

Mobility: Immigration alert

May 2021



Vietnam

Mandatory quarantine period extended to 21 days for all inbound travelers

Executive summary

Effective 5 May 2021, all travelers entering Vietnam must quarantine for at least 21 days at a government approved location and then isolate for an additional seven-day period at a private accommodation. Inbound travelers will be subject to at least four COVID-19 tests after entry.

Key issues

The Vietnamese National Steering Committee for COVID-19 Prevention and Control issued the new rule in response to COVID-19 infection and death rates worldwide, and in Vietnam. Under the new rules:

- ▶ The mandatory quarantine period for all inbound travelers, including Vietnamese citizens and residents returning to Vietnam, is immediately extended to a minimum of 21 days, up from 14 days previously.
- ▶ Inbound travelers are required to undergo at least three COVID-19 tests during the mandatory quarantine period (on their first, 14th and 20th days in country).
- ▶ After completing the 21-day quarantine at a government designated location, inbound travelers are then required to immediately isolate for an additional seven-day period at a private accommodation (e.g. home, hotel).
- ▶ Travelers who experience symptoms of COVID-19 at any time while in Vietnam are required to immediately contact the local health authorities for further guidance.
- ▶ During the seven-day isolation period, inbound travelers are generally not permitted to leave their

private accommodations, with limited exceptions (e.g., for work purposes). Individuals seeking to travel locally during the seven-day isolation period (e.g. for work purposes) must first obtain advance approval from the local police and health authorities.

- ▶ At the end of the seven-day isolation period, travelers are required to take another COVID-19 test, at which point they are no longer required to quarantine/isolate, provided they test negative. Individuals who test positive for this fourth COVID-19 test must follow instructions from the local health authorities, and they may be required to quarantine again at a government designated location.
- ▶ Organizations sponsoring the entry of foreign nationals to Vietnam are required to sign commitments that they and the foreigners whose entry they are sponsoring will abide by all local health rules, including those relating to quarantine/isolation and COVID-19 testing. Organizations and their executives that fail to abide by this commitment may be subject to penalties, including restrictions on their ability to sponsor future immigration applications, and in serious cases, potential criminal prosecution.

Next steps

EY will continue to monitor these developments. Should you have any questions, we encourage you to contact one of our immigration professionals.

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