health insurance policy which covering COVID-19 medical expenses up to at least USD 100,000;
    - Copy of Alternative State, Local or Hospital Quarantine confirmed booking for at least 14 days.
  - *Declaration form*;
  - Fit to Fly health certificate, issued within 72 hours before departure (this is a statement by a doctor that the traveller is free from symptoms and fit to fly – separate from test result);
  - Negative RT-PCR COVID-19 test result issued within 72 hours before departure;
  - Completed T.8 Form (health declaration).
  - Evidence of ThailandPlus application installation into the entrant's mobile device.

- Permitted purposes of entry include:
  - Medical treatment ;
  - Spouse of Thai national;
  - Work permit holder;
  - Normal tourist visa;
  - Special tourist visa;
  - Tourist visa on arrival;
  - Retirement visa;
  - Elite Card holder.
- Entry is permitted for visitors ***from any country*** (effective 9 December – previously only from low/medium-risk countries), for stays of up to 90 days (renewable) for tourism, business or investment purposes, among others, with a ***Special Tourist Visa (STV)*** obtained via a Thai consulate.
  - Travellers require a negative COVID-19 test result obtained up to 72 hours before departure, a valid Fit to Fly medical certificate, COVID-19 health insurance, proof of accommodation for a 14-day self-quarantine on arrival and a signed letter of consent, agreeing to comply with the government's COVID-19 measures.
  - The STV is renewable twice for a further 90 days each time.
  - Arrivals with an STV are subject to a 14-day quarantine at a state-approved hotel or facility.
  - Travel must be via state-approved charter flight.
  - The STV is available until 30 September 2021.
- 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.
- The 15-day Visa on Arrival facility is suspended.
- The 30-day visa exemption is suspended.

Immigration Restrictions

- The Immigration office is open for visa renewals and applications as normal.

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- 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 can now apply for a 60-day visa extension until 30 March 2021, thus extending their visa until up to 30 May.
- 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*

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    - 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

- Airports remain closed to international commercial flights until further notice.
- Citizens and permanent residents of Trinidad and Tobago are permitted entry, via seaports or airports, after 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.
- Returning citizens and residents must obtain a negative PCR test result taken no more than 72 hours before travel and self-quarantine for 14 days and will be quarantined for 7 days, during which time COVID-19 tests will be administered. Those who test negative after the sixth day will be released from quarantine.
- 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

- International flights have resumed.
- The land border with Libya is reopened, and commercial flights are again permitted.

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    - Passengers from both countries are required to provide a negative result of a COVID-19 test taken within 72 hours before travel, and also self-isolate for 10 days on arrival.
- 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, United Kingdom, 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, Libya, 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

- Effective until at least 1 March 2021, all inbound travellers aged 6 years and above must present a negative result of a COVID-19 PCR test taken no more than 72 hours before travel, or will not be allowed to board their flight (or cross land or maritime borders).

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- Effective 23 January 2021, flights from Brazil, Denmark, South Africa United Kingdom, Denmark and South Africa are suspended.
    - All incoming travellers from third countries who have visited the Brazil, Denmark, South Africa or the United Kingdom in the last 10 days must present a negative result of a COVID-19 PCR test taken within 72 hours before departure, and undergo 14-day government quarantine.
- Turkey has reopened most of its international air, land and sea borders, and international flights have resumed to and from many destinations.
- All travellers to Turkey are required to complete a passenger locator form prior to arrival.
- All arrivals into Turkey will be subject to a medical evaluation for symptoms of coronavirus, including temperature checks. Any passengers showing symptoms including high fever, coughing or respiratory difficulties will be required to undergo a PCR test.
- 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.
- All Turkish citizens and foreign residents (whose Foreign national's ID No starts with 97, 98 or 99) on domestic flights or departing the country on international flights must first obtain an HES (Hayat Eve Sigar) code.

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.

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.

