

COVID-19 related travel updates

(Updated on Mar 4, 2023)

(A) COVID-19 measures

(I) Entering Hong Kong from an overseas place

Good news for travellers to Hong Kong! From March 1, 2023, **the mask mandate (outdoor, indoor, public transport) has been lifted**, except in medical facilities and residential care homes for the elderly and people with disabilities to protect high-risk groups. (<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202302/28/P2023022800677.htm>). There are also **no vaccination, no quarantine and no isolation requirements**. Inbound travellers **only need to conduct a rapid antigen test (RAT) within 24 hours (can be self-administered), or a polymerase chain reaction-based (PCR) nucleic acid test within 48 hours before scheduled time of flight departure, and keep the photo of test result for 90 days for inspection upon request by Government personnel**. They may declare test result **voluntarily** via the electronic Health Declaration Form (<https://www.chp.gov.hk/hdf/>). Inbound travellers no longer have to take pre-departure or on-arrival nucleic acid tests. After arrival, they are **recommended** to conduct daily RATs between Day 0 (arrival day) and Day 5 and **voluntarily** declare the RAT result through the above electronic Health Declaration Form. The Vaccine Pass requirement to enter various premises has been lifted from Dec 29, 2022 onwards (<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202212/28/P2022122800773.htm>).

For details on COVID-19 arrangements, please read the followings:

Concise guide from Hong Kong Tourism Board:

<https://www.discoverhongkong.com/eng/plan/traveller-info/boarding-and-testing-arrangements-upon-arrival.html>

Hong Kong Government's dedicated website on COVID-19:

<https://www.coronavirus.gov.hk/eng/inbound-travel.html>

(II) Entering Mainland China/Macao from Hong Kong

1. Starting from February 6, 2023, normal travel between Hong Kong and the Mainland has fully resumed. There is no daily quota imposed in **ALL** Boundary Control Points (BCP) between Hong Kong and the Mainland, and there is no need to make an online booking.

2. For travellers from Hong Kong to the Mainland, if they have stayed in any overseas places or Taiwan on the day of departing Hong Kong for the Mainland or during the **seven days** before that day, they are required to present the following, except those aged three and below. They don't need to undergo quarantine in Mainland/Macao.

- A negative result from a **self-paid** PCR test at Hong Kong's community testing centres/community testing stations (CTC/CTSs) (can be booked online at <https://www.communitytest.gov.hk/en/station/>) or private medical institutions (www.coronavirus.gov.hk/pdf/List_of_recognised_laboratories.pdf). The test specimen must be a throat swab, nasopharyngeal swab or combined nasal and throat swab collected by dedicated staff. Free community test will not be accepted for cross-boundary and outbound travel. The test must be taken within **48 hours** before the scheduled flight departure time (for those entering the Mainland via airport) or arrival time (for those entering the Mainland via other boundary control points).

For details, please read:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202302/03/P2023020300627.htm>

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202301/18/P2023011800635.htm>

For entering Macao, please read:

<https://www.gcs.gov.mo/detail/en/N23BDDH0ta>

3. In addition to the various boundary control points outlined in the press release on January 5 (<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202301/05/P2023010500649.htm>), the Lo Wu Control Point, the Lok Ma Chau/Huanggang Control Point and the Heung Yuen Wai/Liantang Control Point have been opened up for full passenger clearance services (including private car clearance services) from February 6 onwards. Please read:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202302/03/P2023020300649.htm>

Operating hours of Existing and Newly Added boundary control points:

https://gia.info.gov.hk/general/202302/03/P2023020300649_412246_1_1675425583376.pdf

Public transport services to/from each boundary control point:

https://gia.info.gov.hk/general/202302/03/P2023020300649_412247_1_1675425583382.pdf

