

Regarding denial of landing to prevent the spread of COVID-19
(novel Coronavirus)

September 1, 2020

1. Regarding denial of landing

Regarding COVID-19 (novel coronavirus), which is spreading throughout the world, based on Cabinet approval on January 31, 2020 and the announcement by the COVID-19 Measures Headquarters, and so on for the time being, the Ministry of Justice considers foreign nationals who fall under any of the following to be foreign nationals who fall under Article 5, paragraph (1), item (xiv) of the Immigration Control (See note 1) and Refugee Recognition Act (hereinafter referred to as the “Immigration Control Act”) and unless there are **special exceptional circumstances**, the foreign national will be subject to denial of landing.

Special permanent residents are not subject to the examination under Article 5, paragraph (1) of the Immigration Control Act and therefore landing will not be denied based on the above-mentioned measures.

- Foreign nationals who stayed in the countries / regions listed in accompanying table within 14 days before the application for landing
- Foreign nationals holding a passport issued in Hubei or Zhejiang, China
- Foreign nationals who were onboard the cruise ship Westerdam that departed from Hong Kong

2. Regarding special exceptional circumstances

If any of the following (1) to (5) applies to the foreign national, landing will be permitted on the premise that there are **special exceptional circumstances**.

From the standpoint of preventing and controlling epidemics, please note that, in principle, additional epidemic prevention and control measures are required for entry and re-entry as described in the [“Additional epidemic prevention and control measures for the entry and re-entry of foreign nationals”](#).

- (1) Foreign nationals who departed from Japan up until August 31 with a re-entry permit (including a special re-entry permit; the same applies

hereinafter) and are in possession of a Letter of Confirmation of Submitting Required Documentation for Re-entry into Japan issued by the Japanese embassy/consulate in the country/region of stay.

- (2) Foreign nationals who departed from Japan with a re-entry permit on or after September and who are in possession of a Receipt for Request of Re-entry issued by the Immigration Services Agency before departure (Note 2).
- (3) Foreign nationals who departed from Japan with a re-entry permit before August 31 and who were not permitted to re-enter Japan because the validity period of the re-entry permission expired after the country/region of stay was designated an area subject to denial of landing (Note 3).
- (4) Foreign nationals applying for landing in accordance with the “Phased Measures for Resuming Cross-Border Travel” (Note 4).
- (5) In addition to the above (1) to (4), foreign nationals who are recognized to be in special exceptional circumstances corresponding to an individual situation such as the need for humanitarian consideration (for specific cases, see [“Specific examples of cases where permission for entry or re-entry may be granted due to being cases of special exceptional circumstances corresponding to an individual situation in relation to the measures for denial of landing relating to prevention of the spread of the novel coronavirus \(COVID-19\)”](#)).

(Note 1) Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act (Extract)
(Denial of Landing)

Article 5 (1) A foreign national who falls under any of the following items is denied permission to land in Japan:

Paragraphs (i) to (xiii) (Omitted)

(xiv) Beyond those persons listed in items (i) through (xiii), a person whom the Minister of Justice has reasonable grounds to believe is likely to commit an act which could be detrimental to the interests or public security of Japan.

(2) Omitted

(Note 2) If you depart from Japan with a re-entry permit on or after September 1, you will need to obtain a Receipt for Request of Re-entry from the Immigration Services Agency before departing from Japan. Please note that if you depart from Japan without obtaining a Receipt for Request of Re-entry, you will, in principle, become subject to denial of landing as having no special exceptional circumstances. [Please click here for the procedure for issuance of a Receipt for Request of Re-entry.](#)

(Note 3) Depending on the purpose of your entry, you may need to get a Certificate of Eligibility at the regional immigration bureau and get Japan

Visa at the Japanese embassy/consulate in the country/region.

(Note 4) The “Phased Measures for Resuming Cross-Border Travel” are measures to be implemented on a trial basis where the entry and departure of persons necessary for business purposes are to be permitted based on additional epidemic prevention and control measures such as the submission of a pre-departure Certificate of Testing for COVID-19 or the installation of a contact checking app for applicable areas subject to denial of landing where the situation of infection is stable (see the [Ministry of Foreign Affairs website for details](#)).

Contact: Adjudication Division, Immigration Department, Immigration Services Agency

Tel: (Operator) 03-3580-4111 (Ext. No. 4446 • 4447)

		Asia	Oceania	North America	Latin America	Europe	Middle East	Africa
Added countries / Regions	73	Indonesia, Singapore, Thailand, Korea, Taiwan, China (including Hong Kong and Macau), Philippines, Brunei, Vietnam, Malaysia	Australia, New Zealand	Canada, United States	Ecuador, Chile, Dominica, Panama, Brazil, Bolivia	Iceland, Ireland, Albania, Armenia, Andorra, Italy, United Kingdom, Estonia, Austria, Netherlands, Northern Macedonia, Cyprus, Greece, Croatia, Kosovo, San Marino, Switzerland, Sweden, Spain, Slovakia, Slovenia, Serbia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Norway, Vatican, Hungary, Finland, France, Bulgaria, Belgium, Poland, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Portugal, Malta, Monaco, Moldova, Montenegro, Latvia, Lithuania, Liechtenstein, Romania, Luxembourg	Israel, Iran, Turkey, Bahrain	Egypt, Ivory Coast, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mauritius, Morocco
April 29	14				Antigua and Barbuda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Dominican Republic, Barbados, Peru	Ukraine, Belarus, Russia	United Arab Emirates, Oman, Qatar, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia	Djibouti
May 16	13	Maldives			Uruguay, Colombia, Bahamas, Honduras, Mexico	Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan		Cabo Verde, Gabon, Guinea-Bissau, São Tomé and Príncipe, Equatorial Guinea
May 27	11	India, Pakistan, Bangladesh			Argentina, El Salvador	Kyrgyz, Tajikistan	Afghanistan	Ghana, Guinea, South Africa
July 1	18				Guyana, Cuba, Guatemala, Grenada, Costa Rica, Jamaica, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Nicaragua, Haiti	Georgia	Iraq, Lebanese	Algeria, Eswatini, Cameroon, Senegal, Central African Republic, Mauritania
July 24	17	Nepal			Suriname, Paraguay, Venezuela	Uzbekistan	Palestine	Kenya, Comoros, Congo, Sierra Leone, the Sudan, Somalia, Namibia, Botswana, Madagascar, Libya, Liberia
August 30	13	Bhutan			Trinidad and Tobago, Belize			Ethiopia, Gambia, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Tunisia, Nigeria, Malawi, South Sudan, Rwanda, Lesotho