TURKS AND CAICOS

Entry Restrictions

- All travelers to the Turks and Caicos, regardless of age, nationality or residence, are required to obtain pre-travel authorisation via the *TCI Assured portal*. Persons without authorization will not be permitted to board a flight to the Turks and Caicos. The portal will require travelers to submit the following information:
    - A negative COVID-19 PCR test result. The test must be taken within 5 days prior to travel to the TCI. Children under the age of 10 are excluded from this requirement.

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    - Insurance which covers COVID-19 medical costs and full hospitalization, doctors' visits, prescriptions and air ambulance.
    - A completed online health screening questionnaire.
- On arrival, Temperature checks and screening will be conducted. Travelers may be subject to COVID-19 testing upon arrival in spot checks.

UGANDA

Entry Restrictions

- International flights have resumed. Land borders have also reopened.
- Arriving passengers are required to present a certificate of a negative COVID-19 PCR test result obtained in the previous 72 hours at an approved laboratory. Children under 3 are exempt if their accompanying parents have a negative test certificate.
- On arrival travellers are subject to health screening and may be required to undergo further testing and isolation.

UKRAINE

Entry Restrictions

- 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.
- The latest list of red zone and green zone countries is available here.
- All arrivals from "red-zone" countries must install the Dii Vdoma app and 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 (in the latter case, installation of the Dii Vdoma app is not required).
- 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, testing or installing the Dii Vdoma app. 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.
- Visa issuance has resumed.

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

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- 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

- Entry permit applications for individuals outside the UAE, including applications for new employment visas and visit visas (long-term, short-term and tourist) are suspended until further notice for nationals of the following countries:
    - *Afghanistan, Algeria, Iran, Iraq, Kenya, Lebanon, Libya, Pakistan, Somalia, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey and Yemen.*
    - Applicants of these nationalities who are already in UAE are not affected. Their employer or visa sponsor can continue to apply for permits in-country, subject to General Directorate of Residency and Foreigners Affairs (GDRFA) approval.
- TECOM free zone authorities have announced that the General Directorate of Residency and Foreigners Affairs (GDRFA) has temporarily stopped accepting new work and residence permit applications for applicants below the age of 50 who are currently outside the UAE.
    - It is expected that the same will be implemented soon in other free zones.
    - An alternative solution is to travel to the UAE on a visit visa and apply for the new work and residence permit application in country.
- The UAE has resumed issuance of employment visas and entry permits for vital sectors. Employers must receive arrivals and quarantine them for 14 days.
- The Federal Authority for Identity and Citizenship has resumed the issuance of entry permits (tourist/business/visitor visas) for all emirates.
- All inbound travellers must hold negative COVID-19 PCR test results, issued at most 96 hours before departure.
- Inbound travellers may also be required to undergo a COVID-19 test on arrival and undergo a 14-day self-quarantine, depending on the emirate/airport/airline.
- UAE residents no longer require an ICA travel permit to return to the UAE.
- ***Effective 31 January for travellers to Dubai***:
    - UAE residents, GCC citizens, and visitors are required to present a negative result of a PCR test taken within 72 hours of travel.
    - Arrivals from certain countries are also subject to a PCR test on arrival. These passengers mus t self-isolate until obtaining a negative test result.
    - Emirati citizens entering Dubai from overseas no longer require a pre-travel PCR test result – instead they are only required to take a PCR test on arrival in Dubai.
- ***Effective 12 February, Dubai residents no longer need to obtain GDFRA approval to return to Dubai as previously required. The only requirement for Dubai residents returning to the city from abroad is a negative COVID-19 PCR test certificate taken no more than 72 hours prior to departure.***
- Tourists entering Dubai may need a ***visa on arrival or a prearranged visit visa***.

