

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

September 17, 2021

Along with the announcement by the Government of Japan on September 17, 2021, foreign nationals entering Japan with re-entry permit (including a special re-entry permit) will no longer be subject to denial of landing even if the foreign nationals hold the records for staying in India, Nepal, Bangladesh, Maldives, Sri Lanka or Afghanistan within 14 days before the day of application for landing.

Please see 2 below and this page ([Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare website](#)) for further information.

#### 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 Novel Coronavirus Response Headquarters, and so on for the time being, the Ministry of Justice considers foreign nationals who hold the record for staying in the countries / regions listed in attached table 1 within 14 days before the day of application for landing 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.

With regard to foreign nationals corresponding to attached table 2 who are subject to the denial of landing before now, these designation of denial of landing has been cancelled(Thailand was once removed from the list of the areas subject to landing denial on November 11, 2020, but it was added again to the list on May 21, 2021). 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.

## 2. Regarding special exceptional circumstances

If any of the following (1) to (4) 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, it is necessary to obtain a pre-departure Certificate of Testing for COVID-19(see the Ministry of Justice website [“Certificate of Testing for COVID-19”](#)).

(1) Foreign nationals entering Japan with re-entry permit (including a special re-entry permit; the same applies hereinafter). **Until September 19, 2021, foreign nationals entering Japan with re-entry permit who fall under any of the following.**

- Foreign nationals who do not hold the record for staying in India, Nepal, Bangladesh, Maldives, Sri Lanka or Afghanistan(Note 2). After May 20, 2021, foreign nationals who do not hold the record for staying in Maldives or Bangladesh within 14 days before the day of application for landing in addition to India, Pakistan or Nepal. After May 21, 2021, foreign nationals who do not hold the record for staying in Sri Lanka within 14 days before the day of application for landing in addition to above countries. After June 3, 2021, foreign nationals who do not hold the record for staying in Afghanistan within 14 days before the day of application for landing in addition to above countries.

- Among the foreign nationals who hold the record for staying in India, or Nepal within 14 days before the day of application for landing, foreign nationals who departed from Japan by May 13, 2021 with the status of residence of “Permanent Resident” , “Spouse or Child of Japanese National” , “Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident” or “Long-Term Resident” (including a spouse or a child of a Japanese national/permanent resident without these statuses of residence).

- Among the foreign nationals who hold the record for staying in Maldives or Bangladesh within 14 days before the day of application for landing, foreign nationals who departed from Japan by May 19, 2021 with the status of residence of “Permanent Resident” , “Spouse or Child of Japanese National” , “Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident” or

“Long-Term Resident” (including a spouse or a child of a Japanese national/permanent resident without these statuses of residence).

- Among the foreign nationals who hold the record for staying in Sri Lanka within 14 days before the day of application for landing, foreign nationals who departed from Japan by May 20, 2021 with the status of residence of “Permanent Resident” , “Spouse or Child of Japanese National” , “Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident” or “Long-Term Resident” (including a spouse or a child of a Japanese national/permanent resident without these statuses of residence)

- Among the foreign nationals who hold the record for staying in Afghanistan within 14 days before the day of application for landing, foreign nationals who departed from Japan by June 2, 2021 with the status of residence of “Permanent Resident” , “Spouse or Child of Japanese National” , “Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident” or “Long-Term Resident” (including a spouse or a child of a Japanese national/permanent resident without these statuses of residence)

(2) Foreign nationals newly entering Japan who fall under any of the following (Note 3).

- Foreign nationals who departed from Japan with a re-entry permit before August 31, 2020 and who were not permitted to re-enter Japan because the validity period of the re-entry permission expired after the country/region of stay was designated an area subject to denial of landing (**Until September 19, 2021, except for foreign nationals who hold the record for staying in India, Nepal, Maldives, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka or Afghanistan within 14 days before the day of application for landing.**) .
- Spouse or child of a Japanese national/permanent resident.
- Spouse or child of a foreign national who has a status of residence of "Long-Term Resident" whose family is staying in Japan and who has been separated from the family.
- A foreign national who is about to acquire the status of "Instructor" or "Professor" and who needs to enter Japan to fill a vacancy at the educational institution s/he belongs or will belong to, of which vacancy results in the suspension of the educational activities at the above-mentioned educational institution.

- A foreign national who is about to acquire the status of "Medical Services", and who contributes to the enhancement and strengthening of Japanese medical systems.
- (3) A foreign national who has or is about to acquire the status of residence of "Diplomat" or "Official".
- (4) In addition to the above (1) to (3), foreign nationals who are recognized to be in special exceptional circumstances corresponding to an individual situation such as the need for humanitarian consideration or the need for public benefit (Note 4).

(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) Since May 14, 2021, foreign nationals entering Japan with re-entry permit who hold the record for staying in Pakistan within 14 days before the day of application for landing have been subject to denial of landing, but this measure was cancelled on August 13, 2021.

(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) Examples of cases where public benefit is recognized are as follows.  
• Engineers engaged in vaccine development

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Table 1 List of areas subject to landing denial

	Asia	Oceania	North America	Latin America	Europe	Middle East	Africa	
2020	April 3 / 64 countries	Indonesia, Philippines, Malaysia	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 countries			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 countries	Maldives		Uruguay, Colombia, Bahamas, Honduras, Mexico	Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan		Cabo Verde, Gabon, Guinea-Bissau, São Tomé and Príncipe, Equatorial Guinea	
	May 27 / 11 countries	India, Pakistan, Bangladesh		Argentina, El Salvador	Kyrgyz, Tajikistan	Afghanistan	Ghana, Guinea, South Africa	
	July 1 / 18 countries			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 / 7 countries	Nepal		Suriname, Paraguay, Venezuela	Uzbekistan	Palestine	Kenya, Comoros, Congo, Sierra Leone, the Sudan, Somalia, Namibia, Botswana, Madagascar, Libya, Liberia	
	August 30 / 13 countries	Bhutan		Trinidad and Tobago, Belize			Ethiopia, Gambia, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Tunisia, Nigeria, Malawi, South Sudan, Rwanda, Lesotho	
	September 1 / 2 countries	Myanmar				Jordan		
	2021	May 21 / 7 countries	Cambodia, Sri Lanka, Thailand, East Timor, Mongolia		Saint Lucia			Seychelles
		August 26 / 1 country		Fiji				

Table 2 Removal list of landing denial

1. Foreign nationals holding a passport issued in Hubei or Zhejiang, China (2020/11/1remove)
  2. Foreign nationals who were onboard the cruise ship Westerdam that departed from Hong Kong (2020/11/1remove)
  3. Foreign nationals who stayed in the countries / regions listed in the table below within 14 days before the application for landing (2020/11/1remove)
- ※ Thailand was removed from the list of the areas subject to landing denial on November 11, 2020, but will be added again to the list on May 21, 2021.

		Asia	Oceania
2 0 2 0	s A p r i l  3	g r e g i o n e s  /	Singapore, Korea, Taiwan, China (including Hong Kong and Macau), Brunei, Vietnam
			Australia, New Zealand