



# Wuhan Coronavirus Update 31 January

**Executive Summary**

All travel to China is advised against at this time due to the growing number of travel restrictions, cancelled flights, confirmed cases and government warnings. Be aware that a high number of businesses in China remain closed and restrictions on domestic public transport are in effect.

**Latest Updates**

The World Health Organisation has declared that the outbreak of 2019-nCoV (also known as Wuhan Coronavirus) constitutes a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC). In practical terms, the announcement makes it easier for the WHO to co-ordinate multiple government responses. The Committee, however, did not recommend any travel or trade restrictions based on the information currently available. The death toll from the virus is now over 200, with almost 10,000 confirmed cases and over 15,000 suspected cases. Cases recorded in Taiwan, Germany, Vietnam, Japan, France and the United States involved patients who had not been to China. No deaths have been reported outside China.

The US has advised against all travel to the Chinese mainland at this time, as has Japan. The vast majority of Western countries are currently advising against all but essential travel to the mainland. Solace Advises against all travel unless absolutely necessary, due to the growing number of flight cancellations making access in and out of the country difficult. Italy has declared a state of emergency after two cases were confirmed in Rome. Italy has also reported a rise in xenophobia, with Australia, Canada and a number of other western countries also reporting a rise in racism linked to the illness.

Singapore has announced that from 1 February, all travellers who have been to China in the past 14 days, as well as all those with a Chinese passport, will be barred entry into the city-state. Many countries are repatriating nationals who have been left stranded in Wuhan, a British aircraft departed early this morning, while a German military aircraft is set to depart for Wuhan in the coming hours to repatriate more than 100 German nationals. New Zealand is also planning of carrying out a repatriation flight; however, no date is currently set.

Schools in Hong Kong will stay shut until at least 2 March. The Hong Kong authorities have dismissed calls to completely close the SAR's border with mainland China. Case numbers in the country has exceed the SARS. There have also been reports of discontent over the handling of the outbreak, with claims of local authorities concealing information in the early weeks. Anger in the country has largely targeted local Wuhan officials, especially the city's mayor.

<b>Current Statistics (numbers vary between sources)</b>					
Current Total Infected	9,810	Suspected Cases	15,238	Total confirmed Deaths	213
Current Total Infected Outside China	118	Deaths outside of China	0	Total Confirmed Recoveries	185
<b>Current confirmed case numbers outside of mainland China</b>	Thailand (19), Japan (15), Singapore (13), Hong Kong (12), Korea (11), Australia (9), Malaysia (8), Macau (7), United States (6), France (6), Germany (5), United Arab Emirates (4), Canada (3), Vietnam (2), Italy (2), United Kingdom (2), Nepal (1), Cambodia (1), Sri Lanka (1), Finland (1), India (1)				
<b>Travel Restrictions (these restrictions remain fluid and are subject to change at short notice, keep up to date with potential restrictions if travelling)</b>					
<b>China</b>	<b>Complete "quarantine" (no movements in and out of the city &amp; airport shutdown)</b>		At least 46 million people, majority of Hubei Province		
	<b>Limited restrictions on public transport services (i.e. long-distance bus services, ride-hailing services, inter-city travel)</b>		Majority of Chinese cities, additional health screenings at all public transport hubs		
<b>Countries advising against all travel</b>	United States, Japan				
<b>Countries advising against non-essential travel to China</b>	United Kingdom, New Zealand, Taiwan, South Korea, France, Australia, Israel, India				
<b>Notable countries with flight cancellations to China</b>	UK, US, Hong Kong, France, India, Australia, Japan, Spain, Malaysia, Germany, Finland, Egypt, South Korea, Indonesia, The Netherlands, Canada, Pakistan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Morocco, Ethiopia				
<b>Travel restrictions on Chinese nationals or travellers from China</b>	Kazakhstan, Russia, North Korea, Mongolia, Hong Kong, Singapore, Macau, Nepal, Taiwan, 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 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, further travel restrictions, both in China and internationally, may be announced at any time.
- Do not travel if ill, as you may be subject to additional screening and delays, 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, with restrictions on certain areas.
- Ensure all food and eggs are thoroughly cooked.