



COVID-19 Outbreak Update

16 February

SOLACE GLOBAL

Executive Summary

Solace Global advises against all travel to China at this time due to the ongoing travel restrictions, cancelled flights, confirmed cases of the virus and government warnings. Business operations in China continue to face significant disruption and further travel restrictions in both China and Asia are possible.

Latest Updates

The Director-General of the World Health Organisation has urged governments to increase their efforts to prepare for COVID-19 and believes ‘it’s impossible to predict which direction this epidemic will take’.

Despite calls for increased international cooperation, Cambodian authorities have disputed Malaysian test results after an American passenger from the cruise ship *MS Westerdam* tested positive for the virus in Malaysia. The ship docked in the Cambodian port of Sihanoukville after being turned away by multiple countries. The 83-year-old woman, after disembarking in Cambodia, flew to Malaysia’s Kuala Lumpur International Airport and showed symptoms of infection.

Eight of the nine people diagnosed with COVID-19 in the United Kingdom have left the hospital, having now twice tested negatively for the virus. More than 100 people are still in quarantine at a hotel north of London after arriving from China last week. 70 more passengers on board the *Diamond Princess* cruise, currently under quarantine at the Japanese port of Yokohama, have tested positive for the virus, on top of 67 new infections reported yesterday. The total number of infections on board the *Diamond Princess* is now 356. At present, it is unclear whether these new confirmed cases will lead to an extension of the quarantine measure. Multiple countries including Hong Kong, the United States and Australia have announced plans to repatriate their citizens on board.

On Saturday, 15 February, France’s health minister announced the death of an 80-year-old Chinese national at a Paris hospital. This is the first fatality in Europe and the fourth outside mainland China.

Current Statistics (numbers vary between sources)					
Current Total Infected (new cases)	69,256 (+70)	Suspected Cases	8,228 (+1918)	Total confirmed Deaths	1,669 (+143)
Current Total Infected Outside China	686 (+91)	Deaths outside of China	4	Total Confirmed Recoveries	9,682 (+1,390)
Current confirmed case numbers outside of mainland China	Other (355), Singapore (72), Hong Kong (56), Japan (29 + 356 on <i>Diamond Princess</i>), Thailand (34), South Korea (29), Malaysia (22), Taiwan (18), Germany (16), Vietnam (16), Australia (15), USA (15), France (11), Macau (10), UK (9), United Arab Emirates (8), Canada (7), India (3), Italy (3), Philippines (3), Russia (2), Spain (2), Nepal (1), Cambodia (1), Sri Lanka (1), Sweden (1), Finland (1), Belgium (1), Egypt (1)				
Travel Restrictions (these restrictions remain fluid and are subject to change at short notice, keep up to date with potential restrictions if travelling)					
China	Quarantined cities/regions		Majority of Hubei Province, Wenzhou, Nanchang		
	Limited restrictions on public transport services (i.e. long-distance bus services, ride-hailing services, inter-city travel)		Majority of Chinese cities, additional health screenings at all public transport hubs		
Countries advising against all travel to China	Australia, Japan, New Zealand, South Korea, United States				
Countries advising against non-essential travel to China	France, India, Israel, Italy, Netherlands, South Korea (the SK government is also asking citizens to refrain from trips to countries in Southeast Asia), Taiwan, United Kingdom (the UK is advising citizens to leave China if they can), St Vincent and the Grenadines				
Notable countries with flight cancellations to China	Majority of international airlines have cancelled all flights to China, Chinese airlines continue to operate limited schedules at this time.				
Countries denying entry	To those who have recently been to China: Australia, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kuwait (including HK), Madagascar, Malaysia, N Korea, Philippines (including HK and Macau), Singapore, Taiwan, US, Vietnam. To those travelling directly from China: Bangladesh, Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands, India, Iraq, Israel, Jamaica, New Zealand, Samoa, Vietnam. To those who have visited Hubei Province: Brunei, Japan (also includes those arriving from Zhejiang), South Korea. Border closure: Afghanistan, Bhutan, India, Kazakhstan, Mongolia, Nepal, North Korea, Russia, Tajikistan, Vietnam.				

Solace Global Advice

- Solace Global advises against all travel to China due to travel restrictions currently in place and the current outbreak. There is limited flight availability and further travel restrictions, both within China and to and from home countries, may be implemented with little or no notice.
- Solace Global advises against non-essential travel to Hong Kong and Macau.
- Continue to monitor the situation closely, the situation remains fluid and new travel restrictions and further outbreaks may occur with no warning.
- Do not travel if ill, as you may be subject to additional screening, delays and even quarantine, regardless of destination or country of origin.
- Monitor yourself for symptoms, should you suspect that you have contracted the virus, self-quarantine and immediately call your relevant embassy and/or the local authorities.

If currently in or travelling to China:

- Strictly monitor all updates via both local and international media, Chinese and other government authorities and Solace Secure.
- Always maintain a good hygiene level, use hand sanitizer and wash hands regularly, and wear a surgical mask whilst in public places.
- Travellers and residents should be prepared for further travel restrictions to be put into effect with little or no advanced notice.