



COVID-19 Global Mobility update

28 October – 04 November 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.

Hong Kong - Addition of Belgium to the list of specified high-risk places

What is the change?

With effect from 3 November 2020, Belgium will be included as a specified place under the Prevention and Control of Disease (Regulation of Cross-boundary Conveyances and Travellers) Regulation (Cap. 599H). The Government had introduced Cap. 599H to impose testing and quarantine conditions on travellers coming to Hong Kong from high-risk places, which currently includes the following: Bangladesh, Ethiopia, France, India, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Russia, South Africa, the United Kingdom (UK), and the United States (US). For more information on the required documents for travellers coming from these places, please refer to the link below.

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India - Latest travel and visa restrictions related to COVID-19

What is the change?

The Ministry of Home Affairs (Foreigners Division) has issued a memorandum with the following travel and visa updates:

1. The following categories of foreign nationals are permitted to enter India through water routes or by flight, including under the Vande Bharat Mission, 'Air Bubble' (Bilateral Air Travel Arrangements) Scheme, or on any non-scheduled commercial flights as permitted by the Ministry of Civil Aviation:
 - Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) cardholders and Persons of Indian Origin (PIO) cardholders holding passports of any country.
 - Foreign nationals intending to visit India for any purpose (including their dependents on the appropriate category of dependent visas), except those on Tourist Visas.
2. All existing visas—except electronic visas (e-Visas), Tourist Visas, and Medical Visas, which remains suspended—shall be restored with immediate effect. If the validity of the visa has expired, the foreign national may obtain a fresh visa under the appropriate category from the Indian Mission/Post concerned.
3. Indian Missions/Posts are authorised to issue single entry X-Misc Visas on a case-by-case basis for foreign nationals not covered by the categories mentioned above and need to travel to India for family emergencies.
4. Nepal and Bhutan nationals are permitted to enter India from any country.
5. India, Nepal, and Bhutan nationals are permitted to travel from India to any country, subject to the travel restrictions of the destination country. Airlines will be responsible for ensuring that passengers are in compliance with the travel restrictions before issuing tickets or boarding passes to India, Nepal, and Bhutan nationals.
6. There will be no restrictions on incoming passenger traffic to India through authorised airport and seaport Immigration Check Posts for all categories of foreign nationals who are permitted to enter India, or those who may be permitted to enter India in future. However, restrictions will continue to apply for foreign nationals holding Tourist Visas.
7. Quarantine and other COVID-19/health-related guidelines issued by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare shall be strictly adhered to.

For more information, please refer to the link below.

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Singapore - More travellers can serve COVID-19 stay-home notice at place of residence

What is the change?

From 4 November 2020, travellers from the following places will be allowed to serve their 14-day stay-home notice at their place of residence in Singapore instead of a dedicated facility: Estonia, Fiji, Finland, Japan, Norway, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Turkey.

To be able to opt out of staying at a dedicated facility, travellers from these places must not have visited any other country in the last 14 days before entering Singapore. They must also be living alone at their place of residence or with household members who are also serving a stay-home notice of the same duration and with the same travel history.

Applications to opt out of dedicated facilities open on 2 November 2020, for arrivals on or after 4 November 2020. Singapore citizens and permanent residents must submit an application before their arrival through the Safe Travel Office website.

In addition, with effect from 1 January 2021, the Government will no longer waive the costs of staying at dedicated stay-home notice facilities for Singapore citizens and permanent residents (PRs) who last left Singapore before 27 March 2020. The Government will also no longer foot inpatient medical bills for Singapore citizens, PRs, and long-term pass holders who left the country before 27 March 2020 if they develop COVID-19 symptoms within 14 days of their arrival in Singapore.

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Chile - Updated list of foreign nationals who may enter the country

What is the change?

The Chilean government has updated its list of foreign nationals who are allowed to enter the country if they qualify for an exemption. These travelers will also be subject to all current COVID-19 testing and quarantine requirements for entry.