4. From March 11, 2023 onwards, long-haul services of the Hong Kong Section of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link (XRL) will gradually resume. In the first phase, services between Hong Kong West Kowloon Station (WKS) and three stations, namely Chaoshan, Shantou and Zhaoqingdong, will resume. By taking long-haul trains on these routes, the public can reach 11 intermediate stations, namely Chaoyang, Foshanxi, Houmen, Huidong, Huizhounan, Kuitan, Lufeng, Puning, Sanshuinan, Shanwei and Shenzhen Pingshan. Starting from April 1, 2023, the long-haul services of the XRL Hong Kong Section will fully resume, connecting Hong Kong and long-haul destinations outside Guangdong Province. From March 11, 2023, the **first train** of the day travelling from WKS to Guangzhoudong Station will not serve two intermediate stations, namely Futian and Dongguan. The journey time is expected to be shortened by more than 10 minutes. The departure time of the first train from Guangzhounan Station to WKS will be advanced to 7.05 am and its arrival time will be advanced to 8.14 am accordingly. This will provide greater convenience to visitors travelling between Hong Kong and the Mainland. Please read:

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202303/03/P2023030300347.htm>

<https://www.highspeed.mtr.com.hk/tc/main/index.html>

Customer hotline of XRL:

<https://www.highspeed.mtr.com.hk/tc/main/contact-us.html>

(B) Travel documents/visa requirements

IMPORTANT: Please check the number of visa-free days you have, or whether you need to apply for a proper visa, before flying to Hong Kong. For nationals of some countries, even making a transit on the airside of Hong Kong airport requires a visa.

For those intending to go to Mainland China/Macao via Hong Kong, please read Part II under (A) COVID-19 measures.

1. **Singapore** passport holders entering Hong Kong as a 'general visitor' are entitled to a visa-free period not exceeding 90 days.

2. **Vietnamese** and **Laos** passport holders have to apply for a proper visitor visa from Immigration Department's website. Please read:

https://www.immd.gov.hk/eng/services/index.html#tab_f_1

3. **Indian** passport holders are required to apply for and successfully complete pre-arrival registration (PAR) online before they can visit Hong Kong visa-free. Please read:

https://www.immd.gov.hk/eng/services/visas/pre-arrival_registration_for_indian_nationals.html

4. **China nationals (ie PRC passport holders)** who are in TRANSIT through Hong Kong are entitled to 7-day visa-free days in Hong Kong. Arrival day is counted as Day 0. For example, if you arrive at 0800 hr on May 1, your permitted stay in Hong Kong is up to 2359 hr on May 8. "Transit" generally means travelling from country/territory A into Hong Kong, before leaving for country/territory B (for example, from Singapore to Hong Kong, then Mainland China; or from Singapore to Hong Kong, then Korea). Please read the part 'Transit' in the following link:
<https://www.immd.gov.hk/eng/services/visas/overseas-chinese-entry-arrangement.html#c>

Those travelling from one country to Hong Kong and then back to the **same country** (for example, from Singapore to Hong Kong and then back to Singapore) are **NOT** regarded as in transit. They need to apply for an entry permit for social and business visits to Hong Kong, from the relevant Chinese Embassy or Consulate-General of their departure country. For the contacts, see Point 5 of the section "Useful websites/contact numbers at a glance".

5. For **nationals of other countries**, please check "Part 2" of following Immigration Department website for the visa-free period (if any) and the visa requirements. For nationals of some countries, even making transits through Hong Kong airport on the airside still require a visa. Please read 'Remarks' at the bottom of the page about "Part II":
<https://www.immd.gov.hk/eng/services/visas/visit-transit/visit-visa-entry-permit.html>

6. Visitors should ensure that the activities they engage in Hong Kong fall within those permissible under the particular visa they have been granted. Permissible activities during visa-free days as a general "visitor" are listed in the following link:
<https://www.immd.gov.hk/eng/services/visas/permissible-activities.html>

If you have to engage in activities outside the range of permissible activities, please apply for a proper visa from Immigration Department online:
<https://www.immd.gov.hk/eng/services/index.html>

For further questions on whether an activity is allowed under a certain type of visa, please liaise with Immigration Department direct (contact see #8) as it is responsible for interpreting and executing the related immigration laws and visa.

