



## COVID-19 Global Mobility update

24 July – 04 August 2020

Dear all,

Please find below our most recent Mobility related global updates specifically related to the COVID-19 crisis and current guidance or measures that different countries are putting into place.

If you have any questions on below, please don't hesitate to reach out to us.

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### Combating COVID-19 with resilience

[Visit our Deloitte COVID-19 webpage](#) to see a collection of Global Deloitte insights to help businesses manage and mitigate the risk associated with COVID-19.

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## Ireland - Restriction of movement 'green list' released

### What is the change?

The Irish Government has published a [green list](#) of 15 countries. Individuals coming from a country on the green list do not need to self-isolate or restrict movement in Ireland when they arrive from the green-listed country.

#### Key Points:

- The following countries are currently included on the green list: Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, Gibraltar, Greece, Greenland, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Monaco, Norway, San Marino, Slovakia.
- Individuals traveling to Ireland from any other country not listed above will be required to restrict their movement in Ireland for 14 days immediately upon entry.
- Individuals traveling from Northern Ireland are also exempt from the requirement to restrict movements or self-isolate.
- It should be noted that general advice still states that non-essential travel is to be avoided at this time.

This change is set to take effect from July 22. It is anticipated that the green list will be reviewed every two weeks.

Employers should note, that employees entering Ireland from a country that is not on the green list will need to restrict their movement for 14 days and will therefore be unable to work in any location other than their private residence. **If you have employees or potential new hires who may be impacted by the above changes, please contact the Deloitte immigration team to assist. We continue to update our [FAQ for employers](#) found [here](#).**

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## China - COVID-19 testing for all inbound travellers

### What is the change?

All travellers, including Chinese citizens and foreigners, on inbound flights to China from overseas will be required to undergo a COVID-19 nucleic acid test. This test should be done within five days from the flight, and at a medical institution designated by the Chinese embassies.

Chinese citizens will be required to take a photo of their test results and upload them onto the epidemic prevention program on the instant messaging platform, WeChat, while foreigners will need to make a health declaration to the relevant Chinese embassies with a written copy of their test results.

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## Hong Kong - Measures to strengthen epidemic control efforts

### What is the change?

The Government has announced the implementation of several measures to strengthen epidemic control efforts in Hong Kong. The key measures include:

- Requirement for all persons to wear a mask in indoor public places, including public transportation, with effect from 23 July 2020 (more details [here](#)).
- Requirement for travellers from high-risk places (i.e., Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, and South Africa from 25 July 2020; and Kazakhstan and the United States from 29 July 2020), or who have been to these high-risk places 14 days prior to their flight to Hong Kong to produce a negative COVID-19 test result and a confirmation in English or Chinese of a

room reservation at a hotel in Hong Kong for not less than 14 days (more details [here](#)).

- Extension of 14-day quarantine arrangements for inbound travellers from the Mainland, Macao, or Taiwan (including Hong Kong and non-Hong Kong residents) from 7 August 2020 to 7 September 2020.
- Extension of 14-day quarantine arrangements for inbound travellers from overseas (including Hong Kong and non-Hong Kong residents) from 18 September 2020 to 31 December 2020.

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## Malaysia - Updates to guidelines for expatriates seeking permission to enter or exit and return to Malaysia

### What is the change?

The following updates to the guidelines for expatriates seeking permission to enter or exit and return to Malaysia are in effect from 18 July 2020:

- **Employment Pass Category I (EP I) & Residence Pass-Talent (RP-T)/Dependants & Foreign Maids for EP I & RP-T:** Expatriates who exited Malaysia before 11 July 2020 are exempted from the need to obtain entry permission from the Director General of Immigration Malaysia (DGIM). However, those who exited Malaysia after 11 July 2020 must obtain exit and return permission from the DGIM.
- **Employment Pass Category II & III (EP II & EP III)/Professional Visit Pass (PVP)/Dependants & Foreign Maids for EP II & EP III/Long Term Social Visit Pass (LT-SVP) for EP I, EP II, EP III & RP-T:** Expatriates are required to obtain entry permission from the DGIM.

To view the full list of guidelines, please refer to the link below.

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## Singapore/Malaysia - Limited cross-border travel to begin next month

### What is the change?

The foreign ministers of Malaysia and Singapore have announced that the two countries are targeting to resume cross-border travel Aug. 10 for some categories of employees.

#### Key Points:

- The commuting arrangement will apply to long-term pass holders and those traveling on essential or official business.
- Those eligible to use the green lane must submit a “controlled itinerary” to the receiving country and will be subject to a COVID-19 swab test.
- After working at least three consecutive months in the country where they are employed, long-term pass holders may return to their home country on short-term leave, and then re-enter their country of employment to resume work for at least another three consecutive months.

