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## Consular Services

### Border enforcement measures to prevent the spread of novel coronavirus (COVID-19)

July 16, 2021

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#### 1. Denial of permission to entry

For the time being, foreign nationals who have stayed in any of the following 159 countries/regions within 14 days prior to the application for landing are denied to enter Japan in pursuant to the Article 5, paragraph (1), item (xiv) of Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act, unless special exceptional circumstances are found. Note that foreigners (from the countries and regions where the entry bans do not apply) are not denied to enter Japan even when they arrive in Japan via those countries or regions, which are subject to denial of permission to entry, for refueling or transit purpose. Those who entered those countries or regions will, however, be subject to the entry ban.

Please see [this page](#)  for further information about the denial of landing to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

**Countries/Regions subject to denial of permission to enter Japan:****Asia**

Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste

**North America**

Canada, United States of America

**Latin America and the Caribbean**

Argentine, Antigua and Barbuda, 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, Saint Lucia, 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, Jordan, 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, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Tunisia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

**2. Denial of the re-entry from certain countries/regions designated in response to coronavirus variants of special concern on border measures(New)**

The re-entry into Japan of foreign nationals with status of residence who have stayed in certain countries/regions designated in response to coronavirus variants of special concern on border measures within 14 days prior to the application for landing will be denied for the time being unless there are special exceptional circumstances.

#### **Countries/ regions subject to the denial of the re-entry.**

On June 28, 2021, the following countries are designated (The above mentioned quarantine measures already commenced.);

**Afghanistan, India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Maldives**

(Note 1) subject countries and regions of the measures will be designated and confirmed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare. The designation is duly announced.

(Note 2) Foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Permanent Resident”, “Spouse or Child of a Japanese National”, “Spouse or Child of a Permanent Resident” or “Long Term Resident”, who have departed Japan with Re-entry Permission by the next day of the designation mentioned in (Note1) above with intent to re-entry into Japan from those countries/regions mentioned in (Note 1) above, are treated as persons in special exceptional circumstances. Foreign nationals with the status “Special Permanent Resident” are not within the scope of this entry ban.

(In the event of re-entry from India, Nepal and Pakistan, foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Permanent Resident”, “Spouse or Child of a Japanese National”, “Spouse or Child of a Permanent Resident” or “Long Term Resident”, who have departed Japan with Re-entry Permission by 13 May, 2021, are treated, in principle, as persons with special exceptional circumstances. In the same way, in case of re-entry from Bangladesh and Maldives, who have departed Japan with Re-entry Permission by 19 May, 2021, re-entry from Sri Lanka, who have departed Japan with Re-entry Permission by 20 May, 2021, and re-entry from Afghanistan, who have departed Japan with Re-entry Permission by 2 June 2021 are treated, in principle, as persons with special exceptional circumstances)

(Note 3) The forgoing measures won't be applied to those who will depart those designated countries/regions mentioned in (Note 1) above (excluding Afghanistan, India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Maldives) after 0:00 am (JST) 2 days after the designation mentioned in (Note 1) above and arrive in Japan after this time.

According to the above measure, when foreign nationals, who departed from Japan with a re-entry permit before August 31, 2020 and who were not permitted to re-enter Japan because the validity period of the re-entry permission expired after the country/regions of stay was designated an area subject to denial of landing and, have already obtained a visa based on the newly issued Certificate of Eligibility (COE), they will be subject to denial of landing for the time being if they have stayed in those designated countries/regions mentioned in (Note 1) above within 14 days prior to the application for landing.

### **3. Quarantine measures (New)**

**The current quarantine measures are strengthened as followings. These measures are decided to remain in place until further notice. For travelers arriving from the countries/regions with community transmission of coronavirus variants of concern and countries/regions whose authorities have announced the confirmation of domestic infection of new variant of coronavirus, please check (2) as well as (1).**

### **(1) Enforced quarantine measures**

From March 19, 2021, all travelers including Japanese nationals have to submit a certificate of negative test result conducted within 72 hours prior to departing from the country/region where travelers stay when entering Japan. Those who do not submit a certificate of negative test result will be denied entry into Japan in accordance with the Quarantine Act. Airline companies will reject boarding those without one. Please consult with Embassies or Consulates or Consular Office of Japan in case it is truly difficult to obtain the certificate of negative test result.

