

Travel Insights Report



At PacRim Marketing Group and PR Tech the wellness of our customers, associates and the community is important to us and we are monitoring the current situation with COVID-19 very closely. Following is the latest roundup of news from Hawaii and Asia.

UPDATES re COVID-19, Novel Coronavirus

As of May 18, 2020

GLOBAL

Global Coronavirus cases: 4,786,672

USA

Domestic Coronavirus cases (including Hawaii): 1,506,732

Hawaii cases: 640

CHINA

China Coronavirus cases (Domestic): 84,054

JAPAN

Japan Coronavirus cases (Domestic): 16,285

S. KOREA

South Korea Coronavirus cases (Domestic): 11,065

For updated figures on the disease toll in individual countries and worldwide, please visit:
<https://gisanddata.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/bda7594740fd40299423467b48e9ecf6>

HAWAII

- State of Hawaii allows retail businesses to open. Shopping malls and a variety of retail businesses were allowed to reopen in mid-May provided they minimize contact between employees and customers.
- Ige's seventh supplementary emergency proclamation allows state residents to leave home to shop at the newly reopened "low risk" businesses, but Ige said the state expects there will be an increase in new COVID-19 cases as the local economy reopens.
- The new Hawaii campaign is "Safer At Home." People are required to wear masks and practice social distancing in public.
- Gov. Ige extended safer-at-home order through June 30

- Many Oahu retailers/shopping malls reopened on 5/15
 - Ala Moana Center: 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. (Sunday: 12 p.m. - 6 p.m.)
 - Royal Hawaiian Center: 10 a.m. - 10 p.m.
 - International Market Place: 11 a.m. - 8 p.m.
 - Pearlridge Center: 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. (Sunday: 12 p.m. - 6 p.m.)
 - Kahala Mall: 10 a.m. - 9 p.m. (Sunday: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.)
 - Windward Mall: Closed until further notice
- Most Oahu beaches are open for small gatherings, sunbathing, and other activities¹
 - Limited to members from the same household
 - Groups must be 10 people or less
 - Social distancing is required for people who are not part of the household
- Dine-in services at restaurants will be allowed starting June 5²
 - Additional guidelines and restrictions to be announced by the City
- Visitor Industry
 - Governor Ige intends to extend the mandatory 14-day quarantine order for all inbound travelers to June 30.
 - Government, visitor industry officials and the general public have raised concerns about a lack of enforcement for the quarantine order and confusion.
 - Several visitors have been sent home for breaking quarantine. Sneaking out of one's room is a criminal offense punishable by a \$5,000 fine and up to a year in prison.

AIRLINE INDUSTRY

- Hawaii – Japan
 - JAL: All flights between Japan – Hawaii suspended till 6/30/20
 - ANA: Honolulu to/from Haneda (HND) & Narita (NRT) flight suspension extended thru 6/15/20³
 - Hawaiian Airlines⁴
 - HND – HNL (HA855 & HA856): suspended until 7/03
 - HND – KONA: suspended until 7/02
 - Sapporo – HNL: suspended until 7/20
 - Other Hawaii – Japan flights to resume on 6/15
 - Delta Honolulu – Japan flights suspended until 7/02
 - United – NRT– HNL resumes 9/08
- Hawaii – Korea
 - Hawaiian Airlines (ICN – HNL): Suspended till 6/15
 - Korean Air (ICN – HNL / ICN – NRT – HNL): Suspended until 7/17⁵
 - Asiana Airlines (ICN – HNL): Suspended till 7/01

When the stay-at-home order and 14-day self-quarantine for visitors is officially extended, the flight schedules will likely change, impacting summer travel.

¹ <https://www.hawaiinewsnow.com/2020/05/15/oahu-beaches-open-sunbathing-small-family-gatherings/>

² <https://www.hawaiinewsnow.com/2020/05/16/city-says-come-june-restaurants-can-open-dine-in-service/>

