

South Korea Quarantine/ Immigration regulation for crew change under Covid-19 (Updated on Aug. 18)

1. Quarantine regulation for crew changes

1) For on-signers

- All entrant crews must have 14 days self-quarantine in Government designated facility at their cost.
Cost: KRW 120,000/day
- When crew arrives at ICN airport, all on-signers will be moved directly to a quarantine facility and will do PCR test. If the test result is positive, they will be moved to a hospital for treatment.
- After 14 days, agent can pick them up at the facility and take them to the vessel by dedicated vehicle.
- Considering 14 days self-isolated quarantine period, we recommend on-signers to be arrived in Korea at least 15-16 days before vessel's ETA.
- As from 24th July 2020,
 - All on-signers, regardless of nationality, are required to have PCR test done before getting on a flight to Korea. The approval date/time of the test result sheet shall be within 72 hours from the flight departure date/time. The test result shall be hand carried by the on-signer and must be submitted to the ICN quarantine office upon arrival.
 - All on-signers, except 21 countries listed below 'reference 1', will no longer be possible to enter with Visa-on Arrival at Incheon Airport. They shall be issued with C-3-11 Visa before departure from their country.
* Please keep in mind that C-3 visa normally takes about 2 weeks and quarantine period requires 14 days, we need to receive crew change information AT LEAST 1 month in prior to vessel's ETA.
- **IMPORTANT!!**
 - Above 14 days self-quarantine period is the fundamental regulation but now we can apply early release for on-signers. However, early release shall be registered AFTER PCR test is confirmed negative and will need about 2~3 days of process time. Therefore, we will require at least 4~5 days from the airport arrival date but 1 week prior is recommended. Also, if on-signer gets early released, they must sail with the vessel within 12 hours from the time of early release. Therefore we require exact vessel departure time before proceeding early release.
 - Adding to the above, even if on-signers are tested negative, they will not be early released if anyone from the same flight or the same bus is confirmed with PCR test POSITIVE result. Also, all on-signers can embark the vessel only after off-signers are confirmed with PCR test NEGATIVE result.
- In addition, the Korean Gov't designated PCR Test Centers in Philippines, South Africa, Bangladesh, Pakistan, India, Indonesia, Uzbekistan, United Kingdom, Myanmar, **Turkey Kyrgyzstan** and Russia. Any on-signers departing from above countries must have PCR test done from the designated PCR Test Center and shall hand carry the result sheet. Please find 'reference 3' for the list of PCR Test Centers in each country.
- As from 24th August 2020,
 - The Korean Gov't is enforcing a new payment regulation for foreigners who require medical treatment due to COVID-19 'Positive' test result upon arrival in Korea.
 - Countries are divided into three(3) categories as below and list of countries can be found in 'reference 4'
 - Category 1 : All medical treatment costs are fully supported by the Gov't
 - Category 2 : Some medical treatment costs are partially supported by the Gov't
 - Category 3 : All medical treatment costs shall be paid by him/herself (No support from the Gov't)
 - In addition, foreigners arriving Korea and violating any kind of quarantine regulation will be subject to pay the entire medical treatment costs by themselves.
- All Indian on-signers must get PCR Test from Korean Gov't designated PCR test center before flying to Korea. The test result report shall be 'negative' and issued within 72 hours from the flight departure time and the on-signer must hand carry the report when entering Korea. Please kindly find designated PCR test center list as below

	Designated PCR test center
Delhi	Max Hospital (Max Hospital Sacket / Max Hospital Patparganj / Max Hospital Shalimar Bagh / Max Hospital Gurgaon) Fortis Hospital (Fortis La Femme Shalimar Bagh / Fortis Escorts Heart Institute, Okhla Road / Fortis Flt. Lt. Rajan Dhall Hospital, Vasant Kunj / Fortis Hospital, Shalimar Bagh / Fortis La Femme, Greater Kailash / Fortis C-DOC, Chirag Enclave / Fortis Escort Hospital, Faridabad / Fortis memorial Research Institute, Gurugramax Hospital Sacket) Apollo Hospital (Indraprastha Apollo Hospital)
Mumbai	V M Medical Centre / Nanavati Super Speciality Hospital
Chennai	Apollo Hospital(21, Greams Lane, Off Greams Road) / Apollo Hospital(64, Vanagaram-

	Ambattur Rd, Avanambakkam, Kil Avanambakkam) / Miot Hospital / Fortis Hospital
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- Any on-signers with C-3-11 visa who fail to embark the vessel due to unavoidable situation and need to embark on another vessel shall submit a letter or document that prove their situation.