From January 8, 2021, all those who enter, re-enter or return to Japan (including Japanese nationals) are also subject to conducting of COVID-19 test upon arrival no matter whether arriving from the countries/regions designated as an area subject to denial of permission to enter Japan or not until further notice. Then they are required to stay 14 days at a location designated by the quarantine station chief (own residence etc.) and to refrain from using public transportation.

From January 14, 2021 until further notice, all Japanese nationals and foreign nationals with the status of residence are also required to pledge to refrain from using public transportation for 14 days, and to be in quarantine at home or other designated areas for 14 days, retain the location data, and provide it to the health centers or other institutions, if requested. (If separate quarantine measures are to be taken, those also need to be pledged.) They are required to sign and submit the [Written Pledge \(PDF\)](#)   when entering Japan. In case of violation, they may be subject to detention under Quarantine Act and the following shall apply:

- (i) For Japanese nationals, names and other information that contribute to preventing the spread of infection may be made public.
- (ii) For foreign nationals with the status of residence, names, nationalities, and other information that contribute to preventing the spread of infection may be made public. They may also be subject to the revocation of status of residence and procedures for deportation under Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Law. 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.

### **(2) Reinforced quarantine measures for all the travelers who enter, re-enter or return to Japan from designated countries/regions in response to coronavirus variants of special concern on border measures.**

Taking those elements such as the inner city infections caused by coronavirus variants of special concern on

border measures in each country/region, the number of persons newly infected with coronavirus in each country/region, the recent positive ratio of the COVID-19 test during the quarantine inspection at the Japanese airports, among others into account, and judged from a comprehensive assessment of the risk of inflow of the mentioned coronavirus variants from each country/region, the following additional measures will be implemented to “designates countries/regions in response to coronavirus variants with special concern in terms of border measures” in accordance with the separate designation based on this measure.

(i) All cross-border travelers and returnees from some of the countries/regions which are separately listed among the designated countries/regions are requested, for the time being, **to stay for 10 days** at facilities designated by the Chief of the Quarantine Station (limited only to those facilities secured by the Quarantine Station). In addition, those who obtain negative results of **all COVID-19 tests conducted on the third, sixth and tenth days** from the entry into Japan, may leave the facilities, but are still required to stay for the remaining period of 14 days after the entry into Japan at a location designated by the Quarantine Station (own residence etc.)

(ii) All cross-border travelers and returnees from some of the countries/regions which are separately listed among the designated countries/regions, are requested, for the time being, **to stay for 6 days** at facilities designated by the Chief of the Quarantine Station (limited only to those facilities secured by the Quarantine Station). In addition, those who obtain negative results of **both COVID-19 tests conducted on the third and sixth days** from the entry into Japan, may leave from facilities secured by the Quarantine Station, but are still required to stay for the remaining period of 14 days after the entry into Japan at a location designated by the quarantine station chief (own residence etc.)

(iii) All cross-border travelers and returnees from some of the countries/regions which are separately listed among the designated countries/regions are requested, for the time being, **to stay for 3 days** at specific facilities designated by the chief of the quarantine station (limited to the accommodations facilities designated by the chief of the quarantine station). In addition, those who obtain negative result of **COVID-19 test conducted on the third day** from the entry into Japan, may leave the facility and are requested to self-quarantine at home during the remaining period of 14 days after entering Japan.

#### **Countries/ regions subject to the quarantine measures mentioned in (i) above.**

On June 28, 2021, the following countries are designated (The above-mentioned quarantine measures already commenced)

#### **Afghanistan, India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Pakistan, Maldives**

On July 6, 2021, the following countries are designated (The above-mentioned quarantine measures commence from 0:00 am (JST) on July 9, 2021. For those entering Japan who have stayed within 14 days in Indonesia, the quarantine measures for border enforcement as mentioned in (ii) above shall be applied until 0:00 am (JST) July 9, 2021. For those entering Japan who have stayed within 14 days in Kyrgyz, the quarantine measures for border enforcement as mentioned in (iii) above shall be applied until 0:00 am (JST) July 9, 2021.):

#### **Indonesia, Kyrgyz, Zambia**

#### **Countries/regions subject to the quarantine measures mentioned in (ii) above.**

On June 28, 2021, the following countries are designated (For those entering Japan who have stayed within 14 days in Uganda, the above-mentioned quarantine measures commence from 0:00 am (JST) on July 1, 2021. For those entering Japan who have stayed within 14 days in other countries mentioned below, the above-mentioned quarantine measures already commenced.):