³ <https://www.anahd.co.jp/group/pr/202005/20200512-2.html>

⁴ <http://hawaiianairlines.com/ScheduleChanges.pdf>

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[https://www.koreanair.com/content/dam/koreanair/Global/Documents/about/corona19/6%EC%9B%94%20%EC%BD%94%EB%A1%9C%EB%82%9819%20%EB%B9%84%EC%9A%B4%ED%95%AD%20%EB%B0%8F%20%EA%B0%90%ED%8E%B8%20%ED%98%84%ED%99%A9\(%EA%B3%B5%EC%A7%80\)_0512_1600%20-%20ENG.pdf](https://www.koreanair.com/content/dam/koreanair/Global/Documents/about/corona19/6%EC%9B%94%20%EC%BD%94%EB%A1%9C%EB%82%9819%20%EB%B9%84%EC%9A%B4%ED%95%AD%20%EB%B0%8F%20%EA%B0%90%ED%8E%B8%20%ED%98%84%ED%99%A9(%EA%B3%B5%EC%A7%80)_0512_1600%20-%20ENG.pdf)

JAPAN

- PM Shinzo Abe lifted the state of emergency for 39 of the country's 47 prefectures ahead of its planned expiration (5/14)
 - Original planned date: 5/31
- Experts and Abe to decide whether to extend the state of emergency for the remaining 8 prefectures
 - Government to closely monitor the “second wave” of infections and cluster infections
- Japanese economy slips into recession
 - 21.5% GDP contraction expected for Q2 2020
 - Tax revenue decreased by 9% in March 2020
- Japan to raise its travel alert for additional 13 countries to Level 3, the second highest level
 - 100 countries and regions are included in the Level 3 advisory, which urges Japanese nationals to "evacuate immediately" and "avoid all travel regardless of purpose." (<https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2020/05/12/national/japan-raises-travel-alert-13-countries-virus-pandemic/#.XrsX8WhKjcs>)
- During Golden Week, many tourism destinations saw 50 - 90% decrease in visitors compared to the same period last year
 - Freeway usage dropped to 30%
 - Shinkansen and rapid service train usage decreased by 95%
 - However, home centers and parks in the city area saw an increase in visitors
- Tokyo logged sixth consecutive day below 100 cases on 5/8⁶
 - However, the government suggested the threat of a second wave of infections will remain for months⁷
- While the new cases drop, the number of deaths is on a rise⁸
- Government approved Remdesivir drug for COVID-19 treatment⁹
- Schools reopened with staggered attendance
 - Some schools only allow half of the students at school each day
- 1 in 13 college students are thinking of dropping out of school due to COVID-19¹⁰
 - Lost their full/part-time jobs
 - 70% students rely on their part-time job income to pay tuition/necessities¹¹
- Experts are suggesting the new “normal” to co-exist with the virus.¹² Examples:
 - General: Practice social distancing, wear a mask, wash hands and face
 - Travel: Refrain from traveling if possible and avoid visiting highly infected areas
 - Socializing: Note who you met/where you went to make tracking contacts easy
 - Shopping: Go shopping alone when it is not crowded or use online shopping. Plan ahead and do not spend too much time at the store.
 - Restaurants: Use takeout/delivery service when possible. Outdoor seating suggested. Do not talk while eating, do not share food/beverage.
 - Events: Do not gather in big groups.

⁶ <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2020/05/08/national/tokyo-logs-sixth-consecutive-day-100-39-coronavirus-cases/#.XrXu1GhKjcs>

⁷ <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2020/05/05/national/japan-new-lifestyle-coronavirus-shinzo-abe/#.XrXurmhKjcs>

⁸ https://www.asahi.com/articles/ASN5C7SFZN5CUTIL031.html?iref=pc_special_coronavirus_top

⁹ <https://english.kyodonews.net/news/2020/05/a71bc1fcd3ad-update1-japan-approves-remdesivir-for-covid-19-treatment-in-expedited-review.html>

¹⁰ https://news.tbs.co.jp/newseye/tbs_newseye3963060.html

¹¹ <https://www.nishinippon.co.jp/item/n/602788/>

¹² https://www.asahi.com/articles/ASN5C3QK1N57UCLV00G.html?iref=pc_special_coronavirus_top