7. If a longer stay in Hong Kong is required, please apply for extension of visa from Immigration Department. Generally speaking, you must depart Hong Kong before the expiry of limit of stay. If there is a special/urgent need to stay longer, you may apply online for extension of stay when your remaining limit of stay is **3 to 14 days, and when you are physically in Hong Kong**. Applications will be considered on its own merits. Please read:
<https://www.immd.gov.hk/eng/online-services/applyextensionstay/visitor.html>

8. For further enquiries on visa/entry permit applications, please call Hong Kong's Immigration Department directly on (+852) 2824 6111 or email to enquiry@immd.gov.hk For enquiries related to COVID-19 health measures, please see #3 for the contact numbers of Hong Kong's health authorities in the section "Useful websites/contact numbers at a glance".

(C) Event calendar in Hong Kong

New enthralling Hong Kong experiences and attractions await you! Follow Hong Kong Tourism Board on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter:

<https://www.facebook.com/DiscoverHongKong/>
<https://www.instagram.com/discoverhongkong/>
<https://twitter.com/discoverhk>

You may also browse the following website for a year-round event calendar of HK (major cultural and sports events, Trade Development Council's expo and trade fairs, Invest Hong Kong's

business seminars, HK Tourism Board's highlights etc), which are clickable at the top part of the following link. The information will be continually updated and uploaded on the website going forward:

<https://www.brandhk.gov.hk/en/only-in-hong-kong/whats-on>

(D) Useful websites/contact numbers at a glance

1.	<p>COVID-19 thematic website, and frequently asked questions: https://www.coronavirus.gov.hk/eng/inbound-travel.html https://www.coronavirus.gov.hk/eng/inbound-travel-faq.html In view of the fluid nature of epidemic situation, you are strongly advised to check above websites for the latest entry requirements before your trip to Hong Kong.</p>
2.	<p>Information on COVID-19 travels, transits and telephone numbers at Hong Kong airport: https://www.hongkongairport.com/en/COVID19.page https://www.coronavirus.gov.hk/eng/inbound-travel.html#transit https://www.hongkongairport.com/en/contact-us/useful-contacts.page</p>
3	<p>Hotline of Hong Kong's Department of Health: (+852) 2125 1111 / 2125 1122 (9 am to 8 pm, HK time)</p> <p>24-hour telephone hotline for inbound travellers : (+852) 2125 1999</p> <p>Enquiry hotline for Hong Kong's Hospital Authority: (+852) 1836 115 (9am to 7pm)</p>
4.	<p>Enquiry hotline (please input area code +852) and email of Immigration Department of Hong Kong: https://www.immd.gov.hk/eng/index.html</p> <p>24-hour hotline of Hong Kong's Immigration Department (to provide assistance for overseas Hong Kong residents) : (+852) 1868</p> <p>Alternatively, you can download an app to make free calls using network data: https://www.immd.gov.hk/eng/services/Assistance_Outside_Hong_Kong.html</p>
5	<p>Chinese Embassy in Singapore, and its contact info: http://sg.china-embassy.gov.cn/eng/lsfw/ http://sg.china-embassy.gov.cn/eng/lsfw/lxwm/201411/t20141104_1968315.htm</p> <p>For Chinese Embassies/Consulates-General around the world, please check the following pages: https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/wjb_663304/zwjg_665342/ https://www.mfa.gov.cn/web/zwjg_674741/zwsg_674743/yz_674745/</p> <p>Enquiry hotline of Ministry of Health of Singapore: https://www.moh.gov.sg/contact-us</p>

	Enquiry hotline of Immigration & Checkpoints Authority of Singapore: https://www.ica.gov.sg/contact-us
--	---

ENDS