**Uganda, The UK, Bangladesh, Malaysia**

On July 6, 2021, the following countries are designated (The above-mentioned quarantine measures commence from 0:00 am (JST) on July 9, 2021. For those entering Japan who have stayed within 14 days in the UAE, the quarantine measures for border enforcement as mentioned in (iii) above shall be applied until 0:00 am (JST) July 9, 2021.):

**The UAE**

On July 15, 2021, the following region is designated (The above-mentioned quarantine measures commence from 0:00 am (JST) on July 18, 2021. For those entering Japan who have stayed within 14 days in Moscow(Russia), the quarantine measures for border enforcement as mentioned in (iii) above shall be applied until 0:00 am (JST) July 18, 2021.):

**Moscow(Russia)**

**Countries/ regions subject to the quarantine measures mentioned in (iii) above.**

On June 28, 2021, the following countries are designated (For those entering Japan who have stayed within 14 days in Brazil, Moscow, Moscow Oblast and Saint Petersburg(Russia), the above-mentioned quarantine measures commence from 0:00 am (JST) on July 1, 2021. For those entering Japan who have stayed within 14 days in Vietnam, the quarantine measures for border enforcement as mentioned in (ii) above shall be applied until 0:00 am (JST) July 1, 2021. For those entering Japan who have stayed within 14 days in other countries mentioned below, the above-mentioned quarantine measures already commenced.):

**Ireland, Netherlands, Kazakhstan, Greece, Sweden, Spain, Thailand, Tunisia, Denmark, Philippines, Brazil, States of Idaho, Arkansas, Arizona, Oregon, Kentucky, Colorado, Nevada, Mississippi, Montana, Louisiana, Washington (United States of America), Peru, Belgium, Portugal, South Africa, Jordan, Moscow Oblast, Saint Petersburg(Russia)**

(All cross border travelers and returnees from Estonia, Nigeria, France, States of Kansas, Delaware, Maine (United States of America) arriving after 0:00 am (JST) on July 9, 2021, are not subject to the above mentioned quarantine measures , but until that time, the quarantine measures for border enforcement as mentioned in (iii) above shall be applied.)

(All cross border travelers and returnees from Vietnam and Latvia arriving after 0:00 am (JST) on July 18, 2021, are not subject to the above mentioned quarantine measures, but until that time, the quarantine measures for border enforcement as mentioned in (iii) above shall be applied.)

On July 6, 2021, the following countries are designated (The above-mentioned quarantine measures commence from 0:00 am (JST) on July 9, 2021. For those entering Japan who have stayed within 14 days in Egypt, the quarantine measures for border enforcement as mentioned in (ii) above shall be applied until 0:00 am (JST) July 9, 2021.):

**Argentine, Uruguay, Ecuador, Egypt, Cuba, Colombia, Suriname, Seychelles, Chile, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Paraguay, Fiji, States of New Mexico, Utah, Wyoming (United States of America),**

**Venezuela, Belarus, Bolivia, Libya, Republic of Karelia, Saratov Oblast, Nizhegorod Oblast (Russia)**

On July 15, 2021, the following countries/regions are designated (The above-mentioned quarantine measures commence from 0:00 am (JST) on July 18, 2021.):

**Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Namibia, Sakha Republic(Russia)****(3) Reinforced quarantine measures for all the travelers who enter, re-enter or return to Japan from designated countries/regions in response to coronavirus infection other than coronavirus variants of special concern on border measures.**

With regard to countries/regions other than countries/regions based on the designation mentioned in (2) above, taking those elements such as the number of persons newly infected with coronavirus in each country/region, the recent positive ratio of the COVID-19 test during the quarantine inspection at the Japanese airports among others into account, and judged from a comprehensive assessment of the risk of inflow of the coronavirus from each country/region, all cross-border travelers and returnees from countries/regions judged as having the risk of inflow of the coronavirus are requested, for the time being, to stay 3 days at facilities designated by the Chief of the Quarantine Station (limited only to those facilities secured by the Quarantine Station) as “designated countries/regions in response to coronavirus infection other than coronavirus variants with special concern in terms of border measures” according to the another designation based on this measure. In addition, those who obtain negative results of all COVID-19 tests conducted on the third day from the entry into Japan, may leave the facilities, but are still required to stay for the remaining period of 14 days after the entry into Japan at own residence etc.

