



TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS DUE TO THE NEW COVID-19 STRAIN

Last updated: January 28, 2021

Travelers departing from or who have been to the following countries in the past 14 days are **NOT ALLOWED** to enter the Philippines at this time effective until January 31, 2021.

- Australia
- Austria
- Brazil
- Canada
- China
- Denmark
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Hong Kong
- Hungary
- Iceland
- India
- Ireland
- Israel
- Italy
- Jamaica
- Japan
- Jordan
- Lebanon
- Luxembourg
- Netherlands
- Norway
- Oman
- Pakistan
- Portugal
- Singapore
- South Africa
- South Korea
- Spain
- Sweden

- Switzerland
- United Arab Emirates
- United Kingdom
- United States of America

EXEMPTIONS FROM THE TRAVEL BAN

All passengers who belong in the list below may enter the Philippines and are subject to applicable testing and quarantine protocols prescribed by the Department of Health.

1. Foreign nationals with valid visas, which include personnel of accredited international organizations
2. Spouse and minor children of Filipino citizens traveling with them
3. Persons arriving for medical and emergency cases, including their medical escorts, if any
4. Land, air, or sea travel by uniformed personnel, government officials and employees for official business with the corresponding travel authority, and authorized HAAs, especially those transporting medical supplies and laboratory specimens related to COVID-19 and other relief and humanitarian assistance
5. OFWs, students enrolled abroad and participants accepted in exchange visitor programs, permanent residents of foreign jurisdictions, and foreign nationals
6. Outbound travel of Filipinos, regardless of purpose, may be allowed subject to compliance with the following requirements:
 - a) For those traveling on tourist or short-term/visitor visas, they must submit their confirmed round-trip tickets and adequate travel and health insurance to cover travel disruptions and hospitalization in case of COVID-19 infections during their allowable period of stay abroad.
 - b) Travelers must execute a Bureau of Immigration Declaration acknowledging the risks involved in traveling, including risk of delay in their return trip. This is to be provided at the check-in counters by the airlines.
 - c) Whenever required by the country of destination or the airline, travelers must have a negative COVID-19 test in accordance with the health and safety protocols of such destination country or airline. Upon return, they shall follow the Guidelines of the National Task Force (NTF) for Returning Overseas Filipinos.

The foregoing provisions shall not be interpreted to allow outbound travel by Filipinos to countries where travel restrictions are in place. This is without prejudice to the exercise of the mandate of the Bureau of Immigration prior to departure.

PROCEDURES FOR PASSENGERS ENTERING THE PHILIPPINES

Starting February 1, 2021, all passengers allowed entry in the Philippines must adhere to the following testing and quarantine protocols:

1. Arriving passengers, regardless of origin, must undergo facility-based quarantine upon arrival.
2. Unless the passenger exhibits symptoms at an earlier date while on quarantine, Reverse Transcription Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) test shall be conducted on the fifth day from date of arrival in the Philippines.
3. If the RT-PCR test yields a negative result, the passenger shall be endorsed to their local government units (LGUs) of destination who must:
 - a) Coordinate transfer of said passenger from quarantine facility to the LGU
 - b) Strictly monitor the remainder of the fourteen-day quarantine through their respective Barangay Health Emergency Response Teams
4. In all of the foregoing, appropriate patient management must be observed as outlined in the following:
 - a) Philippine Society for Microbiology and Infectious Diseases guidelines
 - b) Department of Health Omnibus Interim Guidelines on Prevention, Detection, Isolation, Treatment and Reintegration Strategies for COVID-19

HELP DESKS

At the airport, you may get assistance from the following agencies in charge:

- Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA) for land-based OFWs
- Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) for seafarers
- Department of Tourism for non-OFWs

BALIKBAYANS NOT COVERED BY THE TRAVEL BAN

For balikbayans, specifically those coming from countries not covered by the travel ban, here are the things you need to know:

Who are allowed?

BALIKBAYANS (returning Filipinos) will be allowed to come home and allowed visa-free entry. Click this [link](#) to read about the IATF Resolution No. 85.

An overview of what you need to do:

1. Pre-register online three days before the flight. Learn how to pre-register [here](#).
2. Upon arrival at the airport, balikbayans will undergo the standard Bureau of Quarantine health check and a briefing from the Philippine Coast Guard, who will verify personal information submitted online.
3. There will be an RT-PCR swab test upon arrival at a laboratory operating at the airport. The airport has three testing providers — PAL (Philippine Airlines), PAGS (Philippine Airport Ground Support Solution, Inc.), and Red Cross. Non-OFWs will need to pay PHP4,000 for the test.
4. After the swab test, balikbayans will proceed to quarantine facilities while waiting for the test results.
5. If you are a non-OFW balikbayan, go to the DOT help desk to get assistance in hotel verification. Balikbayans can then proceed to their pre-booked hotels to wait for the test results. Only hotel cars, airport metered / coupon taxis, and DOT-accredited vehicles are allowed for airport transfer.

Where to stay, duration

Only the following Accommodation Establishment may accommodate balikbayans and their families for quarantine purposes while waiting for the results of their RT-PCR Tests:

Manila

Cebu

Clark

TEST RESULTS

Accommodation Establishments are required to disclose a traveler's RT-PCR test result as a precondition for check-out.

- Those with negative COVID-19 test results shall be allowed to check out and proceed to their onward destinations or transfer to an Accommodation Establishment for Staycation (if within a GCQ area) or to a regular hotel (if within an MGCQ area).
- Those with positive COVID-19 test results shall be referred to the Barangay Health Emergency Response Team (BHERT) or a referral hospital for further medical

management in accordance with the COVID-19 protocols set by the Department of Health (DOH), or to a quarantine facility in coordination with the Bureau of Quarantine (BOQ), or provided transportation to their homes for home quarantine, whichever is applicable, subject to the regulations of the relevant LGU.

Leisure travel within the Philippines

Once travelers have received their negative test results, they are free to travel as tourists within the Philippines. However, they still need to follow protocols set by the local government of their destination. Some will require another set of testing. To know more go to <https://philippines.travel/safetrip#safetyprotocols>.

For more information about the Philippines, visit app.philippines.travel.