



COVID-19 Outbreak Update **22 February**

SOLACE GLOBAL

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

Latest Updates

South Korea has seen a six-fold increase in cases of COVID-19. 229 new cases were confirmed on Saturday 22 February, raising the country's total cases to 433. Moreover, more than 1,250 people have reported potential symptoms, almost all of whom are linked to a branch of the Shincheonji Church of Jesus in Daegu. Officials are now trying to locate 700 members of the sect to screen them for the virus.

In Padua, Italy, a 78-year-old man with existing health problems became the country's first fatal case of COVID-19. Italy has so far reported 20 confirmed cases, with hundreds of people currently being tested for the virus. At least 14 of the confirmed cases are in Lodi Province, where local authorities are now advising residents of several urban areas including Codogno, Castiglione d'Adda and Casalpusterlengo, to stay at home. Public areas such as bars, banks, schools and municipal offices have been closed as a precaution, and some train services have been suspended.

Multiple countries have imposed travel restrictions on Iran in the wake of a COVID-19 outbreak. Saudi Arabia and Kuwait will now deny entry to travellers who have transited through Iran in the last 14 days, with Saudi nationals and residents banned from travelling to the country. Iraq and Afghanistan have imposed border controls and health screenings. In Brazil, the Ministry of Health has announced additional quarantine measures for arrivals entering the country from China, Japan, South Korea, North Korea, Singapore, Vietnam, Thailand and Cambodia. Travellers from these countries showing symptoms of COVID-19 will be quarantined until confirmed free of the virus.

Current Statistics (Numbers Vary Between Sources)					
Current Total Infected (new cases)	77,912 (+1185)	Suspected Cases	5,365 (+159)	Total confirmed Deaths	2,360 (+113)
Current Total Infected Outside China	1,606 (+334)	Deaths outside of M. China	15 (+2)	Total Confirmed Recoveries	21139 (+2572)
Current confirmed case numbers outside of mainland China		<i>Diamond Princess</i> (634), South Korea (433), Japan (110), Singapore (86), HK (69), Thailand (35), USA (35), Taiwan (26), Malaysia (22), Italy (31), Australia (21), Iran (18), Germany (16), Vietnam (16), France (12), Macau (10), UK (9), United Arab Emirates (11), Canada (9), Philippines (3), Sweden (1), Lebanon (1), Israel (1). All cases have recovered in: India (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, Georgia, Jamaica, Kuwait, Mozambique, New Zealand, South Korea, United States				
Countries advising against non-essential travel to China	All Schengen countries, Bahrain, Canada, India, Israel, Indonesia, Japan, Kenya, Malawi, Malaysia, Oman, Palau (HK, Macau), Russia, 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), Singapore, St Vincent and the Grenadines				
Chinese flight restrictions	Majority of international flights to China have been cancelled, Chinese airlines continue to operate a limited schedule globally				
Countries denying entry	To those who have recently been to China: Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Bahamas, Bahrain (including SARs), Bangladesh (including SARs), Belize, Cook Islands, Egypt (will impose quarantine), El Salvador (Chinese nationals), Indonesia, Israel, Kazakhstan, Kuwait (including SARs), Madagascar, Malaysia, Mongolia, N Korea, Philippines (including SARs), Russia, Seychelles, Singapore, Sierra Leone, Taiwan, Trinidad & T, US, Vietnam. To those travelling directly from China: Gabon, India, Iraq, Jamaica, New Zealand, Samoa, Vietnam. To those who have visited Hubei Province: Bhutan, Brunei, Ethiopia, Japan (also includes those arriving from Zhejiang), Macau, Malaysia, South Korea				

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.