Key Points:

- Foreign nationals who are parents or children of a Chilean citizen or foreign legal resident can enter as a tourist. They must show duly apostilled and translated birth certificates and legal documents of the Chilean citizen/foreign resident at the time of entry.
- Foreign nationals who are the spouse or in a civil union legalized inside Chile with a Chilean citizen or foreign legal resident may enter as well. These individuals must present a marriage or civil union certificate issued by the Chilean Civil Registry at the time of entry.
- Foreign nationals who are the spouse or in a civil union legalized abroad with a Chilean citizen or foreign legal resident may be granted entry by presenting a marriage certificate or partnership certificate to a Chilean consulate abroad and requesting “safe passage” to travel to Chile. It’s recommended to apostille and translate this certificate.
- “Safe passage” can also be requested at a Chilean consulate abroad for urgent business travel that is in the national interest of Chile. The granting of said passages is entirely at the discretion of the Chilean immigration authorities.
- Online consular visa services are available again. No information about visa processing and stamping is available as of now. Applications are being processed on a case-by-case basis.

Chile’s borders continue to be closed to most travel at this time. Besides the exemptions listed above, exemptions are available to foreign nationals in transport, connecting passengers who will not leave the airport and those on diplomatic or humanitarian missions.

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European Union - Updated list of third countries safe for travel released

What is the change?

The European Union has updated its COVID-19 travel recommendations, removing Canada, Georgia and Tunisia from its “green list” of countries for which it recommends lifting entry restrictions. Singapore, meanwhile, was added to the green list.

Key Points:

- The EU now recommends that member states lift entry restrictions on residents of the following countries: Australia, Japan, New Zealand, Rwanda, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand and Uruguay.
- Restrictions on residents of Mainland China, Hong Kong and Macao may also be lifted, subject to reciprocity.

Countries may be moved onto or off the list depending on the changing COVID-19 infection rates in each country and countries’ policies toward residents of EU countries.

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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Uruguay - Borders closed to foreign nationals due to rising infection rates

What is the change?

The government of Uruguay has announced that it will not reopen its border to tourists for the South American summer season as it had been expected to stop surging COVID-19 infections.

Key Points:

- Uruguayan borders will closed to non-Uruguayan citizens and residents, although some [exemptions can be made](#).

- Citizens and residents of Uruguay are being urged to stay in the country. New internal restrictions to prevent the movement of citizens and residents are also being added.
- Five COVID-19 checkpoints will operate throughout the country to detect infections.

Uruguayan borders are currently closed to non-Uruguayan citizens and residents, although some exemptions do exist.

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Slovakia - Nationwide lockdown to include testing for foreign nationals, Foreign Police

What is the change?

Slovakia has begun a nationwide lockdown that will last until at least Nov. 8. The lockdown will not apply to the people with a negative Covid-19 test after Nov. 1. All foreign nationals and citizens will be required to undergo COVID-19 testing or quarantine.

Key points:

- Antigen testing will be available for anyone with no age limit, but it is not recommended for people over the age of 65 years, who are spending most of their time at home, also for people with reduced mobility or other health issues, who have reduced social contacts anyway. Children under the age of 10 are not required to undergo testing.
- Testing is voluntary and free of charge, but anyone who does not have a negative test will be required to stay in quarantine for an additional ten days after Nov. 1. However, there will be some exceptions from this restriction (e.g. to the extent necessary to obtain basic necessities, like purchase of food or medicine).
- Testing will be conducted nationwide on Oct. 31 and Nov. 1, after it has already been conducted in four districts with high infection rates on Oct. 23-25.
- All scheduled immigration appointments are cancelled, as Foreign Police offices will be closed Oct. 24 through Nov. 8. Appointments must be rescheduled.

At this time, entry into Slovakia is limited to residents with valid temporary or permanent residency permit and foreign nationals from selected countries.

Employers should ensure workers can comply with local curfew, testing and quarantine restrictions.

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India - Latest updates on air transport bubbles

What is the change?

Air transport bubbles are temporary, reciprocal arrangements between two countries aimed at restarting commercial passenger services when regular international flights are suspended as a result of the COVID-19 situation. Currently, India has air transport bubbles with the following 18 locations: Afghanistan; Bahrain; Bangladesh; Bhutan; Canada; France; Germany; Iraq; Japan; Kenya; Maldives; Nigeria; Oman; Qatar; Ukraine; United Arab Emirates; United Kingdom; and United States.

