

Summary of Entry Restrictions in South Korea

Suspension of Visa Waiver Program / From 13 April 2020

The South Korean government will temporarily suspend visa waiver programs for citizens from 90 countries which imposing entry bans/limits on South Korean citizens over the new coronavirus. **Effective from 13 April 2020, citizens from the below-listed countries must obtained a proper visa before coming to South Korea as visa-free entry will not be permitted until further notice.**

Antigua and Barbuda / Argentina / Austria / Australia / Bahamas / Bahrain / Belgium /
Bosnia and Herzegovina / Botswana / Brazil / Brunei / Bulgaria / Canada / Chile / Colombia /
Costa Rica / Croatia / Cyprus / Czech Republic / Denmark / Dominican Republic / Ecuador /
El Salvador / Estonia / Eswatini / Fiji / Finland / France / Germany / Greece / Grenada / Guatemala /
Haiti / Honduras / Hong Kong / Hungary / Iceland / Israel / Italy / Jamaica / Kazakhstan / Kiribati /
Kuwait / Latvia / Lesotho / Liechtenstein / Lithuania / Luxembourg / Macau / Malaysia /
Marshall Islands / Mauritius / Micronesia / Montenegro / Morocco / Nauru / Netherlands /
New Zealand / Norway / Oman / Panama / Paraguay / Peru / Poland / Portugal / Qatar / Romania /
Russia / Saint Lucia / Samoa / Saudi Arabia / Serbia / Seychelles / Singapore / Slovakia /
Solomon Islands / South Africa / Spain / Suriname / Sweden / Switzerland / Taiwan / Thailand /
Tonga / Trinidad and Tobago / Tunisia / Turkey / Tuvalu / UAE / Uruguay

Entry Ban / From 4 February 2020

- ✓ All passengers who visited the Hubei Province, China within the past 2 weeks.
- ✓ All passengers who take transit flights from the Hubei Province, China before coming to South Korea.
- ✓ All visitors using passports issued from the Hubei Province, China.

FOR MORE INQUIRIES

Please contact **Yaenah Park** at Yaenah.park@peoplefirstrelo.com

IMMIGRATION UPDATE – SOUTH KOREA

13 April 2020



Visa Restrictions

✓ All visa applicants

Regardless of visa type, all applicants need to have an interview and get a medical test at one of the hospitals designated by the South Korean Embassy in his/her residence country within 48 hours before/after application submission.

The central government announced that this new procedure will be applied from 13 April 2020 worldwide. However, exact details about enforcement date, procedures, medical test exemptions (e.g. minor children, pregnant women, etc.) will be varied depends on each Embassy's judgment and local circumstances. Hence, it is important to check in detail with the relevant South Korean Embassy before applicants visit there.

✓ C1 and C3 type visa holders

If a foreigner has a C1 (short-term news reporters) or C3 (short-term visit in general) type visa issued from any of the South Korean Consulate offices worldwide before 5 April 2020 and not arrived in South Korea yet as of 9 April 2020, then his/her C type visa has been invalidated as of 9 April 2020.

Those whose C type visa has been invalidated need to contact the South Korean Embassy in his/her current residence country by themselves to check the re-applying application process.

C4 visa holders (short-term employment) are not included in this visa invalidation measure.

✓ Chinese Citizens / From 4 February 2020

Visa-free program in Jeju island has been suspended.

All visas issued from the Korean Consulate office in Wuhan, China before 4 February 2020 have been invalidated as of 4 February 2020.

✓ Japanese Citizens / From 9 March 2020

90 days of visa-waiver agreement has been suspended for all Japanese citizens.

All visas issued from the South Korean Consulate offices in Japan before 9 March 2020 have been invalidated as of 9 March 2020.

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COVID-19 Test and Mandatory 2-weeks Self-Isolation Policy

Quarantine Facility

If entrants do not have their residence in South Korea, the South Korean government will provide a residential facility for 2 weeks of quarantine and will charge KRW 100,000 per day – meals included.

Penalties for Violators of Quarantine Policies

For anyone who does NOT follow the South Korean government's COVID-19 guidelines and quarantine policies, ALL the below-listed measures can be considered by the government:

- Mandatory to wear an electronic wristband for the rest of their quarantine period
- A maximum of 3-years imprisonment
- A fine of up to 20 million Won / A compensation claim lodged by the district city government
- Visa & ARC cancellation / Deportation / Entry ban

✓ **Visitors who do NOT have suspected COVID-19 symptoms upon arrival can leave the airport once completing the following process:**

- ① Get fever checks.
- ② Submit a Health Condition Declaration form.
- ③ Provide the full address and contact number of their accommodation in South Korea. Visitors will be allowed to enter only when the phone number they have submitted is verified at the scene.
- ④ Download a smartphone app that will allow to put their symptoms for 14 days after arrival.
More information about the smartphone app: <http://ncov.mohw.go.kr/selfcheck/>

After leaving the airport, different further process required depends on where they have come from.

Entrants from Europe and the United States

are required to get COVID-19 tested within 3 days from their arrival date in South Korea during their 2 weeks of self-isolation period. The test is mandatory whether they have suspected symptoms or not and it's free or charge.

Entrants from other countries

are required to do 2 weeks of self-isolation but they are not required to do get tested unless they have any suspected symptoms.

✓ **Visitors who have suspected COVID-19 symptoms upon arrival are required to get tested for the COVID-19 before leaving the airport.**

If confirmed to be COVID-19 positive, this person will be quarantined at one of the hospitals designated by the South Korean government until fully recovered regardless of nationality, where they have come from, what residential status they have in South Korea.

If confirmed to be COVID-19 negative, this person needs to do 2 weeks of mandatory self-isolation after leaving the airport.

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IMMIGRATION UPDATE – SOUTH KOREA

13 April 2020



Automatic ARC extension Policy

To minimize visiting the immigration offices for social distancing as COVID-19 precautions, South Korea immigration offices have automatically extended ARCs for foreign residents who meet both conditions:

1. Physically staying in South Korea as of 9 April 2020 with a valid ARC and
2. Current ARC's expiry date is in between 9 April 2020 ~ 31 May 2020 (Both days inclusive)

For ARC holders who meet the both conditions, the immigration offices extended their ARC expiry date for 3 months from their current expiry date. ARC holders who fall under this measure are no need to visit the immigration office to apply for their ARC extension. Instead, they can check their extended expiry date from the website https://www.hikorea.go.kr/pt/main_en.pt or by calling at 1345.

Exceptions

- E-9, E-10 visa holders are excluded from this automatic extension measure.
- For E-6-2, H-2, F-1-11, F-1-5 visa holders, the extended period could be less than 3 months depends on the permitted period of stay upon each case.

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