

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

June 1, 2022

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 (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 (Note 2). 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

The following are specific examples of permitting landing due to **special exceptional circumstances**.

Also 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 Immigration Services Agency 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)(Note 3).
- (2) Foreign nationals newly entering Japan who fall under any of the following .
 - 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.

- Spouse or child of a Japanese national/permanent resident.
- A foreign national who is to acquire the status of residence of “Long-Term Resident”.
- A foreign national who is to acquire the status of “Dependent” or “Designated Activities (limited to Public Notice Nos. 7, 18, 19, 23, 24, 30, 31, 34, 38, 45, and 47)”.
- A foreign national who is to acquire the status of residence of "Diplomat" or "Official".
- **A foreign national entering Japan under “New measures for border enforcement (27) on February 24, 2022”(Note 4).**
- A foreign national who is to acquire the status of residence of “Temporary Visitor” for the purpose of visiting a relative/an acquaintance (in a case of visiting an acquaintance, only a foreign national who have a relationship to him/her equivalent to a relative, or who is recognized his/her necessity to visit Japan.) (Note 5).
- In addition to the above, foreign nationals who are recognized to be in special exceptional circumstances corresponding to an individual situation such as the need for humanitarian consideration (Note 6) or the need for public benefit(Note 7).

(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) Depending on the purpose of your entry, foreign nationals (including those who do not hold the record for staying in the countries / regions listed in attached table 1) 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, except for those entering with a re-entry permit(including a special re-entry permit).

(Note 3) If you have departed Japan on a normal re-entry permit and the period

of your re-entry permit has expired, you will need to apply for a Certificate of Eligibility and a visa. For more details, please refer to item no. 3 of [“Handling of foreign nationals planning to enter Japan”](#) on the Immigration Services Agency of Japan’s website.

For foreign nationals residing in Japan who have been granted special re-entry permission, the validity period will be one year (two years for special permanent residents) from the date of departure*. However, if the period of stay expires before one year has passed from the date of departure, the validity period will be until that expiration date. For more information, please refer to [“Special re-entry permission \(Immigration Control Act, Article 26-2\)”](#) on the Immigration Service Agency of Japan’s website.

* Please note that this is different from the validity period of your residence card.

(Note 4) The New entry of foreign nationals into Japan under the supervision of receiving organizations is allowed when they get Japan Visa at the Japanese embassy/consulate in the country/region, except for those entering Japan for tourism.

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

(Note 5) A relative / An acquaintance residing in Japan has to pledge to take quarantine measure as Inviting Person when applicants apply for visa at the Japanese embassy / consulate.

The following are examples of cases where relationship equivalent to a relative or necessity to visit Japan is recognized.

- A foreign national who has relationship with a person residing in Japan equivalent to a relative as listed below;
 - Betrothed
 - Common-law marriage

○ A foreign national could be recognized his/her necessity to visit Japan.

- A person who attend to wedding or funeral
- A person who is visits a sick acquaintance

(Note 6) The following are examples of cases where the need for special humanitarian consideration is recognized.

- A foreign national who is in serious condition for his/her illness and need his/her treatment in Japan.

(Note 7) Public benefit is recognized when there is a high necessity and a high urgency. The following is an example where the public benefit is recognized.

- Engineers engaged in vaccine development

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Table 1 List of areas subject to landing denial

		Latin America	Europe	Middle East	Africa
2020	9 A p r i l 3 / s c o u n t r i e s		Armenia, Estonia, Slovakia, Bulgaria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Moldova		Egypt, Ivory Coast, Democratic Republic of the Congo
	4 A p r i l 29 s c o u n t r i e s		Ukraine, Belarus, Russia		Djibouti
	4 M a y 16 s c o u n t r i e s				Gabon, Guinea-Bissau, São Tomé and Príncipe, Equatorial Guinea
	5 M a y 27 s c o u n t r i e s		Kyrgyz	Afghanistan	Ghana, Guinea, South Africa
	13 J u l y 1 s c o u n t r i e s	Guatemala, Grenada, Jamaica, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Haiti		Iraq, Lebanese	Algeria, Eswatini, Cameroon, Senegal, Central African Republic, Mauritania
	11 J u l y 24 s c o u n t r i e s			Palestine	Kenya, Comoros, Congo, Sierra Leone, the Sudan, Somalia, Namibia, Madagascar, Libya, Liberia
	8 A u g u s t 30 s c o u n t r i e s				Ethiopia, Gambia, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Nigeria, Malawi, South Sudan, Lesotho
	1 M a y 21 s c o u n t r y	Saint Lucia			
1 D e c e m b e r 2 s c o u n t r y				Angola	

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

		Asia	Oceania	North America	Latin America	Europe	Middle East	Africa
2020	November 11	Singapore, Korea, Taiwan, China (including Hong Kong and Macau), Brunei, Vietnam	Australia, New Zealand					
	April 8	India, Indonesia, Cambodia, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Nepal, Pakistan, Bangladesh, East Timor, Philippines, Bhutan, Malaysia, Myanmar, Maldives, Mongolia	Fiji	Canada, United States	Argentine, Antigua and Barbuda, Uruguay, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guyana, Cuba, Costa Rica, Colombia, Suriname, Kitts and Nevis, Chile, Dominican Republic, Dominica, Trinidad and Tobago, Nicaragua, Panama, Bahamas, Paraguay, Barbados, Brazil, Venezuela, Belize, Peru, Bolivia, Honduras, Mexico	Iceland, Ireland, Azerbaijan, Albania, Andorra, Italy, Uzbekistan, United Kingdom, Austria, Netherlands, Kazakhstan, Northern Macedonia, Cyprus, Greece, Croatia, Kosovo, San Marino, Georgia, Switzerland, Sweden, Spain, Slovenia, Serbia, Tajikistan, Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Norway, Vatican, Hungary, Finland, France, Belgium, Poland, Portugal, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Latvia, Lithuania, Liechtenstein, Romania, Luxembourg	United Arab Emirates, Israel, Iran, Oman, Qatar, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Bahrain, Jordan	Cabo Verde, Seychelles, Tunisia, Botswana, Mozambique, Mauritius, Morocco, Rwanda