



COVID-19 Outbreak Update

1 March

SOLACE GLOBAL

Executive Summary

At this time, Solace Global advises against all travel to China due to the ongoing travel restrictions, cancelled flights, government warnings and confirmed cases of the virus. Additionally, Solace Global advises against all non-essential travel to Hong Kong, Macau, Iran; Daegu and Cheongdo in South Korea; and 11 towns in northern Italy. Further travel restrictions and disruption to business operations globally are possible in the coming days and weeks.

Latest Updates

A spokesman for the Hong Kong Agriculture Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) has suggested mammalian pets may have become infected with the virus in Hong Kong. However, the World Health Organisation (WHO) has responded, saying “current understanding of COVID-19 does not indicate that common household pets spread the disease or make people sick”. The fatality rate of the virus is now estimated to be at 3.6%.

Italy has become the third country, with China and South Korea, to confirm more than 1,000 cases of COVID-19. Elsewhere, the US and Australia have reported their first deaths from the outbreak. In the US, the deceased had no history of travel to areas associated with the virus. The Australian fatality a passenger on the *Diamond Princess*, that was quarantined at the Port of Yokohoma, Japan.

The Republic of Ireland, Ecuador, Luxembourg and Armenia have all reported initial cases of COVID-19 as the virus continues to spread across the globe. South Korea has recorded 376 further cases of COVID-19. Of the 376 new cases, 333 were in Daegu, the city at the centre of an outbreak linked to the Shincheonji Church of Jesus. The country now has a total of 3,256 cases of the virus, as well as 17 fatalities.

American Airlines is suspending all US flight to Milan. The US State Department has raised its travel warning to part of northern Italy, including Lombardy and Veneto, to level 4 or “do not travel”. US Vice President Mike Pence has indicated individuals arriving from Italy will be subject to medical screening. Meanwhile, France and Italy have imposed strict bans on public gatherings.

Current Statistics (Numbers vary between sources)					
Current Total Infected (new cases)	86,9923 (+1,771)	Total Confirmed Recoveries	42, 336 (2,777)	Total confirmed Deaths	2,979 (+55)
Current confirmed case numbers	China (79,827), South Korea (3,526), Italy (1,128), <i>Diamond Princess</i> (705), Iran (593), Japan (241), Singapore (102), France (100), HK (95), Germany (79), USA (69), Spain (58), Kuwait (45), Thailand (42), Bahrain (41), Taiwan (39), Australia (25), Malaysia (25), UK (23), UAE (21), Canada (20), Switzerland (19), Vietnam (16), Norway (15), Iraq (13), Sweden (13), Macau (10), Austria (10), Israel (7), Lebanon (7), Greece (7), Oman (6), Croatia (6), Pakistan (4), Mexico (4), Philippines (3), India (3), Finland (3), Denmark (3), Romania (3), Russia (2), Brazil (2), Azerbaijan (1), Afghanistan (1), Algeria (1), Belgium (1), Cambodia (1), Egypt (1), Estonia (1), Georgia (1), Monaco (1), North Macedonia (1), Nepal (1), Netherlands (1), Nigeria (1), San Marino (1), Sri Lanka (1), Belarus (1), Lithuania (1), New Zealand (1), Monaco (1), Iceland (1), Ireland (1), Luxembourg (1), Armenia (1), Ecuador (1), Qatar (1).				
Deaths	China (2,870), Iran (43), South Korea (17), Italy (29), <i>Diamond Princess</i> (6), Japan (5), HK (2), France (2), Taiwan (1), Philippines (1), Australia (1), United States (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 and lockdown cities/regions	Majority of Hubei Province, Wenzhou, Nanchang, Zhengzhou, Linyi, Harbin, Fuzhou some cities in Zhejiang and Jiangsu provinces. Restrictions outside of Hubei Province are being relaxed to allow the continuation of business as usual.			
	Flight Restrictions	Majority of international airlines have ceased operations to and from Chinese mainland. Flight operations to and from HK and Macau are also being impacted.			
Countries that have some form of warning or ban on travel to China	Schengen Countries, Australia, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Czech R., DRC, Gabon, Georgia, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Kuwait, Laos, Lebanon, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Mauritius, Micronesia, Mozambique, New Zealand, Nigeria, Oman, Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Seychelles, S. Sudan, Turkey, Uganda, UK, Ukraine, US.				
Italy	Current restrictions	Lombardy region (Codogno, Castiglione d’Adda, Casalpusterlengo, Fombio, Maleo, Somaglia, Bertonico, Terranova dei Passerini, Castelgerundo and San Fiorano) and one in Veneto (Euganeo). The US government is advising against travel to the Lombardy and Veneto regions.			
South Korea	Current restrictions	Daegu and Cheongdo cities			
Solace Global Advice	Advise against all travel: Mainland China				
	Advise against all but essential travel: Hong Kong, Macau, Iran, Daegu and Cheongdo (Both in SK), 11 towns in N. Italy				

- Solace Global advises clients and travellers to monitor countries experiencing outbreaks due to currently in place travel restrictions.
- Ensure your healthcare and insurance providers are aware of any essential travel to China.
- Continue to monitor the situation closely, as 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 consult your doctor.
- Maintain a good hygiene level, use hand sanitizer and wash hands regularly if travelling in the coming days.
- Regularly check updates via your respective government agency and the World Health Organisation for travel information and potential restrictions.