**Countries/regions subject to the quarantine measures mentioned in (3) above.**

On June 28, 2021, the following countries/regions are designated (The above-mentioned quarantine measures already commenced.):

**State of Florida (United States of America)**

(All cross border travelers and returnees from Province of Ontario (Canada), State of Minnesota (United States of America) and Luxemburg arriving after 0:00 am (JST) on July 9, 2021, are not subject to the above mentioned quarantine measures, but until that time, these measures shall be applied.)

(All cross border travelers and returnees from Switzerland arriving after 0:00 am (JST) on July 18, 2021, are not subject to the above mentioned quarantine measures, but until that time, these measures shall be applied.)

(Note 1) Subject countries and regions of the measures will be designated and confirmed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare. The designation is duly announced.

(Note 2) The above-mentioned quarantine measures will be applied to those entering Japan who have stayed within 14 days in the designated countries and regions.

(Note 3) Based on the above, with regard to countries/regions designated on and after June 29, 2021, the

above-mentioned quarantine measures will be implemented from 0:00am (JST) of the three days after the day of designation.

## 4. Suspension of visa validity

### **Important notice of the validity of visas already issued under “Business Track” or “Residence Track” on January 13, 2021**

Validity of visas listed below are suspended for the time being

- (1) 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**
- (2) Single and multiple-entry visas issued by March 20th, 2020 by Japanese Embassies and Consulates General in 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

- (3) 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

### **(4) 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, 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 and 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 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

**(5) From 0:00 am (JST) on January 21, 2021 for the time being, the validity of visas already issued under “Business Track” or “Residence Track” and visas issued based on “New measures for border enforcement (4)” (referred in Note 2 of Article 1) will be suspended.**

## 5. 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. Australia, New Zealand and Taiwan have been newly added to the list (1) and (2) below. The measures will be in place for the time being.

### (1) 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, Taiwan, Thailand, Viet Nam

#### Oceania

Australia, Nauru, New Zealand, 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

**(2) 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.**

Australia, Brunei, China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Russia, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, Viet Nam

## **6. Restrictions on airport/ports for arrival**

The Government of Japan (GOJ) announced the following measures (1) and (2) on March 5, 2020, and (3) on April 1, 2020. These measures will be in place for the time being.

- (1) The Government of Japan restricts arrival airports for passenger flights from China or Republic of Korea to Narita International Airport and Kansai International Airport only and requests the airlines concerned to conform this restriction. Based on the announcement of the GOJ on September 25, 2020, the incremental relaxation of the limitation on the number of arrival airports for passenger aircraft being implemented for the time being will be considered in light of the conditions including testing capacities upon arrival of each airport. The relaxation will be implemented once such conditions are met at each airport.**
- (2) The Government of Japan suspends passenger transportation departing from China or Republic of Korea by vessels and requests related companies to conform this suspension.**
- (3) Requesting airlines concerned to curb the number of arrival passengers to Japan by such measures as reducing the number of passenger arrival flights in order to ensure the appropriate implementation of quarantine measures. In order to securing smooth return to Japan of Japanese citizens or overseas travelers wishing to return, a proper care, including providing information and sending advisories, will be taken.**
- (4) The measures will be in place for the time being**

## **7. Entry of foreign nationals with special exceptional circumstances**

**Currently, all foreign nationals who wish to newly enter Japan need to apply for a visa except for those with re-entry permit. Please note that due to the impact caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the visa approval procedure may take longer than usual. Your understanding and cooperation are greatly appreciated.**

Foreign nationals who are entitled to enter Japan as those with special exceptional circumstances are required to apply for an appropriate visa at Embassies or Consulates or Consular Office of Japan (for Taiwan, Taipei Kaohsiung offices of Japan-Taiwan Exchange Association)(hereinafter referred as “Japan’s overseas establishments”) in your country/region.

Please see [here \(PDF\)](#) to be informed of the detailed cases of special exceptional circumstances.

Please see [this page](#) for the information about the visa application.

Please note that [the certificate of negative test result \(PDF\)](#) of pre-departure COVID-19 test conducted within 72 hours prior to departing from the country/region where travelers stay is required for foreign nationals to enter Japan, with special exceptional circumstances, in addition to obtaining a valid visa.

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