

CORONAVIRUS: DESTINATION RESTRICTIONS

Updated July 7, 2020

Countries around the globe have imposed various travel and in-country restrictions in an attempt to halt the spread of coronavirus. Many have essentially closed their borders except to citizens returning home and enforced strict controls on everyday life. Naturally, this poses obstacles when relocating employees; and as a relocation company, we have a duty to understand the current restrictions taking place. In the table below, we have provided travel and in-country restrictions for the top 10 countries by total move activity in 2019.

Additional resources for more locations can be found below the table.

COUNTRY	CURRENT SITUATION
1. United States	<p>Travel Restrictions: Effective June 24th, the U.S. has imposed travel restrictions until December 31st. Foreign nationals who have been to the U.K, Ireland, Brazil, China, Iran, and the 26 countries of the Schengen Area, within the last 14 days will be denied entry. However, essential travel has now been permitted across the U.S.-Mexico and U.S.-Canada Land borders. All nationals traveling from high risk areas are required to stay at home for 14 days.</p> <p>In-Country Restrictions: Florida, Texas and Arizona have reinstated a lockdown after an increase in cases. Advice and restrictions differ by state. Please see the Lonely Planet (US states by state restrictions) link in the 'Additional Resources' section.</p> <p>With the exception of the states where lockdown has been reinstated, the majority of states have loosened restrictions, however many of those are still advised to social distance. Citizens throughout the united states are still being encouraged to follow the below advice:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To avoid large gatherings* • Wear face coverings in public • Schooling should be at home • Discretionary travel and social visits should be avoided • Keep a physical distance from people • If anyone in a household tests positive for the virus, everyone who lives there should stay home • Avoid visiting nursing homes or retirement or long-term care facilities <p>*the amount of people differs by state e.g. 250 is the limit imposed by New Jerseys Governor</p> <p>Time Limit: Entry to the United States is restricted until December 31st.</p>
2. United Kingdom	<p>Travel Restrictions: The UK is not currently banning international arrivals; however, the Foreign & Commonwealth Office has issued two global travel advisory notices:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Return to the UK now if you're traveling abroad 2. Do not travel abroad unless it's essential <p>New quarantine regulations have been implemented, requiring all arrivals to British to stay at home for 14 days.</p> <p>In-Country Restrictions: The following restrictions have been amended by the Government of the UK with the exception of Leicester (Leicester has been put under local lockdown until at least July 18):</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 2 meter distancing rule has been reduced to 1 meter • All shops have now reopened • Face coverings are mandatory on public transport • Exercising outside is now unlimited • Citizens can now meet with up to 6 other people in an outside area • Two households can now meet inside • People are now allowed to drive further distances to visit outdoor areas • Some outdoor activities have been allowed to reopen e.g. golf courses and tennis courts • Competitive sports have been allowed to resume • Primary schools have reopened for limited year groups <p>However, the government is still enforcing a partial lockdown. To ensure compliance with the Government's instruction to stay at home, the UK is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuing the closure of recreational premises where social distancing is difficult, including libraries, playgrounds and outdoor gyms, and places of worship • Keeping the ban on all social events, including weddings, baptisms and other ceremonies, but excluding funerals • Keeping all restaurants and pubs closed until July 4 <p>Time Limit:</p> <p>On May 10, the UK government announced a phased plan for reopening the rest of the economy. By July 4, the Government is hoping to reopen restaurants, pubs, beauty salons, hairdressers, places of worship and cinemas.</p> <p>The majority of primary school pupils and all secondary school students are not expected to return before September.</p>
3. India	<p>Travel Restrictions:</p> <p>The Government of India has suspended international flights arriving and departing from India until July 15. However, domestic travel has been allowed to resume. All arrivals are required to quarantine for 14 days.</p> <p>In-Country Restrictions:</p> <p>Due to rising cases, and only a couple of weeks after they started to ease lockdown, India has reinstated a full lockdown in Chennai, Mumbai, and the surrounding areas.</p> <p>Hotels, restaurants, malls, and places of worship have opened in lower risk areas. Specific restrictions vary depending on the City/ area. On May 17 and May 31, India announced their new lockdown rules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shops and markets have been allowed to reopen • Most transportation has been allowed to resume <p>However, the following restrictions remain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hotels, restaurants, cinema halls, malls, swimming pools, gyms will continue to remain shut in high risk areas • People are still being encouraged to stay at home and social distancing is still required if they are to leave the house • It is now mandatory to wear a mask when outdoors <p>Time Limit:</p> <p>In high risk areas, the lockdown will be extended until July 15.</p>