Singapore implemented a similar “fast-lane” travel arrangement with China in June. Officials of both countries are working out the details of the cross-border travel arrangement and will publish information on the requirements and application process for entry and exit into Malaysia and Singapore 10 days before the Aug. 10 start date.

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## South Africa - Government adopts stricter border control measures

### What is the change?

The Border Management Authority Bill of 2020 took effect this week, after South African President Cyril Ramaphosa signed it. The government says the bill will tighten border control to lessen illegal immigration and simplify control of ports of entry.

#### Key Points:

- The law establishes the Border Management Authority as the sole department to manage the country's ports of entry instead of current management by several agencies.
- The law also provides term limits for office, conditions of service, functions and powers.
- Establishment of an Inter-Ministerial Consultative Committee, Border Technical Committee and advisory committees for the review/appeal of decisions by officers.

The legislation, which the South African parliament approved in March, reflects South Africa's attempt to deal with illegal immigration.

This legislation will not affect high-skilled immigration filings since these are done at consulates prior to travel. The impact on tourism and travel by air will be negligible since the international airports already operate at an international standard. The land ports of entry will benefit from the focus this change will bring and it is hoped that the bottlenecks that are regularly experienced will be a thing of the past.

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## China - Shanghai announces changes in home quarantine arrangements for overseas arrivals

### What is the change?

With effect from 27 July 2020, travellers arriving in Shanghai from overseas may spend half of their 14-day quarantine period at home if they are able to meet a certain set of conditions.

Travellers whose final destination is Shanghai may apply to resume their quarantine period at home from the eighth day if they hold residency in the city, live apart from family members who are not under quarantine or live with others who agree to be quarantined with them, and are able to produce a negative COVID-19 nucleic test on the fifth day of their quarantine period. On the eighth day, qualified persons will be transported directly from the collective quarantine locations to their homes by the authorities of the districts in which their homes are located.

Meanwhile, the Government will continue to allow conditional home quarantine for senior citizens, under-aged individuals, pregnant and breastfeeding women, individuals with mobility restrictions, family caregivers, and individuals with certain diseases.

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Travellers whose final destinations are Jiangsu, Zhejiang, and Anhui provinces will be transported by the authorities to their destinations to continue their quarantine after seven days of collective quarantine in Shanghai, under the condition that their COVID-19 nucleic tests on the fifth day are negative. Those whose final destinations are other parts of China will still be placed under the compulsory 14-day quarantine arrangement in Shanghai.

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## **Singapore - Singapore and EU to create common standards for safe air travel amid COVID-19 pandemic**

### **What is the change?**

The Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore (CAAS) and the European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) will collaborate to create common standards to promote safe air travel amid the COVID-19 pandemic. This will be done through coordination on measures to protect the health and safety of passengers, air crew and airport staff. It will cover several measures, such as the implementation of physical distancing, enhanced hygiene measures, as well as more intensive cleaning of facilities.

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## **Hong Kong - COVID-19: Entry regulations introduced for travelers coming from 'high-risk' countries**

### **What is the change?**

Effective July 25, travelers coming from Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines and South Africa and, effective July 29, travelers from the U.S. and

Kazakhstan, will have to adhere to entry regulations for travelers coming from “high-risk” countries.

**Key Points:**

- Travelers coming from these countries or who have spent any time in any of these countries during the 14 days prior to their boarding a flight for Hong Kong must have the following:
  - Letter or certificate in English or Chinese issued by a laboratory or healthcare institution bearing the name and identity card or passport number of the relevant traveler to show that: (a) the traveler underwent a nucleic acid test for COVID-19 within 72 hours before the scheduled time of departure of the flight; (b) the test conducted on the sample is a nucleic acid test for COVID-19; (c) the result of the test is negative for COVID-19.
  - The original of the report for the test issued by the laboratory or healthcare institution bearing the name and identity card or passport number of the relevant traveler.
  - Letter in English or Chinese issued by the relevant authority of the government of the place in which the laboratory or healthcare institution is located certifying that the government recognizes the laboratory or healthcare institution.
  - The traveler has confirmation in English or Chinese of a room reservation in a hotel in Hong Kong for not less than 14 days starting on the day of arrival in Hong Kong.
- Before arriving in Hong Kong, the operator of the aircraft should submit to the Department of Health (DH) a specified form confirming that each relevant traveler has produced the above documents before checking in for the flight to Hong Kong.
- If any of the conditions specified by Secretary for Food and Health (SFH) is not met in relation to any traveler, each of the operators of the flight is liable on conviction to the maximum penalty of a HK\$50,000 fine and imprisonment for six months. If an operator fails to comply with a requirement to provide information, or knowingly or recklessly provides any information that is false or misleading, he or she is liable on conviction to the maximum penalty of a HK\$50,000 fine and imprisonment for six months.
- If a traveler coming to Hong Kong fails to comply with a requirement to provide information, or knowingly or recklessly provides any information that is false or misleading, he or she is liable on conviction to the maximum penalty of a HK\$10,000 fine and imprisonment for six months.