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Myanmar - Further extension of effective period of temporary measures to prevent importation of COVID-19 to Myanmar through air travel

What is the change?

The Department of Civil Aviation has announced that the temporary suspension of the landing of all international commercial passenger flights at Yangon International Airport (YIA) will be extended until 30 November 2020, 11.59 p.m. (MST).

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Myanmar - Temporary suspension of new e-Visa applications

What is the change?

In light of the evolving COVID-19 situation, the Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population has announced that new e-Visa applications will continue to remain suspended until 30 November 2020.

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Sri Lanka - Extension of visa validity for foreigners until 5 December 2020

What is the change?

The validity of all types of visas issued to foreigners currently residing in Sri Lanka will be extended for a period of 60 days from 7 October 2020 to 5 December 2020. Visa holders will be required to pay the relevant visa fee and will be informed in due course on the arrangements for the passport endorsement. They are to refrain from visiting the Department of Immigration and Emigration in the meantime. If they intend to leave the island during the aforementioned period, their journey will be facilitated by paying the relevant visa fee at the airport without any penalty.

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Thailand - Foreigners overstaying visas could face deportation

What is the change?

Thailand's Immigration Bureau has issued a warning that foreigners who have not applied for visa extensions after 31 October 2020 could face deportation. The Immigration Bureau had previously offered visa waivers to foreigners stranded in Thailand as a result of COVID-19. However, the bureau said that there will be no more visa waiver grants, and late applicants will be dealt with as prescribed by the law.

Applications for visa extensions can be submitted at local immigration offices. Each permission will initially be granted for up to 60 days for all visa types, effective from 1 November 2020.

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Czech Republic - Entry not allowed to foreign nationals for tourism, non-essential travel

What is the change?

The Czech Republic is banning tourists and other non-essential visitors from entering the country as part of a state of emergency in an effort to limit COVID-19 infections.

Key Points:

- Tourists and visitors of Czech citizens and residents will not be allowed to enter the country from Oct. 22 until at least Nov. 3.
- Free travel is limited inside of the country, but trips for work and business are allowed
- Hotels are accepting foreign business travelers and other foreigner travelers who are stranded in the country because of travel restrictions.
- There are also restrictions on government offices and only essential business will be allowed. Services at government offices are limited and only essential services are being offered at this time.
- The move does not affect cross-border workers in any new way. Border controls have not been reintroduced for these individuals.

Czech borders remain open for Czech citizens and residents. The ban on tourists will be reevaluated and may be extended beyond Nov. 3.

Although business travel is allowed, business travelers must still adhere to internal quarantine restrictions inside the Czech Republic. Movement is restricted and non-essential businesses are closed.

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Denmark - New testing, entry requirements implemented

What is the change?

Denmark has implemented new COVID-19 testing requirements for most foreign nationals arriving at Danish borders. The changes took effect Oct. 26 and were implemented to minimize the spread of COVID-19. The new requirements do not apply to Danish nationals or to travelers who are registered at an address in Denmark and hold a valid residence and work permit (non-EU nationals) or a valid yellow health care card (EU nationals).

Key Points:

- **Non-EU arrivals.** Travelers from most non-EU countries are now required to produce the following when entering Denmark:
 - Proof of a worthy cause to enter Denmark (a short list of exceptions applies, but it may change at short notice).
 - Proof of a negative COVID-19 test taken within 72 hours of arrival.
- **EU arrivals.** Travelers arriving from most EU countries are required to produce the following when entering Denmark:
 - Proof of a worthy cause to enter Denmark if the country the traveler is coming from is classified as an “orange” country.
 - Proof of a negative COVID-19 test taken within 72 hours of arrival if the country the traveler is coming from is on the EU’s high-risk classification list.

Companies should advise their employees to determine before traveling whether they have a valid reason to enter the country and whether they need a COVID-19 test. We further advise that individuals traveling to Denmark check to see if there are any departure restrictions in their country or if clearance is needed in order to leave. Deloitte encourages anyone traveling to Denmark to start any required application processes well in advance because of significant processing delays in Denmark at this time.

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Botswana - Immigration services resumed

What is the change?

