

Japan's Enhanced Protection Measures to tackle COVID-19
(Enhanced Quarantine Protocol for Entrants from the United States)

3/23/2020

1. The Government of Japan (GOJ) decided to take the following measure, for entrants from the United States (US), to enhance quarantine in Japan:

- Upon arrival to Japan, entrants from the entire US are requested to self-quarantine for 14 days at locations designated by Director of quarantine station and refrain from using public transportation during this period.
- The above measure applies to those who have departed from the US to Japan after 0am on March 26th (JST)/11am on March 25th (EST), by air or sea, and will continue to be in effect until the end of April.
- The duration for the above protocol is subject to change.

2. If you are a traveler from the US to Japan, please be very careful of the following:

(1) All entrants arriving in Japan (including Japanese nationals, regardless of the purpose of visit), via flight etc., including those with no particular symptoms of COVID-19, will be asked to self-quarantine for 14 days at locations designated by Director of quarantine station (home, hotel etc.) and refrain from using public transportation.

Note: Public transportation includes means of transportation accessible to the public by paying a fare (commercial domestic flights & ships, local buses (including ones operated by hotels), trains, and taxis etc.). This excludes rented cars, chauffeured-driven cars and privately owned cars (by a family member or a friend).

(2) Please confirm the following before your departure:

- You have planned your stay in Japan, which includes the above quarantine measure, and you do not foresee any difficulty during your stay.
- You have arranged accommodation (hotels, etc.) for the 14 days self-quarantine period, which will start immediately after your entry into Japan.
- You have arranged transportation (excluding public transportation) from the airport to your accommodation.

Note: You will bear the cost for the accommodation during the 14 days period.

Note: You will need to arrange transportation from the airport to your accommodation. If you are unable to arrange means of transportation from the airport, you are expected to find an accommodation, which is within a walking distance from the airport.

3. The GOJ has already applied the above measure to all entrants departing from the following countries and regions:

South Korea, China (including Hong Kong and Macau), Iceland, Ireland, Andorra, Italy, United Kingdom, Estonia, Austria, Netherlands, Cyprus, Greece, Croatia, San Marino, Switzerland, Sweden, Spain, Slovakia, Slovenia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Norway, Vatican, Hungary, Finland, France, Bulgaria, Belgium, Poland, Portugal, Malta, Monaco, Latvia, Lithuania, Liechtenstein, Romania, Luxemburg, Iran, Egypt

4. For more information, please contact the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare at +81-3-3595-2176 (from locations outside Japan). Operators are available in Japanese, English, Chinese and Korean.

FAQ

Q1. Does the measure apply to those who departed, by air or sea, from a country that is on the enhanced quarantine list, but traveled through a third country immediately before entering Japan?

A1. Yes, in general. Please report to the quarantine station a) if you have visited a country, on the enhanced quarantine list, within 14 days before entry to Japan, or b) if you have physically been in a country, with which travel restrictions are applied under the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act (Please see the link below), within 14 days before entry to Japan, regardless of when the region was added to the enhanced quarantine list.

http://www.moj.go.jp/EN/nyuukokukanri/kouhou/m_nyuukokukanri01_00003.html

Q2. Does the measure apply to those who departed from a country, by air or sea, that is not on the enhanced quarantine list, but did travel through a country that is on the enhanced quarantine list?

A2. Yes, in general.

Q3. Do I need to self-quarantine myself for 14 days, at a location, in Japan, designated by the Director of the quarantine station, if I departed from a country that is on the enhanced quarantine list, and intend to transfer from Japan to another country, by air or by sea?

A3. No, unless you intend to enter Japan through immigration (passport control). If you choose to stay in Japan during your transit, you will need to self-quarantine yourself at a location designated by the Director of the quarantine station, and you are also requested not to use public transportation. However, you do not need to self-quarantine yourself for the full duration of 14 days, but during your whole stay, until you depart Japan for your next destination.

Q4. Can I take means of transportation provided by the hotel, which I will be staying at, if the hotel is fairly close to the airport?

A4. No, if you have come from a country that is on the enhanced quarantine list, please refrain from using transportation means, which is shared by an unspecified large number of people.

Q5. Does my hotel need to be within a certain radius from the airport?

A5. No, there are no requirements on how far your hotel can be located. However, the GOJ still requests that you do not use public transportation to reach your hotel.

Q6. What happens if I use public transportation? Are there any penalties?

A6. No, there are no penalties. However, the GOJ strongly requests that you do not use public transportation, in order to protect the lives of the communities.