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## Saudi Arabia - Residency permit, exit, return visa extensions

### What is the change?

Saudi officials have approved extensions of residence permits, visitor's visas and exit and re-entry visas.

#### Key Points:

- Expired residence permits and exit and re-entry visas will be extended for three months for foreign nationals who are currently outside of the country.
- Expired residence permits and visitors visas will be extended for three months for foreign nationals who are currently in Saudi Arabia, provided their permits expired during Saudi Arabia's suspension of international travel because of COVID-19.
- For foreign nationals in Saudi Arabia, exit and re-entry visas that were not used and expired during the COVID-19 lockdown will be extended three months.
- Exit and re-entry visas will be extended three months for foreign nationals outside the country who were unable to travel to Saudi Arabia because of COVID-19 entry restrictions.

The extensions will be provided automatically and free of charge. The exact expiration dates of permits covered by the extension have yet to be announced. Deloitte will provide more information as it becomes available.

The extensions are good news because they provide relief to individuals who were prevented from entering or exiting Saudi Arabia because of pandemic-related restrictions.

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## Angola - Work permit renewals

### What is the change?

Angola recently updated its work permit renewal policy for foreign nationals.

#### Key Points:

- Work permits with expiration dates between March and 31<sup>st</sup> August will be considered valid for renewal. This is also true for foreign nationals with work permits who are currently outside Angola.
- Foreign nationals are allowed to return to Angola with an expired work permit and renew it. Foreign nationals outside the country may also send their passports to Angola to renew their work permit.

The updated work permit renewal policy is good news because it provides flexibility to foreign nationals working in Angola.

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## **Hong Kong - Government announces tightening of testing and quarantine arrangement for exempted persons**

### **What is the change?**

The Government has announced that the crew change arrangement for passenger vessels and goods vessels without cargo operation in Hong Kong will be suspended with effect from 29 July 2020. The testing and quarantine arrangement for sea crew members of goods vessels coming to Hong Kong for cargo operation, air crew members, and other persons exempted from quarantine requirement (exempted persons) arriving at Hong Kong will also be tightened. For the full list of details, please refer to the link below.

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## Hong Kong - Immigration Department implements limited public services

### What is the change?

The government has limited in-person transactions to essential and emergency services until at least 2<sup>nd</sup> August.

#### Key Points:

- The Immigration Department (ImmD) is directing individuals who do not need to submit applications in person to submit them via post, drop-in, online or mobile app.

The full list of services available this week is located [here](#)

The ImmD has limited services in recent weeks in response to an uptick in COVID-19 infections in Hong Kong.

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## Singapore - Singapore-Malaysia travel arrangements for permit holders, business travellers finalised

### What is the change?

Singapore and Malaysia have finalised arrangements for long-term pass holders and travellers on essential or official business to cross the border. The operational details of the reciprocal green lane and periodic commuting arrangement will be published in the next few days, and applications will kick off on 10 August 2020. Meanwhile, the two countries have also agreed to develop a proposal for daily commuters crossing the border for work, and are also working out arrangements for cross-border travel for compassionate reasons.

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## Vietnam - COVID-19 tests for foreign experts

### What is the change?

The Government will require foreign experts coming to Vietnam for work to get COVID-19 tests done three to seven days before they arrive. The testing must be done at a government-approved medical centre or one recognised by the World Health Organisation. Those who bought tickets and are scheduled to arrive in Vietnam before 5 August 2020 are exempt from the requirements.

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## Finland - Residence permit income requirement updated

### What is the change?

The Finnish Immigration Service has announced that it will consider granting residence permit extensions to those who do not meet the minimum income level, depending on the circumstances. The exception to the income requirement is not automatic for all residence permit extensions submitted this year but each case is considered individually.

#### Key Points:

- The lower income must be due to the coronavirus pandemic
- In general some proof of the exceptional circumstances from the employer is required
- The decrease in income is considered temporary if it lasts for no more than six months.
- The exception will be in force until 31<sup>st</sup> December.

It should be noted that if an exception to the income requirement is made, the extended permit is granted only for one year.

Most residence permits have an income requirement, which means that residents must have sufficient funds to live in Finland throughout the entire period of the residence permit's validity.

