

Consular Services

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

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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 the 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 among designated countries/regions in response to COVID-19 variants of special treatment on border measures (New)

The re-entry into Japan of foreign nationals with status of residence who have stayed in designated countries/regions in response to coronavirus variants of special treatment 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.

None

(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. With regard to countries/regions designated on and after September 18, 2021, the modification or removal of the designation related to the denial of landing in principle for the re-entry into Japan of foreign nationals with status of residence will be implemented from 0:00am (JST) two days after the publication.

(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, in principle, as persons in special exceptional circumstances. Foreign nationals with the status "Special Permanent Resident" are not within the scope of this entry ban.

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 COVID-19 variants of special treatment on border measures.

Taking such elements as knowledge of COVID-19 variants of special treatment on border measures, epidemic situation in each country/region, risk assessment of current situation of inflow of the COVID-19 to Japan, and efficacy of the vaccination among others into account, and judged from a comprehensive risk assessment of inflow of coronavirus from each country/region, the following additional measures will be implemented as designated countries/regions in response to COVID-19 variants of special treatment on border measures according to 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 places such as their own residence.

(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 places such as their own residence.

(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 a negative result of **COVID-19 test conducted on the third day** from the entry into Japan, may leave the facility and are still required to stay for the remaining period of 14 days after the entry of Japan at places such as their own residence.

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

None

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

On September 27, 2021, the following countries/regions are designated (For those entering Japan who have stayed within 14 days in these countries, the quarantine measures for border enforcement as mentioned in (iii) above shall be applied until 0:00 am (JST) September 30, 2021.):

Argentina, Costa Rica, Colombia, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, the Philippines, Brazil, Venezuela, Peru

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

On September 17, 2021, the following countries are designated.

Ecuador, Chile, the Dominican Republic

(All cross border travelers and returnees from Afghanistan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Spain, Nepal and Myanmar arriving after 0:00 am (JST) on September 30, 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.)

(3) Reinforced quarantine measures for all the travelers who enter, re-enter or return to Japan from designated countries/regions in response to COVID-19 infection other than coronavirus variants of special treatment on border measures.

With regard to countries/regions other than countries/regions based on the designation mentioned in (2) above, taking such elements as knowledge of COVID-19, epidemic situation in each country/region, risk assessment of current situation of inflow of COVID-19 to Japan, and efficacy of the vaccination 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 with high risk of inflow of COVID-19 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 COVID-19 variants of special treatment on border measures" according to the separate designation based on this measure. In addition, those who obtain a negative result of COVID-19 test 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 places such as own residence.

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

On September 17, 2021, the following countries/regions are designated (The above-mentioned quarantine measures already commenced from 0:00 am (JST) on September 20, 2021.):

Uzbekistan, Russia (Khabarovsk).

On September 27, 2021, the following countries/regions are designated (For those entering Japan who have stayed within 14 days in Albania and Guinea, the above-mentioned quarantine measures commence from 0:00 am (JST) on September 30, 2021. Other countries/regions are already listed as a countries/regions in response to COVID-19 variants of special treatment on border measures, which is subject to the same measures for border enforcement as mentioned in (iii) above.):

The United Arab Emirates, Albania, India, Indonesia, Uruguay, the United Kingdom, Kazakhstan, Guinea, Cuba, Greece, Zambia, Georgia, Sri Lanka, Seychelles, Tanzania, Denmark, Turkey, Pakistan, Paraguay, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia, Portugal, Malaysia, South Africa, Mozambique, Maldives, Libya, Russia (Moscow).

(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 September 18, 2021, the above-mentioned quarantine measures will be implemented from 0:00am (JST) of the three days after the day of designation.

Please see [this page for information about COVID-19 Vaccination Certificates Valid for Entry into Japan from Abroad](#)

Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare Website ([Shortening or exempting quarantine period for arrivals who have a valid vaccination certificate \(PDF\)](#)  , [Q&A about shortening quarantine period \(PDF\)](#)  )

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 waiver 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, 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 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 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.

Related Links

➔ [Application for Visa for foreign nationals eligible for Phased Measures toward Resuming Cross-Border Travel](#)

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Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan 2-2-1 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8919, Japan [▶▶ MAP](#) Phone: +81-(0)3-3580-3311
Japan Corporate Number(JCN): 9000012040001