2) For off-signers

- Off-signers must have an available phone number and mobile device for installing “Self-diagnosis” Apps. <http://ncov.mohw.go.kr/selfcheck/>
- As from 6th July 2020, it is mandatory for all off-signers to take Covid 19 diagnostic Test at quarantine office in each port or on-board at Govt’s cost. Off-signers have to stay on board until the result comes out. Test result normally comes out between 10 ~ 24 hours depending on port.
- As from 13th July 2020, off-signer must have 14 days self-quarantine in quarantine facility at their cost(KW120,000/day). After 14 days, they can move to an airport.
 - Since the agent has to submit a quarantine facility pre-booking form 2 days before the vessel’s arrival, we need to receive off-signers name, DOB, Nationality, Gender and expected flight departure date at least 2~3 days before vessel’s ETA
 - Despite the above principle for off-signers, agent can apply exemption of 14days isolation with application form in case ship prove the following conditions; crew stays on board for over 14days and no history of any crew change during over 14days and no confirmed cases of Covid-19 and no patients
- Any Chinese or foreign seafarer disembark at Korean port and willing to land or transfer China by airplane SHALL REFER TO ‘Reference 5’
 - Above seafarer shall proceed PCR test after staying at quarantine facility for full 14 days. EARLY RELEASE WILL NOT BE ALLOWED.

*****Very Important*****

- Gov’t approved 3 quarantine facilities for off-signers as below

Location	No. of facilities	Max. capacity	Off-signing location coverage
Busan	2	Approx. 400	All ports under Busan, Masan, Ulsan, Pohang, Yosu, Donghae region
Seoul	1	Approx. 370	All ports under Mokpo, Incheon, Pyeongtaek, Daesan, Gunsan, Dangjin region

- As you can see from the above table, only 3 facilities are covering for the entire ports in Korea and we are currently facing a serious overbooking situation due to a shortage of quarantine facilities.
- All 3 facilities are completely occupied and even if we apply for pre-booking, we CANNOT guarantee that the accommodation will be granted for your off-signers at a desirable time.
- In addition, please be advised that your off-signers MUST stay on-board until they are provided with accommodation and this might severely affect vessel’s schedule since we do not know when they will get the accommodation granted.
- Therefore, please be aware of the above regulation with an over-crowded situation in making decision for the crew change.

3) General Crew Change

- As of 31st October 2020, any vessel departed and had crew change from Russia or Philippines will not be allowed to do crew change in Korean Ports within 14days from the date of departure from Russia or Philippines.
- All PCR negative test result reports must show the test method as ‘Real-time Reverse Transcription Polymerase Chain Reaction’ in order to pass airport immigration, port quarantine office, or any Korean Gov’t Organization.
- In addition, all below information shall be mentioned in PCR negative test result report
 - Name
 - Date of birth
 - Test Name & method
 - Test result
 - Test date
 - Test result issue date
 - Official stamp or signature from the test report issuing organization
- As of 24th February 2021, the Korean Gov’t enforced a new regulation as below
 - **All on-signers from any foreign countries shall get PCR negative result report within 72 hours from the vessel departure time.**
 - The above basically means even if the vessel is only performing cargo operation (no crew change) at Korean Port, but had crew change from any foreign countries, then those who embarked from foreign country shall get PCR negative result report within 72 hours before the vessel departs from that foreign country.