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## Qatar - Exceptional entry permit service launching

### What is the change?

Qatar is launching an exceptional entry permit service to allow certain individuals to enter the country.

#### Key Points:

- Beginning 1<sup>st</sup> August Qatari residents abroad will be allowed to apply for an exceptional entry permit in order to return to Qatar.
- The temporary Exceptional Entry Permit service will make it possible for employers to apply for entry permits for residents and their family members with Qatar ID cards to return to the country. The application service will be available on the [Qatar Portal](#).
- The validity of the entry permit is one month from the date it was issued.

The Eid holiday coincides with the launch of the Exceptional Entry Permit service so there may be delays in application processing at that time. The Qatar government will be closed from 30<sup>th</sup> July to 6<sup>th</sup> August for Eid Al-Adha and will resume work on 9<sup>th</sup> August.

Qatar implemented new entry regulations the last week of June. The temporary exceptional entry permit service is good news for employers who wish to return employees abroad to Qatar.

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## Zambia - Travel and flight extensions update

### What is the change?

Zambia recently updated its travel and flight restrictions.

#### Key Points:

- All airports are open for international flights.
- Passengers arriving at Kenneth Kaunda International (LUN) and Simon Mwansa Kapwepwe International (NLA) airports must present a negative COVID-19 test certificate obtained within four days before boarding their flights. Certificates

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must be from designated laboratories authorised by the Health Authority of the country of departure

- Individuals transiting through Zambia will not be allowed to exit their flights without authorization. Crewmembers will be allowed to exit and must undergo mandatory quarantine during their rotation and rest periods. During these times, they will be under the supervision of health authorities.
- Foreign nationals and alien residents planning to transit through Zambia by land and cross the border into neighbouring countries such as Angola, Botswana, Congo, Malawi and South Africa will not be allowed to enter without a written clearance from the Zambian Department of Immigration and Ministry of Health. Such individuals must also have a negative COVID-19 test certificate obtained within four days of entry.
- Individuals with tourist visas will not be allowed to enter without a written clearance from the Department of Immigration and a negative COVID-19 test certificate obtained within four days of entry.
- Individuals with a business visa must have a written clearance from the Zambian Department of Immigration and Ministry of Health before they arrive. This document must state the significance of the business in Zambia.
- Spouses, children or other relatives of permit or residence card holders are not allowed to enter without a written special clearance from the Zambian Department of Immigration.
- Visas on arrival will not be issued for tourists or visitors at Kenneth Kaunda International Airport. Travelers who wish to apply for visa upon arrival must contact the Lusaka office to request authorization for a boarding clearance before they begin their flight.

The opening of all airports for international flights is good news for employers who wish to send employees to Zambia. At the same time, there are still travel restrictions in place to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

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## **Finland - Residence permit income requirement updated**

### **What is the change?**

The Finnish Immigration Service has announced that it will consider granting residence permit extensions to those who do not meet the minimum income level, depending on the circumstances. The exception to the income requirement is not automatic for all residence permit extensions submitted this year but each case is considered individually.

#### Key Points:

- The lower income must be due to the coronavirus pandemic
- In general some proof of the exceptional circumstances from the employer is required
- The decrease in income is considered temporary if it lasts for no more than six months.
- The exception will be in force until 31<sup>st</sup> December.

It should be noted that if an exception to the income requirement is made, the extended permit is granted only for one year.

Most residence permits have an income requirement, which means that residents must have sufficient funds to live in Finland throughout the entire period of the residence permit's validity.

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## United Kingdom - COVID-19: Update on visa extensions & UK overseas Visa Application Centers

### What is the change?

The United Kingdom provided guidance on the position of those whose UK visa's expired between 24 Jan and 31 July. The government also provided further information on the opening of additional overseas visa centers this week, bringing the total number of open overseas visa application centers to 154.

#### Key Points on Visa Extensions:

- Visa holders in the U.K. who could not leave because of COVID-19 had their visas extended to July 31 if their visas expired between 24 Jan and 31 July. They will no longer be able to extend their visa automatically and must take reasonable steps to leave the UK or regularize their stay in the UK.
- Visa holders who fall into this category will be given an extra month's grace period within the UK to 31 August to make the necessary arrangements to leave the UK.

- Conditions of their stay in the UK will remain the same, allowing them to work, study, rent accommodation until 31 August.
- Visa holders who cannot leave the U.K. because of COVID-19 and intend to remain in the country beyond 31 August, may request additional time by contacting the [coronavirus immigration team](#). Visa holders may be granted short-term special protection against any adverse action or consequences after their leave has expired by evidencing why they are unable to leave.