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    - Visitors flying into Dubai from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Nepal and Pakistan must hold a valid round-trip ticket and a minimum of AED 2000.
- All travellers entering Dubai must 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 also register their details on the COVID-19 DXB app.
- The following entry rules apply to passengers entering ***Dubai*** from *Algeria, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Belgium, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kirgizstan, Kuwait, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Malaysia, Maldives Islands, Mauritius, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Poland, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Seychelles, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States (New York, Washington DC, Boston, Chicago, Seattle):*
    - ***UAE residents*** have the option to present a negative COVID-19 PCR test certificate that is valid for 96 hours from the date of the test before departure or take the COVID-19 PCR test on arrival in Dubai.
    - ***Tourists*** must present a negative COVID-19 PCR test certificate that is valid for 96 hours from the date of the test before departure.
    - ***Transit passengers*** from these countries are not required to present a COVID-19 PCR test certificate unless it is mandated by their final destination.
- The following entry rules apply to passengers entering ***Dubai*** from *Afghanistan, Angola, Argentina, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Chile, Cote d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Georgia, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Hungary, India, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kenya, Lebanon, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Romania, Russia, Rwanda, Senegal, Slovakia, Somaliland, South Sudan, Sudan, Syria, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United States (California, Florida, Texas), Uzbekistan, Vietnam, Zambia, Zimbabwe*:
    - ***UAE residents*** must take two COVID-19 PCR tests: one before departure with a validity of 96 hours from the date of the test, and a second test upon arrival in Dubai.
    - ***Tourists*** must take two COVID-19 PCR tests: one before departure with a validity of 96 hours from the date of the test, and a second test upon arrival in Dubai.
    - ***Transit passengers*** from these countries must have a negative COVID-19 PCR test certificate that is valid for 96 hours from the date of test, as well as any requirements for their final destination.
    - Arrivals will be obliged to abide by the 14-day quarantine in case they test positive for COVID-19.
- Visit and tourist visa holders from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Nepal and Pakistan must hold a valid round trip ticket for the entry in Dubai. Proof of a hotel booking and sufficient funds is also recommended.
- Quarantine-free entry to ***Abu Dhabi*** is permitted for travellers from '***green-list'*** countries and regions (updated 22 February 2021): *Australia*, ~~***Bahrain***~~, ***Bhutan***, *Brunei, China,* ~~***Falklands,***~~ *Greenland, Hong Kong,* ~~***Maldives***~~*, Mauritius,* ~~***Mongolia***~~*, New Zealand,* ~~***Oman, Qatar***~~*,* ~~***Saudi Arabia***~~*, Singapore,* ~~***St. Kitts and Nevis, Thailand***~~*.*
    - Travellers from green countries must present a valid negative result from a PCR test taken ***within 96 hours*** prior to departure.

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    - On entry, they will need to take a second test and self-isolate until the results of this test are received. With two negative results, international travellers will not need to quarantine for 10 days.
    - All travellers are required to take a PCR test on day 6 (for those staying 6 days or more) and on day 12 (for those staying 12 days or more).
- Travellers to ***Abu Dhabi*** from ***non-'green-list'*** countries are required to present a negative result from a PCR test carried out within 48, 72 or 96 hours before departure, depending on the country of departure.
    - They must take a second test on arrival and register under the quarantine system for a 10-day quarantine . The will be provided with an electronic wristband which must be worn throughout the 10-day quarantine period.
    - All travellers are required to take a PCR test on day 6 (for those staying 6 days or more) and on day 12 (for those staying 12 days or more).
- 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.
- The UAE has reopened its land border with Oman.

Immigration Restrictions

- Residence visa applicants who require an in-country medical check and biometrics submission must first obtain the medical results (4 hours to 5 days depending on the fee paid at the medical centre) and then submit their biometric details (appointment required). Previously, it was possible to submit biometrics on the same day as undergoing the medical check.
- 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 is required for all dependent visa applications.

Immigration Concessions

- UAE resident visa holders who have been outside the UAE for more than 180 days will be permitted to enter the UAE until 31 March 2021 with approval from the GDRFA.

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- Individuals in UAE holding residence or tourist/visitor visas that expired before 1 March now have until 31 December 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.
- 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.