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<p>4. Switzerland</p>	<p>Travel Restrictions: The Swiss are beginning to ease certain entry restrictions, travel is now allowed between Switzerland, Austria and German for Swiss nationals, family visits and couples in a long-term cross-border relationship. The majority of non-EU nationals are banned from entering Switzerland.</p> <p>In-Country Restrictions: On June 19, the Swiss government announced further easing of restrictions, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing the recommended distance between other people from 2 meters to 1.5 meters • Events of up to 1,000 people are allowed to resume • There is no longer a restriction on standing within a bar or restaurants • Competitive sports have been permitted to resume <p>Time Limit: Gatherings of 1,000+ people are banned until August. From July 20, restrictions will be lifted on more countries outside of the EU.</p>
<p>5. Canada</p>	<p>Travel Restrictions: Entering Canada for non-essential purposes, such as tourism, has been banned until July 21 (for the U.S.) and July 31 (for all other countries.) Everyone traveling by plane or train to Canada will be medically pre-screened and required to answer a set of health-related questions. From 20 April, non-medical facemasks or face coverings are required for all flights to and from Canadian airports. All arrivals into Canada are required to stay at home for 14 days, excluding nationals.</p> <p>In-Country Restrictions: Canada has been lifting restrictions, however each province and territory has its own measures to prevent the spread of the virus. Toronto is allowed businesses to reopen from June 14. Quebec has already reopened primary schools and New Brunswick has allowed restaurants, museums, libraries and galleries to reopen.</p> <p>People throughout Canada are being encouraged to keep a distance of at least 2 meters from others and limit contact with people at higher risk (e.g. older adults and those in poor health.)</p>
<p>6. Singapore</p>	<p>Travel Restrictions: All short-term visitors are denied entry into Singapore. From June 2, travelers are now permitted to transit through Singapore Changi Airport. Any other traveler permitted entry into Singapore will need to stay at home for 14-days and required to show proof of access to a single dwelling during that period.</p> <p>In-Country Restrictions: From June 2, and despite enforcing a lockdown, Singapore have allowed pupils to return to school and most businesses are reopening from June 19, including shopping malls, gyms and restaurants. Citizens are also being permitted to visit relatives inside their homes. Up to five people are now allowed to meet either inside homes or outside.</p> <p>Safe-Distancing Regulations are still in place to minimize the spread of COVID-19. These measures include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is mandatory to wear masks in public • Elderly to stay home • Activities involving a large amount of people are still banned, including conferences, concerts, bars and nightclubs, libraries, museums, and religious congregations • Social contact should be limited to household members • No loitering in public spaces
<p>7. China</p>	<p>Travel Restrictions: Entry is only allowed for Chinese citizens, permanent residents of Mainland China, and residents of Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan. All travelers will be screened upon arrival</p>

