



Wuhan Coronavirus Update 7 February

SOLACE GLOBAL

Executive Summary

Solace Global advises against all travel to China at this time due to the growing number of travel restrictions, cancelled flights, confirmed cases of the virus and government warnings. Be aware that business operations in China have been significantly disrupted, with many companies remaining closed.

Latest Updates

Singapore has increased its outbreak alert to Orange as more cases are reported in the city state. Code Orange is one step below Red, which signifies an out-of-control pandemic. Japan has reported 41 new confirmed cases of coronavirus on the cruise ship quarantined off the coast of Yokohama, bringing the total to 61. Malaysia has extended its travel ban on Chinese nationals. New restrictions mean the ban now applies to anyone travelling from a province that has been locked down by authorities, whereas before it only applied to those travelling from the Hubei province. Additional border checks will also be implemented. The Federated States of Micronesia, the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands and Samoa have all increased restrictions to varying degrees.

Health officials in Vietnam have reported that two new cases of the coronavirus have been identified in the northern province of Vinh Phuc, bringing the total number of cases up to 12. Three of the victims have not been to China, so it is believed they have contracted the virus from other locals. The government has ordered the construction of several field hospitals in Hanoi, Hi Chi Minh City and near the border with China to combat the further spread of the virus.

Li Wenliang, one of the doctors who first raised the alarm about the outbreak in December and was reprimanded for “spreading rumours” by the government has died in hospital after contracting the virus. Hubei has stated that there is a continued shortage of medical personnel in the province; with 2,250 more staff needed. In Hong Kong, long queues, empty shelves and widespread panic buying have occurred amid uncertainty about border restrictions affecting supplies, supplies of hand sanitizer are understood to be running short. There are also concerns about the lack of quarantine facilities in the SAR.

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology claims to have invented a portable detection device that can diagnose the virus in 40 minutes, while the University of Macau is developing a detection kit that will take just 30 minutes, even at the early stages of infection. Earlier detection will allow for more efficient processing of suspected cases and greatly reduce strain on overstretched medical facilities. The new kits are already being used in Guangdong Province.

Current Statistics (numbers vary between sources)					
Current Total Infected (increase)	31,515 (+3,193)	Suspected Cases	26,359 (+1,657)	Total confirmed Deaths	638 (+73)
Current Total Infected Outside China	312 (+55)	Deaths outside of China	2 (+0)	Total Confirmed Recoveries	1,650 (+497)
Current confirmed case numbers outside of mainland China	Other (61), Singapore (30), Japan (25), Thailand (25), South Korea (24), Hong Kong (24), Australia (15), Germany (12), United States (12), Malaysia (12), Taiwan (16), Vietnam (12), Macau (10), France (6), United Arab Emirates (5), Canada (7), India (3), UK (3), Italy (2), Russia (2), Philippines (2), Nepal (1), Cambodia (1), Sri Lanka (1), Sweden (1), Finland (1), Spain (1), Belgium (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	United States, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, South Korea				
Countries advising against non-essential travel to China	United Kingdom (the UK is advising citizens to leave China if they can), Taiwan, South Korea, France, Israel, India, Netherlands				
Notable countries with flight cancellations to China	Majority of international airlines have cancelled flights to China, Chinese airlines continue to operate limited schedules at this time.				
Countries denying entry	To those who have recently been to China: US, Australia, Singapore, Vietnam, Taiwan, Indonesia, Philippines (including HK and Macau), Kazakhstan, Kuwait (including HK), Malaysia, N Korea. To those travelling directly from China: New Zealand, Israel, Bangladesh, India, Vietnam, Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands, Iraq, Samoa. To those who have visited Hubei Province: Japan, South Korea, Brunei. Border closure: Afghanistan, Bhutan, India, Kazakhstan, Mongolia, Russia (partially), North Korea, Nepal 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.

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. Additionally, make use of Solace Traveller Tracking on the Solace Secure App; check-in when you land, daily and following any location changes.
- Always maintain a good hygiene level and wear a surgical mask whilst in public places, wash hands regularly, and avoid those who are obviously sick.
- Travellers and residents should be prepared for travel restrictions to be put into effect with little or no advance notice.
- Ensure all food and eggs are thoroughly cooked.