

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

On 14 May 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;

The following 13 countries have newly been added to 1. below based on the decision made on May 14. Foreigners who have stayed in these countries within 14 days prior to the application for landing will be denied landing into Japan. The measure is effective from 00:00am (JST) on May 16.

Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Cabo Verde, Colombia, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Kazakhstan, Mexico, Maldives, Sao Tome and Principe, Uruguay

1. Designation of areas subject to the entry ban

Foreigners who have stayed in any of the following countries/regions/cities/provinces within 14 days prior to the application for landing:

Note that foreigners (including those from the countries and regions where the entry bans do not apply) who will arrive in Japan with a flight via any of those 100 countries and regions which are subject to denial of permission to entry, with a purpose of refueling or transit, will be denied to enter Japan in principle. This will apply regardless of whether they have entered those countries or regions or not. Foreigners from the countries and regions, where visa restrictions (suspension of visa validity or suspension of visa exemption measures) do not apply, will also be subject to entry bans if transiting through the 100 countries or regions.

Asia:

Brunei, China, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Maldives, 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, Bahamas, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Saint Christopher and Nevis, Uruguay

Europe:

Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria,

Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kosovo, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, United Kingdom, Vatican

Middle East:

Bahrain, Israel, Iran, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates

Africa:

Cabo Verde, Cote d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Guinea-Bissau, Mauritius, Morocco, Sao Tome and Principe

Note: In case the foreigners with the status of residence of "Permanent Resident", "Spouse or Child of Japanese National", "Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident" or "Long Term Resident" (note: "Long Term Resident" is a legal term for the status of residence. It should not be confused with other status of residence with long term stay permission.), are re-entering Japan, whether they will be treated as persons in special circumstances or not will depend on the day they have departed Japan with Re-entry Permission as well as the countries or regions they have visited. In principle, those who are treated as persons in special circumstances could enter Japan, even if they are from the countries or regions subject to entry bans.

1. Foreigners with the aforementioned status of residence who have departed Japan with Re-entry Permission by April 2, 2020, are treated in principle as persons in special circumstances.

2. Foreigners with the aforementioned status of residence who had departed Japan with Re-entry Permission between April 3 and April 28, 2020, and then have stayed only in the following 14 countries added to the entry-ban measures on April 29, as well as in the 13 countries newly added to the entry-ban measures on May 14, are treated in principle as persons in special circumstances.

(14 countries added to the entry-ban measures on April 29)

United Arab Emirates, Antigua and Barbuda, Ukraine, Oman, Qatar, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Djibouti, Saint Christopher and Nevis, Dominican Republic, Barbados, Belarus, Peru, Russia

(13 countries newly added to the entry-ban measures on May 14)

Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Cape Cabo Verde, Colombia, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Kazakhstan, Mexico, Maldives, Sao Tome and Principe, Uruguay

Please note that foreigners who had left Japan during the said period, with a re-entry permission, who have also visited the remaining 73 countries and regions on top of the aforementioned countries are in principle subject to entry bans.

3. Foreigners with the aforementioned status of residence who had departed from Japan with Re-entry Permission between April 29 and May 15, 2020, and then have stayed only in the aforementioned 13 countries newly added to the entry-ban measures on May 14, are treated in principle as persons in special circumstances.

Please note that foreigners who had left Japan during the said period with a re-entry permission, and then have also visited the remaining 87 countries and regions on top of the 13 countries newly added to the entry-ban measures on May 14 are in principle subject to entry bans.

Foreigners with the aforementioned status of residence who had departed Japan with Re-entry Permission on or after May 16 in principle will NOT be treated as persons in special circumstances and be subject to entry-bans.

2. Already-implemented measures on suspension of visa validity and suspension of visa exemption measures will remain as follows;

(1) Suspension of visa validity

Already-implemented visa restrictions such as the temporary suspension of validity of single entry visa and multiple entry visa, including diplomatic and official entry visa of Japan, issued by Embassies, Consulates-General or Consular Offices of Japan, which have been notified on March 19 and 26, April 1 and 27 respectively, will remain in force until the last day of May, 2020. The period can be renewed.

The details are as follows;

(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 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, 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, Vietnam

Note: including seal of "visa waiver 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, 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 waiver registration certificate"

Africa:

Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cabo 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

(2) Suspension of visa exemption measures

The temporary suspension of application of visa exemption arrangements for the countries and regions listed below will also remain in force until the last day of May, 2020. Those who fall under the measures are required to obtain visas before visiting Japan. The period can be renewed.

(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:

Argentine, 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, 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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