



Asean Mobility Spotlight

10 November 2021



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Executive summary

As vaccination rates slowly increase across the region, immigration authorities in Asean have also begun relaxing their respective border controls to allow more freedom of movement in and out of their jurisdictions. We summarize the key changes to entry restrictions and quarantine measures below.

Jurisdiction	Entry restrictions				Quarantine or isolation measures	Heightened admission or visa application criteria	Suspension of existing visas	Suspension or delays in issuance of new visas
	Citizens	Permanent residents	Temporary residents	Short-term visitors				
Indonesia	●	●	●	●	✓	✓	✗	✓
Malaysia	●	●	●	●	✓	✓	✓	✓
Philippines	●	●	●	●	✓	✓	✓	✓
Singapore	●	●	●	●	✓	✓	✗	✗
Thailand	●	●	●	●	✓	✓	✗	✗
Vietnam	●	●	●	●	✓	✓	✗	✗

Source: EY immigration tracker

● Entry is generally permitted	● Entry is permitted but subject to conditions	● Entry is generally not permitted but exceptions may apply
✓ The measure applies	✗ The measure doesn't apply	

Please note that the information provided in this spotlight is updated as of 10 November 2021 and the changes to policies, restrictions and quarantine measures are being proposed and implemented on a regular basis.



Indonesia

Entry restrictions and exemption

The borders are still closed to foreigners. Visas on arrival and visa exemptions (free visa) are still suspended. However, exemptions apply to certain visa and stay permit holders (e.g., official and diplomatic visa, official and diplomatic stay permit, temporary and permanent stay permit, active crew member) and effective from 15 September 2021, certain visit visa, APEC card, and limited stay visa holders are allowed to enter Indonesia.

Additionally, as of 15 September 2021, there are still only two immigration check points, e.g., Soekarno-Hatta international airport in Tangerang, Banten and Sam Ratulangi international airport in Manado, North Sulawesi that allow foreigners entry to Indonesia. Further, as of 14 October 2021, entry points open for tourism purposes are only through Bali and international airports at Riau Islands.

The government may prohibit and decline foreigners from certain countries with a high spread of COVID-19 outbreak to enter Indonesia. The list of countries will be determined by the government based on information from the relevant ministry or institution handling COVID-19 pandemic, which will be provided every 14 days.

As of 14 October 2021, international flights to Indonesia's tourist travel destinations (Bali and Riau Islands) are allowed for foreigners for 19 countries, which includes Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, New Zealand, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, China, India, Japan, South Korea, Liechtenstein, Italy, France, Portugal, Spain,

Sweden, Poland, Hungary and Norway.

Quarantine and isolation measures

Foreigners entering Indonesia are required to demonstrate that they are fully vaccinated at least 14 days prior departure issued in English and have a valid reverse transcription - polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) negative test result taken within the last three days. The requirement to be fully vaccinated does not apply to travelers below the age of 18 years old, holders of diplomatic and official visas for official visits to Indonesia at minister level or above, foreigners entering Indonesia under Travel Corridor Arrangement (TCA), and international travelers with special health conditions or comorbid diseases which do not allow them to get vaccinated.

Where foreigners have not been vaccinated overseas, they will be vaccinated at the quarantine location upon arrival in Indonesia after the second RT-PCR tested negative, subject to the following conditions: foreigners are between 12-17 years old; holders of diplomatic visa and official visa and/or holder of Temporary Stay permit (ITAS) or Permanent Stay Permit (ITAP).

All fully vaccinated international travelers must undergo three-days quarantine. For those who only received first dose of COVID-19 vaccination must undergo five-day quarantine at a government-designated location. Representatives of foreign governments and their families may be permitted to quarantine in a private residence.



Malaysia

Entry restrictions and exemptions

The borders are still closed to foreigners for social travel purposes. Temporary residents and work visa/permit holders can enter Malaysia so long as their permits are still valid. Foreigners without a valid permit must still obtain an Entry Approval Letter prior to entry. They may also require a Single Entry Visa in order to enter the country. Business visitors are allowed to enter, provided they receive pre-approval from the authorities.

Effective 20 September 2021, the travel ban for travelers from five countries – Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka has been lifted. However, entry permission to enter Malaysia is still required and is subject to the immigration authorities' discretion.

All travelers allowed entry must adhere to the full vaccination requirements, health screening and quarantine requirements as stipulated by the Ministry of Health.

Quarantine and isolation measures

All travelers are required to quarantine for seven days if fully vaccinated or ten days if partially or not vaccinated, at a government-designated location or a premium or luxury quarantine location. Duration may be subject to extensions depending on the traveler's health. Quarantine in a private residence is allowed for vaccinated travelers, subject to approvals.

Other updates

Expatriates and their dependent family members whose Malaysian immigration passes expired on or after 18 March 2020, and who have applied for new passes can remain in Malaysia lawfully until 31 December 2021, even if they did not obtain a Special Pass prior to the expiry of their immigration pass, as was previously required. However, this policy does not extend to the expatriates' authorization to work in Malaysia.

Effective 18 October 2021, the MyTravelPass (MTP) exit permission requirements for Malaysian nationals have been removed, allowing fully vaccinated Malaysians to travel abroad without having to apply for the MTP. Returning Malaysians will still be subject to the health screening and quarantine requirements.

The Expatriate Services Division (ESD) has announced several new application features and services for applications under their purview which will take effect from 15 November 2021. This includes online endorsement and online payment facilities for immigration fee payment and immigration pass sticker deliveries. There will also be a revision of service fees for applications. Detailed guidelines on the enhancements will be published.



