

January 13, 2021

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan

Important Notice on Visa Restrictions
for Strengthening Border Security Measures
to prevent the spread of Novel Coronavirus

On 13 January 2021, taking the current situation on the emergence of Novel Coronavirus variant into consideration, the Government of Japan decided to further strengthen the border security measures by introducing additional restrictions as follows;

- 1 New issuance of visas with “EX-R” in its remarks column by Japanese overseas establishments in Brunei, Cambodia, China, Republic of Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand and Viet Nam, and visas with “EX-B” in its remarks column by Japanese overseas establishments in China, ROK, Singapore and Viet Nam will be suspended from 14 January, 2021, 0:00am (JST) until the lifting of the state of emergency in Japan.

- 2 Foreign nationals who already possess valid “EX-R” and “EX-B” visas and have not stayed in South Africa or the United Kingdom within fourteen days prior to application for landing into Japan may enter Japan until 21 January, 2021, 0:00am (JST). The validity of visas with “EX-R” and “EX-B” in its remarks column, which have been issued by Japanese overseas establishments in the above mentioned 11 countries/regions by January 13, 2021, will be temporarily suspended from 21 January, 2021, 0:00am (JST) until the lifting of the state of emergency in Japan.

- 3 Regardless of the notice dated on December 26, 2020, the suspension of new issuance of visas with “EX-R” in its remarks column by all Japanese overseas establishments (except Thailand, Vietnam, Malaysia, Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Taiwan, Singapore, Brunei, Republic of Korea and China) will be effective till the lifting of the state of emergency, instead of the end of January.

Foreign nationals with visa already issued with “EX-R” in its remarks column are basically permitted to enter Japan until 21 January, 2021, 0:00am (JST), except for those who stayed in countries/regions which are subject to the entry ban or have stayed in South Africa or the United Kingdom within fourteen days prior to application for landing into Japan.

- 4 Regardless of all these newly strengthen measures, foreign nationals who are acknowledged to have special exceptional circumstances by Japanese authorities may still enter Japan even if they have stayed in countries/areas subject to the entry ban within fourteen days prior to the application for landing into Japan. Those foreign nationals are supposed to have a visa (NOT with “EX-R” or “EX-B” in its Remarks column) issued by Japanese overseas establishments.

We would deeply appreciate it if your team could notify all related airlines that they should inform all concerned passengers of those measures in order for them to avoid arriving in Japan without proper documents.

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