#### Key Points on Visa Application Centers:

- Centers are opened this week in the following cities: Georgetown, Islamabad, Karachi, Kingston, La Paz, Lahore, Port of Spain, Rio de Janeiro, Sabah, Sao Paulo, Tehran, Thimphu and Ulaanbaatar.
- This is the latest round of re-openings. At the beginning of June, visa centers in Australia, China, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Taiwan and Thailand opened their doors.
- Other centers are still closed, including some in the U.S., where no official date has been given for visa center services to resume.
- As the situation remains fluid, the Government continue to keep the opening of VACs' under daily review and advise that this is checked with the most up to date information on the relevant websites. For Europe, Africa and parts of the Middle East: [uk.tlscontact.com](http://uk.tlscontact.com) and for all other countries: [vfsglobal.co.uk](http://vfsglobal.co.uk).
- Priority and Super Priority Visa services continue to be paused for now in all locations.
- If an individual's 30-day visa to work, study or join family has expired, overseas customers can now contact their visa application center to request a replacement. Details of how to do this can be found [here](#).

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## Deloitte's View

Visa holders with visas that expired between 24 Jan and 31 July must make reasonable efforts to leave the country by 31 August. Those who cannot leave must update their records, as described above. The reopening of additional VACs is welcome news, though applicants should be aware that services are limited and some VACs, especially in areas where COVID-19 is not under control, remain closed.



The response to the COVID-19 pandemic continues to develop, and Deloitte will provide additional updates as information becomes available. Please check Deloitte's COVID-19 Digital Map, available [here](#), for information on travel restrictions and immigration changes in other countries.

## Czech Republic - Foreign travel restrictions eased

### What is the change?

The Czech Republic recently relaxed travel restrictions for foreign travelers.

#### Key Points:

- Foreign travelers coming from countries on the low-risk list are allowed to enter the Czech Republic. The list includes most EU/Schengen Area countries and six from outside of Europe: Australia, Canada, Japan, New Zealand, South Korea and Thailand. (A link to the list can be found in the second section of the Ministry of the Interior Web [page](#).) Third-country nationals from countries not on the low-risk list are prohibited from entering, except for the individuals listed below. Foreign nationals who are temporary or permanent residents of countries not on the low-risk list are also prohibited from entering, unless they hold a Czech Republic permit or visa.
- The following individuals are allowed to enter the country:
  - Foreign nationals with a long-term residence permit or permanent residence permit for residence in countries with a low risk of COVID-19.
  - Holders of a valid long-term visa or a long-term, temporary or permanent residence permit card for residence in the Czech Republic.
  - Foreign nationals with a short-term visa issued by the Czech Republic after 11 May.
  - Foreign nationals whose entry into the country is in the interest of the Czech Republic, with a reason for entry supported by adequate documentation.
  - International transport workers with a reason for entry supported by adequate documentation.
  - Diplomats and officials of international organizations registered with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- Foreigner travelers entering the Czech Republic are required to have a negative COVID-19 RT-PCR medical test certificate issued by a doctor or public health authority no more than four days before entry, combined with a

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laboratory confirmation. Foreign travelers entering the country without these documents are subject to 14-day quarantine.

- EU nationals and non-EU nationals with EU long-term resident status may enter the Czech Republic without a negative PCR test and do not have to prove the purpose of travel if they are arriving from a low-risk country.
- The Czech Republic has begun to open up embassies and consulates around the world. As of 15 July, 16 of its diplomatic missions abroad had fully resumed operations, while 28 had partially resumed them. Check this [website](#) for up-to-date information.

The relaxing of travel restrictions for foreign travelers coming from low-risk countries is good news for employers wishing to send employees to the Czech Republic

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## Italy - Mandatory quarantine for travelers from Bulgaria, Romania

### What is the change?

Italy has imposed a mandatory quarantine requirement for travelers from Bulgaria and Romania.

#### Key Points:

- Travelers from Bulgaria and Romania will be permitted to enter but must quarantine for 14 days.
- The mandatory quarantine applies to anyone who has been in Romania and Bulgaria or traveled through those countries in the last 14 days.

Italy has moved to open up to more foreign travelers in recent weeks, lifting some of its COVID-19 entry restrictions.

So far, Italy has lifted travel restrictions for residents of EU/Schengen Area countries as well as Algeria, Australia, Canada, Georgia, Japan, Morocco, New Zealand, Rwanda, South Korea, Thailand, Tunisia and Uruguay. Those traveling from all other countries must be entering to study or for work, urgent or health reasons and returning home or to one's place of residence.

In addition, Italy has imposed a ban on entry for travelers who have visited or stayed in any of the following countries in the past 14 days: Armenia, Bahrain, Bangladesh,

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Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Chile, the Dominican Republic, Kosovo, Kuwait, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Oman, Panama, Peru and Serbia.