KOREA

- 13 new cases reported on Sunday, 5/17¹³
 - The fewest daily cases reported since the cluster infection at nightclubs in Seoul
- Government to closely monitor the recent cluster infection¹⁴
 - At least 153 confirmed cases (90 visited the clubs, 63 family and friends)
 - Karaoke facilities are also linked to the same cluster infection
- Communities are encouraging residents to avoid close contact with each other and visiting public places
 - Promoting remote working system and delay of the new school semester
- Korean Air lines to require all passengers on domestic routes to wear masks starting 5/18¹⁵
- South Korea's Foreign Ministry extends "Special Travel Advisory" to May 23¹⁶
 - Called on citizens to cancel or postpone their trips to any foreign countries/regions
 - Residents are allowed to take only domestic trips
 - Between level 2 – 3 under the country's four-tier advisory system
 - First stage (blue): travel note, second stage (yellow): travel restraint, third stage (red): recommended withdrawal, fourth stage (black): immediate withdrawal/prohibition of travel
 - Aimed at preventing the inflow of viruses into Korea amid the global pandemic of COVID-19 as well as preventing Koreans from becoming infected and isolated overseas
- South Korean nationals residing overseas have been returning home. Are subject to temporary quarantine and restrictions
- The government suspended its visa waiver agreement / visa-free entry beginning April 13 for countries with a ban on entry by Korean nationals
 - Applies to 90 countries/regions including Australia and Germany
- As the authorities expect the reemergence, these travel restriction measures will unlikely be lifted after May
- Travel demand is flocking to domestic travel destinations such as Jeju Island and Gangwon Province

GREATER CHINA, TAIWAN

- China domestic air travel capacity returns in 'beacon of hope' for global recovery
<https://www.cirium.com/thoughtcloud/china-domestic-air-travel-capacity-returns-in-beacon-of-hope-for-global-recovery/>
- China has restored about 60% of its passenger flight capability¹⁷
 - The number of passenger flights on a rise
 - Recovered from -71% in February to -33% in April 2020¹⁸
- About 90% of hotels reopened
- Thailand removed S. Korea, China, Hong Kong, and Macao from its "dangerous disease zones"¹⁹

¹³ https://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/nation/2020/05/113_289628.html

¹⁴ http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/nation/2020/05/113_289571.html

¹⁵ https://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/tech/2020/05/774_289567.html

¹⁶ http://world.kbs.co.kr/service/news_view.htm?lang=e&Seq_Code=152939

¹⁷ <http://global.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202005/17/WS5ec0e0dda310a8b2411563da.html>

¹⁸ <https://www.cirium.com/thoughtcloud/china-domestic-air-travel-capacity-returns-in-beacon-of-hope-for-global-recovery/>

¹⁹ <https://www.straitstimes.com/asia/se-asia/thailand-to-remove-china-south-korea-hong-kong-and-macao-off-list-of-dangerous-disease>

- Taiwan recorded its 9th day of 0 new case reported²⁰
- Shanghai Disneyland reopened on 5/11/20²¹
 - Capacity is restricted to 30% (24,000)
 - Pre-purchased ticket or reservations for annual pass holders required
 - They will take all guests' temperature and practice social distance (they are not allowed to hug Mickey Mouse)
- Exports increased by 3.5% compared to last year while imports decreased 14.2% in April 2020
- Aircraft entering storage eases and signals hibernation phase of the market. Since the beginning of March alone, more than 12,000 passenger jets have been placed into storage globally. However, the pace of parking has slowed throughout April suggesting it is now stabilizing. The reverse trend has been observed in China, which accounted for 40% of the 1,000 passenger aircraft that returned to service over the same period, as restrictions on air travel are gradually lifted in the country.
- In China, hotels started reopening at the end of Feb. and by March, 90% of the hotels in China had reopened. As the CN government has been gradually reopening the cities, people are free to travel domestically and hotel bookings are recovering too.
- Restrictions for China travel, internationally and domestically. <https://www.china-briefing.com/news/chinas-travel-restrictions-due-to-covid-19-an-explainer/>
- Many high-end hotels such as Intercontinental, Shangri La, Hilton, Marriott and Kempinski have started their high-end catering service in partnership with Ele.Me (online-to-offline catering and food delivery platform that was invested \$1.25 billion by Alibaba Group in 2015).



Please note: The information in this memo is for informational purposes about the COVID-19 situation and is not intended for publication or public attribution.

²⁰ <https://www.taipeitimes.com/News/taiwan/archives/2020/05/17/2003736562>

²¹ <https://www.usatoday.com/story/travel/news/2020/05/08/coronavirus-disneys-shanghai-park-set-reopen-fever-checks-social-distancing/3094802001/>