UNITED KINGDOM

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 15 February, all individuals travelling to the UK from a country on the Travel Ban List are required to quarantine in a government-approved facility for at least 10 days.
    - Travellers will be required to book and pay in advance for their hotel room and for two COVID-19 tests to take during the stay.
- Outbound passengers will have to declare their reason for travel. Anyone who does not have a valid reason for travel will be directed to return home and may face a fine.
    - There will be an increased police presence at ports and airports, fining those in breach of the stay at home regulations.
    - The list of travel exemptions will be urgently reviewed to include only the most important and exceptional reasons for travel.
- ***Entry is suspended*** for passengers who have visited, in the previous 10 days, countries on the banned travel list ("red list"): ***Angola, Argentina, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Burundi, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, DR Congo, Ecuador, Eswatini, French Guiana, Guyana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal (including the Azores and Madeira), Seychelles, South Africa, Suriname, Tanzania, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Venezuela, Zambia, Zimbabwe***.
    - This does not apply to British or Irish nationals, longer-term visa holders and permanent residents, who can enter but are required to self-isolate for 10 days on arrival.
    - The Test to Release scheme cannot be used for arrivals from these countries.
    - Hauliers who have been in or transited through Portugal (only) in the last 10 days will be exempt to allow transport of essential goods
    - Direct flights to the UK are suspended from Argentina, Brazil, Cape Verde and Portugal.
- Effective 18 January 2021:
    - All travel corridors are suspended. All arrivals are required to self-isolate for ten days.

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- All international arrivals aged 11 years and above, including UK nationals, are required to present, prior to boarding, a negative COID-19 test taken up to 72 hours prior to departure.
    - Passengers are subject to an immediate fine of £500 if they fail to comply.
    - An individual can choose to take a test:
        - in the place where they start their journey
        - or in another country on their way to England but note that some countries have entry restrictions in place, which mean they may not be able to get tested there
    - The test must meet performance standards of ≥97% specificity, ≥80% sensitivity at viral loads above 100,000 copies/ml. This could include tests such as:
        - a nucleic acid test, including a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test or derivative technologies, including loop-mediated isothermal amplification (LAMP) tests
        - an antigen test, such as a test from a lateral flow device
        - If in the UK, ahead of a return journey of less than 3 days, a private test provider NOT NHS Test and Trace test
    - The test result must be in either English, French or Spanish. Translations will not be accepted. It must be the original test result certificate. It must include the following information:
        - applicants name, which should match the name on the travel documents
        - applicants date of birth or age
        - the result of the test
        - the date the test sample was collected or received by the test provider
        - the name of the test provider and their contact details
        - the name of the test device
    - The test result can be provided as a physical, printed document, or via email or text message, shown via phone.
- Passengers are still required to fill in a passenger locator form and be subject to national lockdown restrictions.
- The Test to Release scheme remains in place, giving passengers the option to shorten the mandatory self-isolation period to as little as 5 days.
- A breach of self-isolation is 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.
- Some jobs qualify for *travel exemptions*. However, the following jobs no longer qualify:
    - advertising productions
    - business directors bringing jobs and investment to the UK
    - journalists
    - National Lottery
    - performing arts professionals
    - television production
    - high-end television production and film
    - ornamental horticulture workers.

- Many UK visa application centres abroad have resumed operations.

