

CHANDLER MHM

Newsletter

COVID-19 - Civil Aviation Authority of Thailand issues guidelines for air operators and requirements for travelers coming to Thailand

The Civil Aviation Authority of Thailand has issued the Notification Re: The Notification of the Civil Aviation Authority of Thailand re: Practical Guidelines for Air Operators Performing Flights into the Kingdom of Thailand on 20 March 2020 (the "CAAT Notification"). The CAAT Notification will be effective at 0:00 a.m. on 22 March 2020 and remains valid until further notice, and applies to ALL travelers coming to Thailand, regardless of original country of departure. Air operators who fail to follow these guidelines are responsible for expenses incurred for the transportation of passengers to isolation, quarantine, confinement for observation, and immunization, including expenses for the care, hospitalization of those individuals, and the prevention and control of international communicable diseases in accordance to the Communicable Diseases Act B.E. 2558 (2015).

A) Requirements for foreign nationals

Air operators are required to request foreign nationals provide documentation prior to issuing a boarding pass. A summary of those guidelines are as follows:

Phase	Document	Remarks
Upon check-in	Health certificate	Such health certificate shall certify that the travelers "pose no risk of being infected by the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)" and shall be issued no more than 72 hours prior to the departure.
	Proof health insurance / health insurance policy	A health insurance policy which covers treatments of Coronavirus Disease 2019 with the amount of medical expense coverage of at least USD 100,000 (or equivalent)
Upon receipt of a boarding pass	Arrange for passengers to fill in information on their address in Thailand in the T.8 Form ("AOT Airport of Thailand") application	This is a form for travelers to provide their information, including contact details, reserved accommodations and length of stay, only, i.e. AOT Airport application will not be used for monitoring the travelers.

Foreign travelers/passengers, upon arrival in Thailand, are required to present documents to the communicable disease control official, summarized as follows:

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Document	Remarks
Health Certificate/Insurance and Completed T.8 Form	Travelers may be subject to isolation, quarantine, observation, or any other measures to prevent and control communicable diseases, at the discretion of a communicable disease officer. ¹

B) Requirements for Thai nationals

Air operators are required to request Thai nationals to provide documentation prior to issuing a boarding pass. A summary of those guidelines are as follows:

Phase	Document	Remarks
Upon check-in	Health certificate	Such health certificate shall certify that the travelers are "fit to fly."
	Letter certifying nationality	This letter must be issued by a Royal Thai Embassy, Thai Consular Office or Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Kingdom of Thailand and certify that the passenger is a Thai National returning to Thailand.
Upon receipt of a boarding pass	Arrange for passengers to fill in information on their address in Thailand in the T.8 Form ("AOT Airport of Thailand") application	This is a form for travelers to provide their information, including contact details, reserved accommodations and length of stay, only, i.e. AOT Airport application will not be used for monitoring the travelers.

Thai travelers/passengers, upon arrival in Thailand, are required to present documents to the communicable disease control official, summarized as follows:

Document	Remarks
Completed T.8 Form	Travelers may be subject to isolation, quarantine, observation, or any other measures to prevent and control communicable diseases, at the discretion of a communicable disease officer.

C) Quarantine and reporting

If ordered to quarantine by a communicable disease officer, individuals must do so in areas (for foreigners - rooms in designated hotels, for Thais – private residences) for no less than 14 days until the end of the infectious period or until suspicious symptoms end. They are not allowed to go outside without permission from disease control officers. Moreover, they must practice self-prevention measures. If a fever develops during the quarantine period, they are required to inform disease control officers immediately.

During quarantine, travelers must record their location and update current health status via a reporting app system daily (as per instructions of the disease control officer at the airport). The address provided by travelers on the T.8 form will be used for the purposes of daily checks at the designated accommodation by local officials.

If the travelers exhibit symptoms for COVID-19, or if communication is lost, officers will track the travelers (e.g. contact the hotels), place them back into the system, and follow-up for surveillance, clinical diagnosis, and treatment for prevention and control.

¹A "Communicable Disease Control Officer" refers to, among other things, certain officers of the Ministry of Public Health working at any International Communicable Disease Control Checkpoints (pursuant to Clause 5 of the Notification of the Ministry of Public Health Re: Appointment of Communicable Disease Control Officer under Communicable Diseases Act B.E. 2558 (No.3) B.E. 2563 (2020).

"International Communicable Disease Control Checkpoints" are located at all airports, ports, and borders in Thailand, including Don Mueang International Airport and Suvarnabhumi International Airport [pursuant to Clause 4 of the Notification of the Ministry of Public Health Re: International Communicable Disease Control Checkpoints B.E. 2562 (2019).]

In case of any non-compliance with quarantine requirements, individuals can be subject to fines and/or imprisonment.

We will continue to monitor this subject and provide updates when they are announced. Please contact us if you should have any questions or concerns. The CAAT Notification can be read in its entirety at this [LINK](#).²

Note that the requirements under this CAAT Notification are in addition to any visa requirements foreign nationals are subject to by Thai Immigration authorities, and are independent of whether a foreign national planning to travel to Thailand has applied for and received a valid non-immigrant or tourist visa. From 22 March 2020, ALL foreign and Thai nationals, respectively, must also present the documents listed above in order to be granted entry into Thailand.

This publication is intended to highlight an overview of key issues for ease of understanding, and not for the provision of legal advice. If you have any questions about this publication, please contact your regular contact persons at Mori Hamada & Matsumoto or Chandler MHM Limited. If you should have any inquiries about the publications, or would like more information about Chandler MHM Limited, please contact bd@mhm-global.com.