Philippines

Entry restrictions and exemption

Foreigners may enter the Philippines for short and long-term employment purposes. These are subject to certain conditions and the categorization of the country (e.g., red, green, yellow) that they are traveling from or have travel history with.

Travelers from green-list countries are permitted to enter provided they are fully vaccinated whilst travelers from red-list countries are not allowed to enter the Philippines. Countries not specifically designated green or red are considered yellow and travelers from these locations will be allowed entry subject to additional quarantine measures below.

Quarantine and isolation measures

Fully vaccinated travelers from green-listed countries are required to quarantine for seven days at a government-designated location upon arrival.

Other travelers must undergo a 14-day quarantine in which the first 10 days must be carried out at a designated facility. The remaining quarantine period can be completed at home if the PCR test result on seventh day of quarantine is negative.

Other updates

Long-term visa holders whose visas expired between 16 March 2020 and 7 July 2021 are given up to 20 November 2021 (a non-extendible grace period) to file their renewal and extension applications.

Foreigners holding Temporary Visitor's Visas (TVV) who have reached the maximum stay available under these visas as of 1 March 2020 or have overstayed beginning 1 March 2020 regardless whether they have been in the country beyond the maximum allowable period are temporarily exempted from adhering to the Order to Leave (OTL) the Philippines.



Singapore

Entry restrictions and exemption

Social or business visitors are generally still not allowed to enter Singapore unless there is an applicable travel lane. The Singapore Government has implemented various travel lanes such as the Vaccinated Travel Lane, Air Travel Pass and Reciprocal Green Lane. More countries are expected to be added to the Vaccinated Travel Lane.

From 1 November 2021, all work pass holders and their dependent family members must be fully vaccinated before arrival.

All pass holders will require an entry approval from the Ministry of Manpower (MOM) to enter Singapore. Please note that countries have been classified into four categories with differentiated border and health measures, based on a traveler's 14-day travel history prior to their entry into Singapore. For full details, please refer to [Travel and Health Control Measures \(ica.gov.sg\)](https://www.ica.gov.sg/travel-and-health-control-measures). Short-term

visitors remain prohibited from entering Singapore, with the exception of those entering via a Reciprocal Green Lane (RGL), Air Travel Pass (ATP) or Vaccinated Travel Lane (VTL) scheme. Please refer to [SafeTravel \(ica.gov.sg\)](https://www.ica.gov.sg/safetravel).

Quarantine and isolation measures

Health control measures such as quarantine requirements for work pass holders and their dependents are grouped into four categories, ranging from no quarantine requirement to a 10-day Stay Home Notice requirement depending on a traveler's recent travel history. There is also an on-arrival and post-arrival COVID-19 testing regime in place corresponding to the departing country's classification.



Thailand

Entry restrictions and exemption

All types of travelers including tourists can enter Thailand via one of the three schemes stipulated by the government and are required to register with Thailand Pass system before flying to Thailand. All travelers must comply with disease control procedures and measures upon arrival in Thailand.

Quarantine and isolation measures

Travelers entering Thailand from 1 November 2021 are advised to check their eligibility for each scheme before travelling:

Exemption from quarantine (Test & Go) : Fully vaccinated travelers who travel by air from eligible countries may enter Thailand without quarantine. Travelers must have resided in that country for at least 21 days, provide a negative RT-PCR Test result 72 hours before boarding and have medical insurance with minimum coverage of US\$50,000 for non-Thai nationals.

Upon arrival, travelers must wait for a RT-PCR test result at an approved SHA+ or alternative quarantine accommodation for one night or until they receive negative results, before they are free to travel any where in Thailand.

As of 1 November 2021, a total of 63 countries are eligible for this scheme.

Sandbox Program : Fully vaccinated travelers arriving in Thailand by air from any country may enter Thailand, provided they travel only within a Sandbox destination and stay at SHA+ accommodation for seven days, taking one RT-PCR test and self antigen test kit (ATK) test during that time. They must wait for the first negative RT-PCR test result before travelling within the Sandbox area.

There are currently 17 Sandbox destinations, including Bangkok.

Alternative quarantine: Unvaccinated or not fully vaccinated travelers from any country entering Thailand are subject to 10-day (air and sea entry) or 14-day (land entry) quarantine at AQ accommodation and will need to take two RT-PCR tests.

Other updates

Since 27 September 2021, Ministry of Foreign Affairs has launched a new Stickerless E-Visa Service (SE Visa Service) in 21 Thai Embassies in nine countries, namely Canada, China, Denmark, France, the Republic of Korea, Norway, Sweden, the US and the UK.

SE Visa applicants can submit their applications, pay visa fees and receive their stickerless e-visas through the website: www.thaievisa.go.th without visiting the embassies offices. They will receive confirmation through email as evidence of their visa approval. Information on the visa will be linked to immigration system upon their arrival in Thailand.



Vietnam

Entry restrictions and exemption

The borders remain closed except for certain priority groups such as company legal representatives, investors, experts, technicians, dependents of the investors, legal representatives, experts and technicians, diplomats and foreign students.

Other updates

The new regulations on work permit application have been relaxed such that the university degrees or technical training for “experts” and “technicians” no longer have to be directly related to the individual’s job title or role.

Quarantine and isolation measures

Vaccinated travelers arriving in Vietnam are placed under a seven-day quarantine at a state-designated location plus an additional seven days of self-quarantine in private accommodation.

Unvaccinated travelers are required to undergo a 14-day quarantine at a state-designated location, followed by an additional 14-day period at a private accommodation (e.g., home and hotel).

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