Botswana has resumed some in-country immigration services that had been suspended because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Key Points:

- Services such as the issuance of passports and processing of work permit applications have resumed.
- Travelers still must obtain permission to enter or exit the country.
- Travelers must also obtain zonal permits to travel across zones within the country.

The resumption of immigration services is good news for employers and foreign employees in Botswana, though they should take note that many travel restrictions still remain in place. The response to the COVID-19 pandemic continues to develop, and Deloitte will provide additional updates as information becomes available.

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France - France implements second lockdown to last for next four weeks

What is the change?

A new, [four-week lockdown](#) took effect on Oct. 30 due to surging COVID-19 infections in France.

- As announced by French President Emmanuel Macron, France will be in lockdown until Dec. 1.
- As part of the lockdown, people in France will only be allowed to leave their homes if they have [one of three attestation forms](#) for essential purposes: food shopping, commuting to work if it is not possible to work from home, medical care, a family emergency or an appointment with public services. Outdoor exercise will be allowed for one hour per day within 1km of the home. Schools will remain open with children six-year-old and older required to wear masks.

- Appointments with the local authorities will remain available.
- Travel restrictions remains the same. Travelers entering France under an exception to the entry ban (e.g., French nationals, third-country nationals holding a residence permit or those performing worked deemed essential) must print out an “International Certificate” and carry it with them when they travel.
- France is currently requiring travelers from non-EU countries to test negative for COVID-19 before entering the country. Travelers from Bahrain, Panama, the United Arab Emirates and the United States must complete a test before traveling. Travelers from all other non-EU countries can be tested at the airport upon arrival if they do not obtain a test before departing for France.

Employers should expect ongoing disruptions to employee mobility.

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Sweden - Temporary ban on non-essential travel extended until Dec. 22

What is the change?

The government of Sweden has extended its temporary ban on non-essential travel of foreign nationals until Dec. 22. The decision was made to try to slow the spread of COVID-19 infections.

- Citizens and residents of the European Union, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland and the United Kingdom are exempt from the ban and can still enter.
- The ban does not apply to Swedish citizens, foreign nationals with a Swedish residence permit and foreign nationals with an essential reason for travel. Read about [all exemptions here](#).
- Family members of Swedish nationals, such as spouses, cohabitating partners and children, are also exempt.

The temporary entry ban was first enforced on March 19. It has been extended several times.

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South Africa - Temporary concession announced for intra-company transfer visa holders

What is the change?

South Africa recently announced a temporary concession for holders of intra-company transfer (ICT) visas residing inside the country.

- Holders of valid ICT visas residing in South Africa are now allowed to apply for another 24-month term for the intra-company visa they currently hold.
- Holders of ICT visas that expired during the lockdown, the current period or will expire by June 31, 2021, are eligible to apply. The following conditions apply:
 - Such ICT visa applications are new applications with no validity period continuation for the current visa.
 - The ICT visa does not contribute to the establishment of permanent residence.
 - The ICT visa holder will stay employed by the same employer when the first and current ICT visa was granted
 - There can be no change in employer, status or condition from the current visa.
- Applicants must also be able to provide:
 - Proof the South Africa branch of the employer abroad still needs the ICT visa holder's services; and
 - Verifiable documents that prove the skill transfer to a South African or permanent residence was completed during the four years of the initial employment. We are establishing what details are required to be verified.

The new temporary visa concession only applies to holders of ICT visas residing in South Africa during the lockdown.

The temporary visa concession will provide some relief to ICT visa holders residing in South Africa.

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Qatar - Low-risk countries Green List updated

What is the change?

Qatar has updated its COVID-19 Green List, the list of low-risk COVID-19 countries.

Officials increased the total number of low-risk countries to 48. The list is [here](#).

- Travelers returning to Qatar from one of the countries on the COVID-19 Green List are eligible for home quarantine.
- Such travelers are required to remain in home quarantine for at least seven days upon returning to Qatar.

Travelers from low-risk countries must still receive a COVID-19 test at the airport and sign a pledge to enter a home quarantine for one week after arriving in Qatar. After the home quarantine, travelers must receive a second COVID-19 test from a dedicated health center. Travelers with positive results must enter isolation at a government facility and those with negative results will be free to leave quarantine.