- For example, if the vessel has plans to call Malaysia for crew change and Korea for cargo operation, then all on-signers (regardless of their nationality) shall get PCR negative test result report from any hospital from Malaysia and this report shall be issued within 72 hours from the vessel departure time. Once the vessel sails from Malaysia and underway to Korea, the vessel shall submit on-signer's PCR reports to the Korean Port Quarantine Office prior to arrival.

*** If the vessel sailing period from the crew change port departure date to Korean Port arrival date is more than 14 days, then on-signer PCR test result report can be issued within 72 hours from on-signer **EMBARKATION DATE**.

2. Immigration regulation (VISA for entrant crews)

1) Crews from all countries require C-3-11 Visa before arrival in Korea (Visa exempted 21 countries are shown below)

- After sending EDI first through agent, crews must obtain C-3-11 (Short term Visit) Visa issued by Korean embassy to enter Korea.
- Documents for submission to embassy for C-3-11 Visa
 - ✓ Visa application form
 - ✓ Passport & Seaman book
 - ✓ One standard size photo
 - ✓ Health Condition Report Form
 - ✓ Doctor's note regarding COVID-19 (fever, cough, chill, headache, muscle fever, lung infections, etc.) - (issued within last 48 hours) in English
 - ✓ Employment contract
 - ✓ Certificate for ship's nationality
 - ✓ Letter of invitation
 - ✓ Letter of Guarantee
 - ✓ Guarantee Letter for Vessel
 - ✓ Agency Certificates (Business Registration, Tax Payment, Registration for Shipping Business)
 - ✓ General declaration of the ship's arrival/departure (or called as Schedule Entry Notification)
 - ✓ Notice of Arrival (New required document)
 - ✓ EDI

[Reference 1]

The country list exempt from C-3-11 Visa (Total 21 countries)

Asia-Pacific (2)	New Caledonia, Palau
Americas (10)	United States of America, Guyana, Nicaragua, Commonwealth of Dominica, Mexico, Barbados, Venezuela, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Guam
Europe (9)	Molta, Ireland, England, Monaco, Vatican City, San Marino, Andorra, Albania, Slovenia

Crews from the above 21 countries are allowed to enter Korea and apply on-arrival visa at ICN airport.

[Reference 2]

- **14 days self-isolated quarantine**
 - Stay where?
 - ✓ Facilities assigned by government is located in several cities nearby Incheon.
 - ✓ Room condition is very depending on which facilities the crew is assigned.
 - How to move?
 - ✓ By transportation prepared by government at the airport.
 - Cost?
 - ✓ KRW 120,000 per day. Pre-payment is required.
 - All facilities are offering free Wi-Fi.
 - Medical team at the facility is checking crews' health condition daily basis.

[Reference 3]