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Immigration Restrictions

- For applications for a visitor visa, visit in transit or direct airside transit (DAT) visa from a country where travel to the UK is suspended decisions may be delayed. If your visa application is successful, you will receive your visa when suspension of travel is lifted.
- Those who applied for a visitor visa, visit in transit or direct airside transit (DAT) visa from a location where travel to the UK is suspended, but need to travel urgently for compassionate reasons, can contact the Coronavirus Immigration Help Centre (CIH) for guidance: CIH@homeoffice.gov.uk, using the heading 'Visitor Visa – Urgent Travel Request' in your email. Your email must be in English and you should provide your name, date of birth and full details of your circumstances.
- Applications for visas for work, study or residence in the UK continue to be accepted from all locations but applicants must comply with UK border measures.
- Most Visa Application Centres (VACs) have resumed services where local restrictions allow.
- Priority and Super Priority services are only available in some locations. If available, applicants can purchase these services when booking an appointment.
- Applications for a visit visa can be submitted from any UK VAC. Applications for all other UK visas must be submitted from the applicant's country of residence.
- Until 31 March 2021, if the VAC is closed due to coronavirus restrictions, *applications can be submitted online and a VAC in another country worldwide selected* to submit the application and biometrics.
- English language tests are available in most countries but may be temporarily suspended in some countries due to coronavirus restrictions. Click here for *a list of all approved test centres outside the UK*.
- Most UK Visa and Citizenship Application Centres (UKVCAS) have reopened for existing customers (check here). Applicants will receive an invitation email after submitting their application.
- Service and Support Centres (SSCs) are offering a reduced number of appointments because of coronavirus. As more appointments are made available UKVI will invite applicants to arrange an appointment by email or post.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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

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from the Home Office. Applicants should not apply by post if they'll need their documents back by a specific date.

Immigration Concessions

- Visa applicants from a country where travel to the UK is suspended but who need to travel urgently for compassionate reasons must still apply for a visa in the usual way, including submitting biometrics and should explain clearly the compelling or compassionate reasons on the application form and alert the VAC staff during biometric submission. If the request is exceptionally urgent they can contact the Coronavirus Immigration Help Centre (CIH) by email.
- The concessions permitting applicants to apply for a visit visa from any UK VAC has been extended to 31 March 2021. All other visa applications should be submitted in the country of residence.
- 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 lasts 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.

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- 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

- Those who have remained outside the UK for over 2 years and whose indefinite leave to remain has lapsed since 24 January 2020 due to COVID-19 travel restrictions may apply under the Returning Resident visa route. They will need to pay the fee and will receive a refund of the fee.
- Those who have already obtained a Returning Resident visa because their ILR/ILE lapsed on or after 24 January 2020 and they were unable to return to the UK due to COVID-19 travel restrictions may be eligible for a refund of their visa fee.
- For those applying to enter the UK or remain on the basis of family or private life and who are unable to travel back to the UK due to coronavirus travel restrictions and whose leave has expires before 31 May 2021, a short beak in continuous residence will be overlooked.
- Foreign nationals who left the UK with valid leave before 17 March 2020 and intended to return to the UK and make an application for Indefinite or Further Permission to Stay, but were unable to do so before their leave expired because of

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travel restrictions related to coronavirus (COVID-19), please *complete the online form*.
    - This concession will be available until 31 March 2021.
- 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 who have a visa which expires between 1 March 2020 and 31 March 2021 and intend to leave the UK but have not been able to do so may request additional time to stay (known as "exceptional assurance").
    - The online form is currently experiencing technical difficulties, therefore requests for an exceptional assurance should be submitted by email.
    - 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 October 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.
- Healthcare workers with visas due to expire between 1 October 2020 and 31 March 2021 may be eligible for a free one-year visa extension.
    - The extension will apply form the date the visa is due to expire.
    - The extension is not automatic – a visa extension application will have to be submitted in the usual way.
    - If eligible, their dependents (partner and children under 18) could also get their visas extended for a year.
    - Eligible healthcare workers and their dependents will not have to pay the Immigration Health Surcharge.
    - If their visa expires after 31 March 2021, they are not eligible for a free visa extension.
- 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.