Travelers from high-risk countries will be asked to undergo a COVID-19 test at Doha airport. They will need to undergo a hotel quarantine booked from [Discover Qatar](#) for seven days. On the sixth day of the hotel quarantine, they will need to go to a dedicated health center in Qatar to get another COVID-19 test. Travelers with positive results must enter isolation at a government facility and those with negative results will need to undergo a home quarantine for another week.

Travelers who present a valid COVID-19 test certificate taken within 48 hours prior travelling to Qatar from a dedicated testing center are exempt from taking the COVID-19 test at the airport upon arrival. As of today, dedicated testing centers are currently available only for those coming from [Thailand](#), [Germany](#), [United Kingdom](#) and [Turkey](#). The updated list can be checked at the [Ministry of Public Health \(MoPH\)](#) website. Everyone arriving in Qatar must download and install the [Ehteraz app](#).

The addition of countries to the Green List is part of Qatar's plan to gradually ease pandemic restrictions.

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India - Latest updates on state lockdowns

What is the change?

- Maharashtra: Existing lockdown restrictions have been extended until 30 November 2020. This will not affect current relaxations, and the activities allowed till now will continue to be permissible. More details can be found [here](#).
- Tamil Nadu: Lockdown restrictions have been extended until 30 November 2020. However, the state government has also provided a set of relaxations, including allowing higher secondary schools and education institutions to resume physical classes. More details can be found [here](#).

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India - Scheduled international passenger flights suspended until 30 November 2020

What is the change?

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation has announced that scheduled international passenger flights have been suspended until 30 November 2020. However, selected routes may be permitted on a case-by-case basis.

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Singapore - Singapore to lift border restrictions for visitors from mainland China and Australia's Victoria state from 6 November 2020

What is the change?

Singapore will lift its border restrictions for all visitors from mainland China and Australia's Victoria state—including all travellers who are not Singapore citizens, permanent residents, or long-term pass holders—from midnight on 6 November 2020.

From 12 p.m. on 30 October 2020, visitors travelling from mainland China and Victoria state can apply for an Air Travel Pass (ATP) for entry into Singapore on or after 6 November 2020. Applicants must have remained in either mainland China or Australia in the last 14 consecutive days prior to their entry and must travel to Singapore on direct flights without transit. More details on the conditions of the Air Travel Pass, application requirements, and process can be found [here](#).

Travellers will then undergo a COVID-19 polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test upon arrival at the airport. They will be allowed to go about their activities in Singapore, without a need to serve a stay-home notice, if their test result is negative.

From midnight on 6 November 2020, Singapore citizens, permanent residents, and long-term pass holders returning from mainland China and Victoria state will similarly undergo a COVID-19 PCR test upon arrival. They will also be allowed to go about their activities in Singapore without a need to serve stay-home notice if their test results are negative.

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Israel - Pandemic requirements for entry of foreign experts updated

What is the change?

Applicants for Israeli work permits will no longer need a “necessity confirmation” from the government of Israel in order to apply for a work permit.

- The requirement for a “necessity confirmation” will be dropped to expedite work permits to foreign experts. “Necessity confirmation” is a letter from the employer informing the government why there is an urgent and essential need for the entry of the foreign expert to Israel.
- Foreign experts who arrive from a “red location” country for seven days or less will still have to meet the requirement.
- Foreign experts with approved entry who are entering Israel from a "red location" country must self-isolate for 14 days. Those from “green location” countries do not have to self-isolate
- Self-isolation health forms need to be sent via email to the Ministry of Health prior to the arrival of the expert to the Israeli border control. Foreign experts from both “red” and “green location” countries need pre-authorization from the Immigration and Population Authority in order to board their flight to Israel.
- In exceptional cases, a foreign expert from a “red location” country may be given special permission to leave self-isolation after entering Israel for the purpose of carrying out vital and essential work for the Israeli economy. This permission must be granted by the relevant government ministry and is limited to seven days.

The “necessity confirmation” requirement was put in place at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic in order to limit infections.

The change in requirements should make obtaining a work permit faster.

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For the latest country-specific travel restrictions and immigration information in relation to COVID-19, visit gowork.ges.deloitte to view Deloitte’s Digital travel Map.



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