The ban does not apply for citizens of Italy, EU, Schengen countries, UK, Andorra, Monaco, San Marino and Vatican City and their family members on condition that they are registered as residents in Italy before 9 July 2020. However, the mandatory quarantine for 14 days is still required for travelers who have stayed or transited in the listed countries.

Those planning travel to Italy should take note of the entry restrictions and quarantine requirements and plan accordingly.

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## Spain - Spain updates entry rules regarding COVID-19

### What is the change?

The Spanish government has amended the criteria for non-essential travel restrictions as a result of COVID-19. The updated list of countries exempted from entry ban includes countries added and removed as health conditions worsen/improve in each country.

#### Key Points:

- Citizens from the following countries can travel to Spain: Algeria (subject to reciprocity), Australia, Canada, China (subject to reciprocity), Georgia, Japan, Morocco (subject to reciprocity), New Zealand, Rwanda, South Korea, Thailand, Tunisia, Uruguay.
- The list may be subject to modification at the discretion of the Ministry of the Interior.
- The following groups are also exempt from the entry ban:
  - Residents of the EU, Schengen-associated states, Andorra, Monaco, the Vatican or San Marino who provide documentary evidence.
  - Holders of a long-term visa issued by a Member State or Schengen-associated state.
  - Working healthcare/elderly care professionals and health researchers.
  - Sea and flight crews and other personnel required to carry out air transport activities and transport of goods.

- Members of diplomatic missions, consular posts, international and military organisms, civil protection, and humanitarian organizations for the performance of their official duties.
- Students undertaking studies in Member States or Schengen-associated states provided they are traveling to the country where they study and entry is undertaken during the academic year or 15 days prior its start.
- Highly qualified employees whose activity is mandatory, cannot be postponed or undertaken remotely, including participants in upscale sports competitions taking place in Spain.
- Persons traveling for imperative family reasons.
- Persons who provide evidence of force majeure, necessity, or whose entry is permitted on humanitarian grounds.

This order will remain in effect until 31 July and will be amended according to health conditions in Spain and in each individual country.

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## Japan - Addition of countries/regions to restricted list

### What is the change?

With effect from 24 July 2020, the following countries/regions have been added to restricted list for refusal of landing: Botswana; Comoros; Congo; Kenya; Liberia; Libya; Madagascar; Namibia; Nepal; Palestine; Paraguay; Sierra Leone; Somalia; Sudan; Suriname; Uzbekistan; and Venezuela. To view the latest list of restricted countries/regions, please refer to the link below.

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## Malaysia - Entry and quarantine procedures

### What is the change?

With effect from 24 July 2020, all travellers planning to enter Malaysia must comply with the following entry and quarantine procedures:

- **Sign a Letter of Undertaking and Indemnity (LoU):** The form can be downloaded [here](#).
- **Obtain a Letter of Approval (Entry Permit) from an accredited Malaysian Mission:** Applicants must submit the relevant documents and the completed LoU via email to the relevant Malaysian Mission at least three days before the date of departure. The email addresses of the relevant Malaysian Missions can be found [here](#).
- **Present the Letter of Approval to airlines, public transport companies, and Immigration Department of Malaysia:** A letter of approval from the Malaysian Mission must be presented during the flight/public transport check-in process. Failure to present this letter may result in the person being denied permission to board the aircraft, or other public transportation.
- **COVID-19 test:** Travellers to Malaysia are not required to take the COVID-19 test before departure. However, travellers are advised to check with their airlines if they have specific requirements for COVID-19 tests. Upon arrival, a COVID-19 test will be conducted at the arrival hall. The Person Under Surveillance (PUS) will bear the fee for the COVID-19 test. More details on the charges can be found in the link below.
- **Quarantine for all incoming travellers:** The quarantine period is 14 days, or any period stipulated by the Ministry of Health, Malaysia. The PUS is not allowed to choose his/her Quarantine Station. More details on the charges can also be found in the link below.

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## Taiwan - COVID-19 testing and quarantine measures for travellers arriving from Philippines

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## What is the change?

With effect from 26 July 2020, travellers arriving in Taiwan from Philippines will be subjected to the following COVID-19 testing and quarantine measures:

- Taiwan nationals and certain foreign nationals (foreign nationals with an Alien Resident Certificate or a resident visa, migrant workers, foreign students, and foreign diplomats) must, whether they have symptoms or not, have their specimens collected at the airport. Those who have symptoms shall be transported to a group quarantine facility to await test results; asymptomatic individuals shall undergo a 14-day period of home quarantine at home or at a quarantine hotel.
- Foreign nationals without an Alien Resident Certificate must provide a certificate of a negative COVID-19 test result issued within three days of boarding before they are allowed to board their flight or transit flight. Those who wish to enter Taiwan must also undergo home quarantine for 14 days upon entry.