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UNITED STATES

Entry Restrictions

- Effective 30 January 2021, entry is suspended for foreign nationals who in the previous 14 days have been in ***South Africa***.
    - 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.
    - This does not apply to persons aboard a flight scheduled to arrive in the United States that departed prior to 12:01 a.m. eastern standard time on 30 January 2021.
- Effective 26 January 2021, entry is suspended for foreign nationals who in the previous 14 days have been in the ***Schengen*** area, the ***United Kingdom*** (excluding overseas territories outside of Europe), ***Ireland***, and ***Brazil***.
    - 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.
    - This does not apply to persons aboard a flight scheduled to arrive in the United States that departed prior to 12:01 a.m. eastern standard time on 26 January 2021.
    - Previous restrictions implemented by the Trump Administration remain in place for both China (Proclamation 9984) and Iran (Proclamation 9992).
- **More details of the CDC recommendations for post arrival self-isolation have been published (see below)**.
- Effective 26 January 2021, all passengers, including US citizens and permanent residents, arriving by air ***must present***, before boarding, ***written proof of a negative COVID-19 test taken no more than 3 days before travel***.
    - Alternatively, travellers can present written proof of recovery from COVID-19 after a prior positive test result.
    - Air passengers will also be required to confirm that the information they present is true in the form of an ***attestation***
    - Travellers are also ***advised to get tested 3-5 days after travel*** and ***self-quarantine for 7 days after travel***:
        - Travellers who test negative are advised to stay home and self-quarantine for the full 7 days.
        - If the result is positive, travellers are advised to isolate themselves to protect others from getting infected.
    - Travellers who don't get tested 3-5 days after arrival, are advised to stay at home and self-quarantine for 10 days after travel.
- All travellers arriving from the United Kingdom, including US citizens and permanent residents, must present before boarding a negative result of a COVID-19 test conducted no more than 72 hours prior to travel, as well as an attestation confirming the negative result.
- The US, Mexico, and Canada have agreed to extend restrictions on non-essential travel across their shared borders until at least 21 March 2021.
- The Department of State (DOS) has issued new *guidance* clarifying its interpretation of the national interest exceptions for H-1B and L-1 entry
- ***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.

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- The suspension of entry for ***first-time immigrant visa applicants***, and foreign workers seeking to enter the US pursuant to ***certain nonimmigrant visa categories***, who did not already hold a valid visa as of 24 June 2020, is extended until 31 March 2021 by presidential proclamation.
    - These categories 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.
    - 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.
- Entry is suspended for certain nationals of **China** 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

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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.

- 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 citizens who have been in the Hubei province of **China** 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.

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- 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).
- I-9 Employment Eligibility Verification concessions:
  - The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has extended until 31 March 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 interview waiver has also been expanded to individuals applying holding a visa that expired in the last 24 months (rather than 12 months as previously).
    - 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

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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.

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- 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 1 February 2021, entry is permitted for Uruguayan citizens and resident foreign nationals.
- Entry may be permitted for non-resident foreign nationals for humanitarian, economic or business reasons upon obtainment of the corresponding entry permit from the relevant ministry or from the National Migration Directorate.
- All travelers must hold COVID-19 health insurance.
- All travellers 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.
- Travellers staying more than 7 days are subject to a mandatory 7-day isolation and either a negative test taken on the 7th day or another 7 days of isolation.
- 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.

UZBEKISTAN

Entry Restrictions

- Uzbekistani citizens and permanent residents are permitted to enter and exit the country.
- Effective until 1 March 2021, air traffic is suspended with Austria, Australia, Denmark, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, South Africa and the United Kingdom.
- Travellers arriving from other countries must present a negative COVID-19 test result issued no more than 72 hours prior to travel, and are subject to rapid testing and thermometry testing on arrival. For those testing negative on arrival, no quarantine is required.

VENEZUELA

Entry Restrictions

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- Effective 14 December, all commercial international flights are suspended other than those between Venezuela and Bolivia, Mexico and Turkey.
- All travellers arriving in Venezuela must present a negative result of a COVID-19 test taken up to 48 hours prior to arrival and may be subject to additional testing on arrival and quarantine.

