



ADVISORY No. 39
Series of 2020

**Travel Advisory for OFWs bound for Japan
in light of the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)**

The Japanese government has included the Philippines in the list of countries subject to strengthened quarantine measures effective 12:00 AM, 28 March 2020.

Persons who have visited any of areas subject to strengthened quarantine or the epidemic areas designated by immigration restrictions under the Immigration Control Act within 14 days before arrival, are required to follow instructions below.

- Even without symptoms of illness, arriving travellers must stay at a place designated by the Chief of the Quarantine Station, such as your homes, for 14 days counting from the day after arrival, and DO NOT use public transportation for any purpose, including transport from airports, and the like.
- Arrangements should be made for accommodation and means of private transportation from the airport to the accommodation in Japan prior to travel. The use public transportation by arriving travelers is prohibited.
- Upon entry, a quarantine officer will register the traveler of the whereabouts for the 14-day period mentioned above and means of private transportation, at the quarantine station.

In addition, regardless of the date added as an area subject to strengthened quarantine, all persons who have visited any of the epidemic areas designated by immigration restrictions under the Immigration Control Act, are subjected to the PCR test and periodic health check by Public Health Centers.

Attached for reference is a FAQ provided by the Ministry of Health, Labor, and Welfare of Japan for additional information.

For the information and guidance of all concerned.



BERNARD P. OLALIA
Administrator

27 March 2020

Source:

" Q & A . " Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan, 26 Mar. 2020, www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/seisakunitsuite/bunya/kenkou_iryuu/covid19_qa_kanrenkigyuu_00003.html?fbclid=IwAR0P0BPvknhljdU4QBPYnt-NvTFgC5F5rux12bmGaHLCLCvjhJEY7y3doR0#Q2-1.

1. About Quarantine

Q1 What is required before and after entering Japan under the current epidemic prevention measures?

Persons who have visited any of areas subject to strengthened quarantine (※1) or the epidemic areas designated by immigration restrictions under the Immigration Control Act (※2) within 14 days before arrival, are required to follow instructions below.

- Even without symptoms of illness, be sure to stay at a place designated by the Chief of the Quarantine Station, such as your homes, for 14 days counting from the day after arrival, and DO NOT use public transportation for any purpose, including transport from airports, etc.
- Be sure to arrange an accommodation and means of private transportation from the airport to the accommodation in Japan. (DO NOT use public transportation.)
- Upon entry, a quarantine officer will register your whereabouts for the 14-day period mentioned above and means of private transportation, at the quarantine station.

In addition, regardless of the date added as an area subject to strengthened quarantine, all persons who have visited any of the epidemic areas designated by immigration restrictions under the Immigration Control Act (※2), are subjected to the PCR test and periodic health check by Public Health Centers.

(※1) Countries subject to strengthened quarantine

East Asia	China and Republic of Korea (added at 0:00 on March 9.)
Europe	the Schengen countries (Iceland, Italy, Greece, Slovakia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Finland, Poland, Latvia, Lithuania), United Kingdom, Cyprus, Croatia, San Marino, Bulgaria, and Romania. (added at 0:00 on March 21.)
Middle East	Israel, Qatar, Bahrain (added at 0:00 on March 28.)
Africa	Egypt (added at 0:00 on March 21.), <u>Democratic Republic of the Congo (added at 0:00 on March 28.)</u>
North America	United States of America (added at 0:00 on March 26.)
<u>Southeast Asia</u>	<u>Indonesia, Singapore, Thailand, Philippines, Brunei Darussalam, Viet Nam, and Malaysia</u> (added at 0:00 on March 28.)

(※2) Designated areas of immigration restrictions under the Immigration Control Act
(Foreign nationals who have visited the areas are not permitted to enter Japan unless there are exceptional circumstances.) (Note : The underlined are areas added at 0:00 on March 28, 2020.JST)

<China> Hubei, Zhejiang Province

<Republic of Korea> Daegu metropolitan city, Gyeongsangbuk-do (Cheongdo-gun, Gyeongsan city, Andong city, Yeongcheon city, Chilgok-gun, Uisenong-gun, Seongju-gun, Gunwi-gun)

<Iran> Entire country

<Europe> All regions of Ireland, Andorra, Italy, Estonia, Austria, Netherlands, Switzerland, Sweden, Spain, Slovenia, Denmark, Germany, Norway, Vatican, France, Belgium, Portugal, Malta, Monaco, Liechtenstein, and Luxembourg,

[ページの先頭へ戻る](#)

2. About the Scope of Application

Q1 When will the new border control measures apply to those enter Japan?