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## Taiwan - Adjusted regulations for COVID-19 testing

### What is the change?

Foreign nationals who wish to travel to Taiwan for reasons other than tourism and regular social visits may apply for a special entry permit with an R.O.C. overseas mission by submitting relevant documents and forms. Applications by students and people wishing to study Mandarin in Taiwan will be handled by the Ministry of Education in line with its related measures.

Upon entering Taiwan, all foreign nationals must present an English language certificate of a negative COVID-19 test taken within three working days of the flight to Taiwan and undergo a 14-day home quarantine period.

The following visitors may be exempted from the COVID-19 test requirement: personnel on diplomatic or official business, migrant workers, and students (whose entry is managed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Labour, and Ministry of

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Education and who represent manageable risk levels), as well as people coming to Taiwan for emergency situations and crewmembers on vessels arriving in Taiwan (for whom it may be difficult to obtain a certificate of a negative COVID-19 test). Foreign nationals holding a valid resident visa or an ARC are also exempt. All other foreign nationals must provide the COVID-19 test report upon arrival in Taiwan.

For more details, please refer to the FAQ section in the link below.

[More Information](#)

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## South Africa - Permits and visas extended until end of October

### What is the change?

Visas and permits in South Africa will be extended because of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The South African government cited the unavailability of most services at visa centers when announcing the extension.

#### Key Points:

- Visas and permits that were set to expire 31 July will be extended until 31 October. Final regulations to be published.
- Other temporary measures put in place during the initial extension continue to apply through 31 October.
- Visa exemptions that have been withdrawn will remain withdrawn.

Immigration services in South Africa have been minimal since the start of the pandemic and ensuing lockdown. The government has announced several temporary measures for foreign nationals who were legally present in South Africa during the start of the pandemic.

Department of Home Affairs Visa Application Centers are operating for collections only and by appointment only. Visa Application Centers remain closed for other activities. The government is weighing the possible opening of the visa centers for online applications in limited categories and following possible online submissions, there will be in-person appointments for actual application submission.

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Employers should continue to monitor how the visa extensions affect individual employees.

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## France - Testing for travelers from certain countries, including US, implemented

### What is the change?

France is now requiring COVID-19 testing for individuals traveling from 16 countries prior to entering France. Most foreign travelers from these countries are still not allowed to enter France, with limited exceptions.

#### Key points:

- The high-risk 16 countries are: Bahrain, Brazil, Israel, India, Kuwait, Madagascar, Oman, Panama, Peru, Qatar, Serbia, South Africa, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates and the United States.
- Beginning 1<sup>st</sup> August a mandatory PCR test will be required 72 hours before boarding a plane for France for those traveling from these countries.
- Individuals traveling from Bahrain, Panama, the UAE and the U.S. will have to present a negative PCR test 72 hours before boarding a plane for France, otherwise they will be denied boarding.
- For travelers from the other 12 countries, a mandatory test will be given at French airports if a traveler arrives in France without test results.
- The test will not be required for children under the age of 11.

France has begun to lift some COVID-19 entry restrictions. Last month, France lifted entry restrictions for non-essential travel to France for citizens of European Union and Schengen Area countries. Earlier this month, France lifted restrictions on travel from 13 non-EU/EEA countries. While France has not issued an updated list yet, restrictions on travel from Serbia are likely to be re-imposed based on their inclusion in the list of 16 countries for which a COVID-19 test is required. International students who need to travel to France for study purposes have been able to do so since 1<sup>st</sup> July.

Employers are encouraged to check with Deloitte for additional details, as travel requirements are fluid.

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## Russia - Air travel from UK, Tanzania, Turkey

### What is the change?

Russia recently announced it will allow entry for air travelers from the U.K., Tanzania and Turkey.

#### Key Points:

- Citizens and permanent residents of the UK, Tanzania and Turkey will be allowed to enter Russia beginning 1 August via air travel only.
- These travelers may only obtain a visa at Russian consulates in the U.K., Tanzania and Turkey.

Russian borders remain closed for all foreign nationals with only a few exceptions. Foreign travelers entering Russia for work are subject to 14-day quarantine upon arrival. The same is true for passengers arriving on evacuation flights. In order to enter Russia, foreign travelers must obtain a COVID-19 test 72 hours before arrival and present a certificate showing a negative result or obtain a COVID-19 test in Russia, within three days of arrival.

