



## Vietnam COVID-19 Travel Update – May 17, 2021

## **Entry and Exit Requirements:**

- Are U.S. citizens permitted to enter? Yes
  - The Vietnamese government continues to allow pre-approved foreigners and their families in exempted categories, including diplomats, officials, experts, business managers, foreign investors, high-tech workers, and other business travelers to enter Vietnam. Please note that these individuals will be subject to mandatory COVID-19 testing and quarantine upon arrival. See Section "Quarantine Information" below for further information. Detailed instructions for foreigners in exempted categories applying for entry into Vietnam are available on the Vietnamese government's website <a href="here">here</a> (in Vietnamese only). If you have any questions about this process, please contact your employer or sponsoring organization directly.
  - On March 17, the Vietnamese government announced that they will work with relevant ministries and agencies to <u>consider gradual resumption of routine</u> <u>international flights</u>; however, there has been no official guidance at this time.
  - Please also check the Vietnamese Immigration Department's FAQ page about Vietnamese entry and exit requirements <u>here</u>. If you have further questions, please contact the nearest Vietnamese Immigration Office directly.
  - All entrants into Vietnam will be placed under medical surveillance for at least 28 days. For further information, please visit the Vietnamese government's website <u>here</u>.
- Is a negative COVID-19 test (PCR and/or serology) required for entry? Yes

- Are health screening procedures in place at airports and other ports of entry? Yes
  - All passengers using public means of transport (bus, taxi, trains, planes, ships, etc.) must <u>complete online health declaration</u> before the trip and minimize communications during the trip. For further information, please see the <u>Vietnamese Ministry of Health's website here</u> (in Vietnamese only).
- Vietnam has prolonged the automatic extension of its temporary stay program until May 31, 2021, for foreigners who entered Vietnam on or after March 1, 2020. U.S. citizens who are still in Vietnam and have questions about this program or wish to resolve any issues related to their Vietnamese visa extensions should contact the nearest Vietnamese immigration office directly. The U.S. Embassy Hanoi and Consulate General in Ho Chi Minh City no longer issue visa extension letters and exit letters. For further information, please click here.

Vietnam has suspended visa waivers, issuing of visas and the entry into Vietnam for all foreign nationals. There are a very small number of exceptions for diplomats on official business and certain high-skilled workers. These will be processed on a case-by-case basis. Such applications are required to be led by Vietnamese employers who must work directly through individual provincial government offices. The requirements and process may differ from province to province. The costs of quarantine, both in government centers and designated hotels, must be paid by those arriving or their employers.

Quarantine requirements: Quarantine is mandatory for anyone who may have come in to contact with coronavirus inside Vietnam and for most coming to Vietnam Vietnamese government quarantine centers are basic. There are provisions for people who are exceptionally allowed to enter the country for work to be allowed to undertake quarantine in a hotel approved by the Ministry of Health. This is not guaranteed, is time consuming and must be arranged by your employer in Vietnam before you enter Vietnam.

The Vietnamese government has confirmed that anyone entering Vietnam from 1 September 2020 must pay for quarantine costs both in government centers and in designated hotels. You will also be responsible for paying for any coronavirus hospital treatment costs. Vietnam's quarantine requirements are mandated by the Vietnamese Ministry of Health. Violations carry strict penalties.

Quarantine lasts a minimum of 21 days and will be longer if you test positive at any point. If you test positive, you will be treated in a Vietnamese hospital. Following discharge, you will be expected to undertake a period of self-isolation for 7 days during which you should not leave

your home and should follow the instructions issued by the local authorities. You should expect to be tested at least 5 times prior to release and will be required to produce at least 3 consecutive negative tests during quarantine and a further two consecutive negative tests during self-isolation.

Once you have completed quarantine and self-isolation you should receive a document specifying this. You should keep this, as you may need to present it customs/airport officials when you leave Vietnam. Vietnam uses community testing as a means to provide assurance that COVID-19 is not being transmitted undetected. Should you be asked to undertake testing, you should comply. Failure to comply can be an offence with significant punishments.