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	<p>and be subject to a 14-day quarantine. Local quarantine requirements can vary significantly between cities.</p> <p>In-Country Restrictions: After initially lifting the lockdown throughout China, a recent spike has meant that Beijing, and the surrounding area, have reintroduced a secondary lockdown.</p> <p>On May 6, China allowed thousands of students to return to school, including in Wuhan and Shanghai.</p> <p>On April 8, China officially lifted its 76-day lockdown on Wuhan, the epicenter of the Coronavirus pandemic; and on April 11, China shut the last of their 16 temporary coronavirus hospitals.</p> <p>China announced on March 24 that the lockdown would be lifted on more than 50 million people in central Hubei province where the coronavirus first emerged late last year. Hubei province ordered a shutdown in January but has been gradually easing the rules and permitting people to move about within Hubei and return to work.</p>
<p>8. Germany</p>	<p>Travel Restrictions: Germany has reopened all land borders and has lifted their ban on people traveling from EU /Schengen Area countries. The majority of non-EU nationals are banned from entering Germany. All international arrivals are required to stay at home for 14 days, excluding nationals.</p> <p>In-Country Restrictions: After a recent spike in cases caused by an outbreak at a meat factory, and despite lifting a lot of restrictions recently, Germany has extended the lockdown in the regions of Gütersloh and Warendorf.</p> <p>With the exception of Gütersloh and Warendorf, Germany is slowly reopening their economy, however social distancing will be required in shops and public transport and citizens are required to wear face coverings. Germany has been reopening schools in phases. Shops, museums, galleries and gardens have been allowed to reopen.</p>
<p>9. France</p>	<p>Travel Restrictions: There are no longer any restrictions for people wishing to travel to France from within the EU. For travelers entering France from outside the EU, they must complete a travel certificate. All travelers entering France must complete and carry a travel certificate that can be obtained on the French government website. International arrivals are required to stay at home for 14 days, excluding nationals and those entering from the EU.</p> <p>In-Country Restrictions: France is beginning to reopen their country and easing restrictions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shops are reopening • Restaurants are reopening • Swimming pools, gyms, parks and theatre halls have reopened • Restored the freedom to demonstrate • Pupils are returning to schools • People will no longer need travel certificates when they leave home • Cinemas have reopened • There is no longer a limit on people attending a funeral <p>However, social distancing of 1 meter is still required and it is now mandatory to wear a mask on all public transport and most shops.</p> <p>Time Limit: France is hoping to resume large gatherings e.g. sporting events and concerts from July 11.</p>

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10. Netherlands	<p>Travel Restrictions: Non-EU nationals are banned from traveling to the Netherlands until further notice. Travelers to the Netherlands from high-risk areas are required by airlines to fill in a 'fit-to-fly' health declaration form.</p> <p>In-Country Restrictions: The Dutch Government has been lifting certain restrictions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gyms, saunas and casinos have reopened • Bars and restaurants were reopened • Cinemas and museums have reopened • Children are allowed to exercise outdoors together • School pupils have been allowed to return • Citizens are permitted to visit their elderly relatives who live alone <p>However, all citizens are to wear face coverings on public transport and are encouraged to keep 1.5 meters away from each other. There is also a limit of 100 people per room for all inside events and venues. For outside events, the limit is 250 people.</p> <p>Time Limit: Large scale events, including nightclubs, are banned until September 1.</p>

Additional Resources

- Fragomen: <https://www.fragomen.com/about/news/immigration-update-coronavirus>
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: <https://www.cdc.gov/>
- Coronavirus: Travel restrictions, border shutdowns by country: <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/03/coronavirus-travel-restrictions-border-shutdowns-country-200318091505922.html>
- Lonely Planet: <https://www.lonelyplanet.com/articles/coronavirus-travel-bans>
- Lonely Planet (US states by state restrictions): <https://www.lonelyplanet.com/articles/us-coronavirus-closures-by-state>
- US Department of State: <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/COVID-19-Country-Specific-Information.html>
- Newland Chase Blog: https://blog.newlandchase.com/hubfs/CIBTvisas_Coronavirus_Global_Information%20SS%20UPDATES%201%20APRIL%20PM.pdf?hsCtaTracking=1c377eda-b501-47b7-ac9d-cda41fdc960d%7C261d73aa-0565-4f85-94b5-e94191126093