The lifting of air travel restrictions for nationals and permanent residents of the U.K., Tanzania and Turkey is good news for employers who wish to send employees to Russia from these countries

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## European Union - European Council updates travel restrictions

### What is the change?

The European Union has updated its COVID-19 travel recommendations, removing Algeria from its “green list” of countries for which it recommends lifting entry restrictions. The removal of Algeria comes two weeks after the EU removed Montenegro and Serbia from the list.

#### Key Points:

- The EU now recommends that member states lift entry on residents of the following countries: Australia, Canada, China (subject to confirmation of reciprocity), Georgia, Japan, Morocco, New Zealand, Rwanda, South Korea, Thailand, Tunisia and Uruguay.
- Residents of Andorra, Monaco, San Marino and the Vatican are considered EU residents for the purpose of the recommendations.
- Travel restrictions remain in place for residents of all other non-EU/Schengen Area countries.
- In countries where travel restrictions apply, the EU recommends that the following people be exempt:
  - EU citizens and their family.
  - Long-term EU residents and their family.
  - Travelers with essential functions or needs.
- The travel recommendations will be reviewed every two weeks.

On 16 March, the EU adopted temporary restriction of all non-essential travel. Restrictions were extended several times. EU member states began lifting travel restrictions earlier this month after the EU recommended lifting some restrictions on 1 July.

The EU continues to update its COVID-19 travel recommendations, and while member states have, in many cases, moved to implement the recommendations, exact policies will vary from country to country.

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## Norway - Entry requirements relaxed to include EU residents

### What is the change?

Norway has expanded entry requirements to allow European Union residents and family members of citizens of Norway. Some quarantine requirements are still in place, however.

#### Key points:

- Anyone who is a resident of the European Union, the European Economic Area or a Schengen country can now enter Norway.

- Anyone who is a citizen of a visa-required country and lives in a EU/EEA country that is not a member of Schengen can travel to Norway but must apply for a visa.
- EU and EEA citizens who are not living in an EU, EEA or Schengen country cannot travel to Norway, with some exemptions. The exemptions include those traveling for work, to be a student in the fall of 2020, or if they have a family member living in Norway (spouse, cohabitant, parents, stepparents, grandparents, children, grandchildren/great-grandchildren, siblings, fiancé or girlfriend/boyfriend.)
- Anyone who has travelled internationally must be quarantined for 10 days when arriving Norway. The following groups are exempt from the quarantine requirement:
  - Business travelers from Denmark, Finland, Faroe Islands, Greenland and Iceland.
  - Business travelers coming from Sweden are only exempted while travelling to and from work and while at work.
  - Any person necessary to maintain the proper operation of critical social functions and attend to basic needs of the population, including persons carrying goods and passenger transport.
  - Travelers from European “safe countries”, seen [here](#).

Norway has previously allowed entry to anyone granted a work permit after 1 July, those with study permits, family members of Norwegian nationals or foreigners living in Norway who have been granted a residence permit based on this relationship, and anyone granted a residence permit before 20 April or those from a visa-free country or that has been issued an entry visa and the deadline for entering Norway has not expired.

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## Australia - Travel ban exemption request process streamlined

### What is the change?

The Department of Home Affairs has streamlined the application process for travel ban exemption requests and provided further clarity regarding what are considered critical skills.

#### Key Points:

- The new COVID-19 travel exemption portal supports streamlined business processes and allows applicants to check on the status of their application and prioritization by travel date.
- Individuals and companies may now apply for a travel exemption prior to applying for or obtaining a visa. All travel exemptions requests should be lodged at least four weeks, but not more than three months, before planned travel.
- Further clarity has been provided regarding what are considered critical skills, and travel exemptions requests may be granted if an applicant is a non-citizen:
  - Traveling at the invitation of the Australian Government or a state or territory government authority to assist in the COVID-19 response.
  - Providing critical or specialist medical services, including air ambulance, medical evacuations and delivering critical medical supplies.
  - With critical skills required to maintain the supply of essential goods and services (such as in medical technology, critical infrastructure, telecommunications, engineering and mining, supply chain logistics, agricultural technology, food production, and the maritime industry). This list is not exhaustive.
  - Delivering services in sectors critical to Australia's economic recovery (such as financial technology, large-scale manufacturing, film and television production and emerging technology), where no Australian worker is available.
  - Whose entry would otherwise be in Australia's national interest, supported by the Australian Government or a state or territory government authority.

Businesses are advised to consult with Deloitte regarding whether an individual has skills that would be considered critical for the purpose of obtaining a travel exemption approval or a visa and travel exemption approval to enter Australia.

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For the latest country-specific travel restrictions and immigration information in relation to COVID-19, visit [gowork.ges.deloitte](https://www.deloitte.com/au/en/immigration) to view Deloitte's Digital travel Map.



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