

August 28, 2020
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan

Important Notice on Visa Restrictions and Entry Ban
for Strengthening Border Security Measures
to Prevent the Spread of Novel Coronavirus

On 28 August 2020, the Government of Japan decided to further strengthen the border security measures against the spread of Novel Coronavirus infections by introducing measures as follows;

1. Designation of areas subject to the entry ban

The following 13 countries have been newly added to the list below pursuant to the aforementioned decision. Foreign nationals who have stayed in these countries and regions within 14 days prior to the application for landing will be denied permission to enter Japan in principle. This measure is effective from 00:00am (JST) on August 30.

Belize, Bhutan, Ethiopia, Gambia, Lesotho, Malawi, Nigeria, Rwanda, South Sudan, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Asia:

Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei, China, India, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, Viet Nam

Oceania:

Australia, New Zealand

North America:

Canada, United States of America

Latin America and the Caribbean:

Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Christopher and Nevis, Saint. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, Venezuela

Europe:

Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kosovo, Kyrgyz, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Ukraine, United Kingdom, Uzbekistan, Vatican

Middle East:

Afghanistan, Bahrain, Israel, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates

Africa:

Algeria, Botswana, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Central Africa, Comoros, Cote d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Namibia, Nigeria, Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Tunisia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

【Notes】

(1) Transit

Foreign nationals from the countries/regions where the entry bans do not apply are able to enter Japan without the “Letter of Confirmation of Submitting Required Documentation for Re-entry into Japan” and negative COVID 19 test result even when they arrive in Japan via the countries/regions which are subject to denial of permission to entry without entering these transit countries/regions if they can present the proof of the nature of such stopover such as boarding pass.

(2) Special Exceptional Circumstances (New entry cases)

Foreign nationals who are acknowledged to have special exceptional circumstances by Japanese authorities may enter Japan even if they have stayed in the aforementioned countries and regions within 14 days prior to the application for landing into Japan. Those foreign nationals are supposed to have a visa issued by Japanese overseas establishments with the date of issue later than the day when the country or region where they are currently staying was designated as an area subject to denial of permission to enter Japan.

(3) Ongoing Phased Measures toward Resuming Cross-Border Travel for nationals of Thailand and Viet Nam

Nationals of Thailand and Viet Nam, who reside in their own countries and travel to Japan via direct flight from the respective countries need to have either a new visa (with “EX” in Remarks column) or the “Letter of Confirmation of Submitting Required Documentation for Re-entry into Japan” issued by Japanese overseas establishments in respective countries.

(4) Foreign nationals with status of residence (Re- entry cases)

The details of new measures for the re-entry of foreign nationals with status of residence will be notified later.

2. Already-implemented measures on suspension of visa validity and suspension of visa exemption measures below will remain in place until further notice.

(1) Suspension of visa validity

(a) Single and multiple-entry visas issued by March 8th, 2020 by Japanese Embassies or Consulates General in China (including Hong Kong and Macau) and the Republic of Korea

(b) Single and multiple-entry visas issued by March 20th, 2020 by Japanese Embassies and Consulates General in or accredited to the following countries;

Europe

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

Middle East

Iran

Africa

Egypt

(c) Single and multiple-entry visas issued by March 27th, 2020 by Japanese Embassies and Consulates General in the following countries;

Asia

Brunei, Indonesia (note), Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Viet Nam

Note: including seal of “visa wavier registration certificate”

Middle East

Bahrain, Israel, Qatar

Africa

Democratic Republic of the Congo

(d) Single and multiple-entry visas issued by April 2nd, 2020, by Japanese Embassies and Consulates General located in or accredited to the following countries and regions;

Asia

Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, India, Laos, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste

Oceania

Cook, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall, Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu

Latin America and the Caribbean

Antigua and Barbuda, Argentine, 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 and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, Venezuela

Europe

Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan

Middle East

Afghanistan, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Syria, United Arab Emirates (note), Yemen

Note: including seal of “visa wavier registration certificate”

Africa

Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cabo Verde, Central Africa, 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

(2) Suspension of visa exemption measures

As visa exemption measures with the countries and regions listed below are temporarily suspended, those who fall under the measures are required to obtain visas before visiting Japan. **The measures will be in place until further notice.**

(a) Visa exemption measures agreed with Japan and the following countries and regions;

Asia

Bangladesh, Brunei, Cambodia, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Laos, Macau, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam

Oceania

Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon

Latin America and the Caribbean

Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay

Europe

Andorra, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, the United Kingdom, Uzbekistan, Vatican

Middle East

Israel, Iran, Oman, Qatar, United Arab Emirates

Africa

Lesotho, Tunisia

(b) The effect of Pre-Clearances (i.e. visa exemptions) granted by the Japanese Government to APEC Business Travel Card (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

We would appreciate it very much if your team could notify all related airlines that they should inform all concerned passengers of those measures in order for them to avoid arriving in Japan without proper documents.

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