Designated PCR Test Centers in Foreign Office

Philippines (20)	St. Luke's Medical Center (BGC Taguig)	Lung Center of the Philippines (Quezon City)
	St. Luke's Medical Center (Quezon City)	The Medical City Clark (Mabalacat Pampanga)
	Mataki Medical Center (Mataki City)	ARC Hospital (Lapu-Lapu city, Cebu)
	Manilla Doctor's Hospital (Ermita, Manila)	QualiMed Hospital (Iloilo City)
	The Medical City (Pasig City)	Divine Word Hospital (Tacloban City, Leyte)
	University of Cebu Medical Center(UCMED)(Mandaue City)	Prime Care Alpha COVID-19 Testing Laboratory (Lapu-Lapu city, Cebu)
	Chong Hua Hospital	Philippines Red Cross - National Blood Center / Port Area / Logistics and Training Center (Subic) / Clar Molecular Laboratory / Batangas Chapter Molecular Laboratory / Negros Occidental Molecular Laboratory / Molecular Biology Laboratory (Zamboanga city) / Cagayan De Oro / Cebu Chapter
	Department of Health Central Visaya center(region 7)	Dr. Rafael S. Tumbokon Memorial Hospital
	Negros Oriental Provincial Hospital	Queen of Mercy Hospital
	Davao One world Diagnostic Center	Baguio General Hospital and Medical Center
Russia (9)	SANAS (Vladivostok)	GEMOTEST (Sakhalin Region)
	TAFI (Vladivostok)	INVITRO (Sakhalin Region)
	GEMOTEST (Vladivostok)	Meddiagnostika (Sakhalin Region)
	FALCK (Vladivostok)	GEMOTEST (St.Petersburg)
		GEMOTEST (Ktashnodar Kri)
Indonesia (10)	RS (MRCCC) Siloam (All 28 hospital branches in Indoensia)	PIMC (K-lab) (DKI Jakarta)
	RS Medistra (DKI Jakarta)	RS Borromeus (Bandung, Jawa Barat)
	RS MMC Kuningan (DKI Jakarta)	RSUP Dr. Sardjito (D.I. Yogyakarta)
	RS Pondok Indah (DKI Jakarta)	RS Premier Surabaya (Jawa Timur)
	RS Mitra Keluarga Kelapa Gading (DKI Jakarta)	Laboratorium Klinik Pramita (Sumatera Utara)
Uzbekistan (4)	Korea No 1 Laboratory (Mirabad District, Tashkent)	De Factum Laboratories (Mirabad District Tashkent)
	SWISS LAB (Shykhontohur District, Tashkent)	INTERMED INNOVATION (Yunusabad region, Tashkent)

[Reference 4]

Category 1 (67 Countries) Fully supported	Gabon, Gambia, Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Nigeria, Norway, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Taiwan, East Timor, Liberia, Russia, Lebanon, Romania, Libya, Lithuania, Malaysia, Mali, Morocco, Mozambique, Montenegro, Mongol, Myanmar, Venezuela, Benin, Bhutan, Brunei, Saudi Arabia, Cyprus, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Serbia, Sudan, Iceland, Ireland, Armenia, Albania, Algeria, Kingdom of Eswatini, Estonia, Ethiopia, El Salvador, England, Yemen, Jordan, Uganda, Uzbekistan, India, Japan, Equatorial Guinea, Georgia, Central African Republic, Chad, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Kazakhstan, Qatar, Kyrgyz Republic, Canada, Kuwait, Trinidad and Tobago, Panama, Paraguay, Portugal, Poland, Australia
Category 2 (58 Countries) Partially supported	Guyana, Guatemala, Niger, Demark, Germany, Latvia, Luxembourg, Macao, Mexico, Mauritius, Moldova, Maldives, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belarus, Burundi, Burkina Faso, North Macedonia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Brazil, Republic of Suriname, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Spain, Slovakia, Slovenia, Syria, Singapore, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Afghanistan, Andorra, Angola, Ecuador, Oman, Austria, Ukraine, Iran, Italy, Indonesia, Jamaica, China, Czech, Chile, Costa Rica, Cote d'Ivoire, Croatia, Tajikistan, Turkey, Pakistan, Peru, France, Finland, Philippines, Hong Kong
Category 3 (46 Countries) Not supported	Ghana, Namibia, South Sudan, South Africa, Netherlands, Nepal, Dominica, Laos, Rwanda, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritania, Malta, U.S.A, Bahamas, Vietnam, Belize, Bolivia, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Swiss, Sierra Leone, U.A.E, Haiti, Antigua and Barbuda, Honduras, Uruguay, Iraq, Israel, Egypt, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Cambodia, Kenya, Comoros, Colombia, Tanzania, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Papua New Guinea, Fiji, Hungary, Vanuatu, Solomon Is., Turkmenistan

[Reference 5]

In accordance with the announcement of the Civil Aviation Administration of China, the General Administration of Customs of China and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, starting from 24 August 2020, foreign passengers who are to fly from South Korea to China, directly or indirectly, will be required to take nucleic acid tests for COVID-19(PCR) & IgM Test within 3 days before boarding and only those who test negative will be allowed to board the plane. The following procedures are for your reference:

1. Nucleic acid test should be taken at designated hospitals or institutions (please see below list) within 3 days of the departure date of the flight and paper report in either English or Korean is needed. English version is recommended when passengers leaving South Korea for China via a third country or district. Please make sure that the test report is issued within 3 days of the departure date of the flight to China.