The new border control measures will be applied to whom departed on an airplane or ship from People's Republic of China or Republic of Korea at or after 0:00 on March 9 (JST), or from European countries or Egypt at or after 0:00 on March 21 (JST), or from United States of America at or after 0:00 on March 26 (JST), or from Indonesia, Singapore, Thailand, Philippines, Brunei Darussalam, Viet Nam, Malaysia, Israel, Qatar, Democratic Republic of the Congo or Bahrain at or after 0:00 on March 28 (JST) arriving at any airport or port in Japan. (Please note that Japan Standard Time (JST) may differ from the local time of the country of departure.)

Also, persons who have visited any of the areas subject to strengthened quarantine within 14 days before arrival (on or after the date added as an area subject to strengthened quarantine), or have visited any of the epidemic areas designated by immigration restrictions under the Immigration Control Act within 14 days before arrival, regardless of the date added as an area subject to strengthened quarantine, will be subject to the measures.

[ページの先頭へ戻る](#)

Q2 Will Japanese nationals also be subject to the new border control measures?

Yes. These measures are applied regardless of nationality.

[ページの先頭へ戻る](#)

Q3 Is there difference in procedure by the purpose of the entry?

No. Everyone will be treated in the same way regardless of the purpose of the entry.

[ページの先頭へ戻る](#)

Q4 Will those who departed areas subject to strengthened quarantine and entering Japan via another country be subject to the measures?

Yes. Those who have visited areas subject to strengthened quarantine within 14 days before arrival (on or after the date added as an area subject to strengthened quarantine), or regardless of the date added as an area subject to strengthened quarantine, have visited any of the epidemic areas designated by immigration restrictions under the Immigration Control Act within 14 days before arrival, should declare the fact at the quarantine station.

Those who boarded an airplane or ship at areas other than subject to strengthened quarantine may be exempted from the measures as long as certain conditions are met (e.g. absence of person with symptoms in the same airplane or ship). (In such cases, they may be requested to stay at the area designated by the Chief of the Quarantine Station until the investigation is done.)

[ページの先頭へ戻る](#)

Q5 Will those who departed from areas not subject to strengthened quarantine, and entering Japan via areas subject to strengthened be subject to the measures?

Yes. However, those who did not disembark at areas subject to strengthened quarantine may be exempted from the measures, as long as certain conditions are met (e.g. absence of person with symptoms in the same airplane or ship). (In such cases, they may be requested to stay at the area designated by the Chief of the Quarantine Station until the investigation is done.)

[ページの先頭へ戻る](#)

Q6 Will those who departed areas subject to strengthened quarantine heading for another country via Japan, still be requested to stay at the place designated by the Chief of the Quarantine Station for 14 days while in Japan?

No. Those who enter Japan as a transit country are not subject to the measures, as long as they do not disembark. Anyone disembark will be requested to stay at a place designated by the Chief of the Quarantine Station, and not to use public transportations, but they may leave Japan before finishing the 14-day period.

[ページの先頭へ戻る](#)

Q7 Will staff of airline/shipping company also be subject to the measures?

Yes. (The exemption criteria is the same mentioned in Q4 through Q6, such as those engaged in loading and unloading tasks only, and did not enter areas subject to strengthened quarantine.)

[ページの先頭へ戻る](#)

Q8 Will those who departed Taiwan, Hong Kong, or Macao and arriving Japan also be subject to the measures?

Those from Taiwan are not. Those from Hong Kong and Macao are subject.

Q9 Will detached territories such as British Gibraltar, be included in areas subject to strengthened quarantine?

Yes.

[ページの先頭へ戻る](#)

3. About the Place to Stay

Q1 Where will be the designated place to stay specifically, when requested to stay at a place designated by the Chief of the Quarantine Station and staying for 14 days?

We are supposing a place of residence in Japan, such as your home.

[ページの先頭へ戻る](#)

Q2 Where should I stay if I do not have a place of residence in Japan?

We suppose the accommodation that visitors have arranged prior to departure, such as a hotel or a Japanese-style inn. Any cost for accommodation shall be paid by the visitor's expense.

[ページの先頭へ戻る](#)

Q3 What should I do if I have no place of residence in Japan and failed to arrange accommodation prior to departure?

We recommend you to arrange accommodation prior to your departure. (When you have not arranged accommodation upon entry to Japan, you will have to find accommodation at the airport.)

4. About the Means of Transportation

Q1 If subject to the border control measures, by what means should I move from the airport or port to a place of residence (or accommodation)?

We require you to arrange a private transportation by your family or company. Please note that you are required not to use any public transportations such as trains, buses, taxis, or domestic flights.

[ページの先頭へ戻る](#)

Q2 What should I do if I could not arrange a private transportation?

We recommend you to arrange a means of transportation prior to your departure. (When you have not arranged private transportation upon entry to Japan, you will have to arrange accommodation near the airport, and stay there until a private transportation is arranged.)

[ページの先頭へ戻る](#)