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 1 February:
    - The quarantine period for managers, specialists and experts currently completing their quarantine at government-designated hotels is now 21 days.
    - HCMC and Binh Duong authorities have suspended entry approvals until further notice. It is very likely that very few travellers will be granted approval to enter Vietnam until after the lunar New Year.
- Effective 1 December, all inbound commercial flights have been suspended, except for repatriation flights.
- International flights are ***permitted*** between Vietnam and Guangzhou (China), Taipei (Taiwan), Seoul (South Korea), Tokyo (Japan), 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 3 to 5 days 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 the sixth day after arrival is negative, the remainder of the 14-day government quarantine period may be replaced with self-quarantine. 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.
- Companies and organisations can seek special entry approval 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.

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    - The application must include a quarantine plan, registered with IHQC.
- In HCMC:
    - Quarantine in HCMC will only be approved for those incoming foreign workers whose sponsoring entity is located in HCMC.
        - Foreign workers sponsored by entities in Tay Ninh, Binh Duong, Binh Phuoc, Vung Tau, Dong Nai, Long An, and Tien Giang need to obtain approval from the HCMC CDC (Center for Disease Control) in parallel with approval from IHQC (International Health Quarantine Center) to allow them, upon arrival in HCMC, to be transported and quarantined in another province.
        - For those provinces that are more remote than those in the above list, or that may not have proper quarantine facilities located within the province, the authorities will consider the option for the incoming traveler to stay in HCMC quarantine, with additional approvals from the People's Committee in HCMC and HCMC CDC.
        - Note that for those incoming travelers who already have their quarantine stay approval in HCMC (even if their sponsoring entity is in another province) there are no required changes to their current plan or additional steps necessary.
    - 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.
- Special arrangements are available for ***short-term business travellers*** entering Vietnam for less than 14 days, avoiding the normal 14-day quarantine and allowing them (with strict supervision), to perform specific meetings and tasks outside of their quarantine hotel.
    - Arriving travellers must present a negative PCR test result issued 3 to 5 days prior to travel.
    - The sponsoring entity must prepare a plan for entry, transportation, accommodation, meeting place(s), workplace(s), travel schedule, number of attendees and safety during the work activity and obtain approval from the health authorities.
    - 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.
    - One designated driver and vehicle must be used, and medical staff must be on hand to supervise the work activities.
- 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.

Immigration Restrictions

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- 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

- The automatic stay extension has been extended until 31 March 2021, for foreign nationals who entered Vietnam with a visa exemption certificate, e-visa, or tourist visa on or after 1 March 2020.
    - Individuals in this qualifying group may exit Vietnam during this period without having to apply for an extension of stay.
    - During “automatic stay extension” period, foreign nationals are required to complete temporary residence and health status declaration
- Foreign nationals who entered Vietnam before 1 March 2020 may also be granted permission to stay until 31 March 2021, subject to proof that the person was stranded in Vietnam due to Covid-19, and a diplomatic note from the relevant diplomatic mission or a written document from relevant Vietnamese authorities confirming that the person was required to undergo mandatory quarantine or treatment for Covid-19, or advice of other force majeure.

ZAMBIA

Entry Restrictions

- Tourist and business visit visas are available in advance and on arrival.
- All visitors are required to present a negative COVID-19 PCR test result issued no more than 14 days prior to travel.
- Returning citizens and residents may be asked for proof of a negative COVID-19 test within the previous 14 days.
- Returning citizens and residents (not visitors) are subject to a 14-day home quarantine.

Exit Restrictions

- All travellers departing Zambia must obtain a certificate for 200 kwacha from the UTH Hospital, the Zambia National Public Health Institute, the District Health Office or the Public Health Office stating they have tested negatively for COVID-19 in the previous 14 days.

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ZIMBABWE

Entry Restrictions

- International flights have resumed and entry is permitted for foreign national tourists and residents as well as Zimbabwean citizens.
- All arriving travellers must present a negative COVID-19 PCR test result issued no more than 48 hours prior to travel.
    - Those who arrive without a qualifying negative result will be held and tested at their own expense.
- All arriving travellers are subject to a 14-day quarantine at approved facilities at their own expense.

Exit Restrictions

- All departing travellers are required to present a negative COVID-19 PCR test certificate issued within 72 hours of travelling.

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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

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