2. Passengers who are to board direct flights from South Korea to China are required to present the paper report with negative result during check-in or before boarding. Please be noted that only the test report issued by designated hospitals or institutions are accepted.

A child under 3 does not need to take the test if his or her accompanying parent(s) meet(s) the requirement of boarding.

3. Passengers who are fly from South Korea to China via a third country or district are required to apply for certified Health Declaration Form issued by Chinese Embassy or Consulate General in South Korea before departing from South Korea.

Passenger shall fill in and sign the Health Declaration Form (please check with Chinese Embassy), then submit online or email a scanned copy of the signed Form, together with the Nucleic Acid Test Report (with negative result) and a photocopy of the bio-page of the passport to the Chinese Embassy or Consulates General in South Korea according to the consular jurisdiction.

Embassy in South Korea:<http://naver.me/FIYtns1b>(submit online)

Consulate General in Busan: 2733204771@qq.com

Consulate General in Gwangju: consul_gwangju@126.com

Consulate General in Jeju: chinaconsul_jeju_kor@mfa.gov.cn

It usually takes one business day to process. After approval, certified Health Declaration Form (with the official seal of the Embassy or Consulates) with a validity period of 3 days starting from the date of issue of the Nucleic Acid Test Report shall be sent back to the passenger by email. It needs to be printed out and carried throughout the journey. Passengers are advised to transit before it expires, and be prepared for checking by the airlines during check-in or before boarding. Passengers are also advised to bring the Nucleic Acid Test Certificate (with negative result) to the airport in case of the need for further inspection.

A child under 3 does not need to take the test. When applying for the certified Health Declaration Form, the test report of his or her accompanying parent is required.

Please be noted that a certified Health Declaration Form is not an alternative to a Chinese visa.

List of designated hospitals or institutions

The Catholic University of Korea, Eunpyeong St. Mary's Hospital	The Catholic University of Korea, Incheon St. Mary's Hospital	MunGyeong Jeil General Hospital
National Medical Center	Daedong Hospital	Sangju Seongmo Hospital
Soonchunhyang University Hospital	Busan St. Mary's Hospital	Waegwan Hospital
Kyunghee University Medical Center	Sewoong Hospital	Chonnam National Univ. Hospital
H Plus Yangji Hospital	Good Samsun Hospital	Chosun University Hospital
Hallym Univ. Medical Center	Good Gang-An Hospital	Kwangju Christian Hospital
Chung-Ang University Hospital	Pusan National University Hospital	Suhgwang General Hospital
Korea University Anam Hospital	Ulsan University Hospital	Cheomdan Medical Center
Kangbuk Samsung Hospital	Dong-Gang Hospital	Mokpo Jung-Ang Hospital
Inje University Paik Hospital	Ulsan Medical Center	Mokpo Christian Hospital
Korea Cancer Center Hospital	Changwon Fatima Hospital	Mokpocity Medical Center
Asan Medical Center	Baik Medical Center	Suncheon St. Carollo Hospital
Myongji Hospital	Youngdong Hospital	Yeosu Chonnam Hospital
Daejeon Hankook Hospital	Sae Ha-Dong Hospital	Yeosu Hankook Hospital
Asan Chungmu Hospital	Geochang Red Cross Hospital	Goheung General Hospital
Cheonan Chungmu Hospital	Dream Hospital	Jeonju Hospital
Hyosung Hospital	Samil Hospital	Iksan Hospital
Jincheon Sungmo Hospital	Goo Hospital	Jesus Hospital
Hallym Hospital	Kyungpook National Univ. Hospital	Design Hospital
Inha University Hospital	Saemyung Hospital	Cheju Halla General Hospital
Gangneung Asan Hospital	Gyeongseong Joongang Hospital	Jeju National University Hospital

