

# Now is the time to plan your trip to JAPAN

**Good news from Japan! The country is getting ready to reopen for tourism for the first time since the start of the pandemic.**

As one of the last countries, Japan has been keeping the borders closed for foreign tourists, however, starting from June 10th, it will reopen again.

On May 17th, Japanese government announced their plan to evaluate the effects of reopening its borders to international tourist flows, initially admitting only vaccinated visitors from a limited list of countries. They started a trial in the end of May and based on feedback, the Japanese government will launch new guidelines that will regulate the flow of international tourists.

For the time being, Prime Minister Kishida announced that in order to visit Japan from June 10th, the following two conditions will be applied.

Travelers must visit Japan on a guided tour organized by a Japan-based travel agency or operator. We, ALTOUR JAPAN will handle all requirements including application procedure, register on Entrants, Returnees Follow-up System (ERFS) and assistant service for visa.

Travelers must arrive from the 98 countries listed on the "blue list", where the risk of catching the corona-virus is considered low. Most countries in North America, East Asia, Europe and Oceania are listed in the blue list and regardless of the vaccination status of the entrants/returnees, on-arrival test, home quarantine and other measures are not required. Pre-departure test within 72 hours from the date of sample collection to the flight departure time will still be necessary.

For more information, please check

## How to travel to Japan

<https://www.altourjapan.com/dl/Travel-to-Japan.pdf>

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Moreover, Japanese government plans to ease restrictions on entry into the country starting in June, following measures already taken by other G7 countries as they phase out the Covid-19 pandemic. This was announced by Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida in early May. The pandemic picture in Japan has stabilized in recent months, and the government intends to "progressively" review health risk containment measures in line with expert recommendations. Japan has already partially eased entry restrictions, and it will increase the daily cap of 10,000 entries to 20,000 in the next weeks. Currently only 5 main airports are open for foreign visitors however, Shin Chitose Airport and Naha Airport will be open in June which will make it much easier for visitors to access to Japan.

The spread of COVID-19 hit both Japanese travel market and the foreign travel market to Japan making the whole market to shrink, however, in the holiday in April & May, many domestic tourists returned to major tourist spot such as Tokyo, Hakone, Nikko, Osaka, Kyoto. At last, we are able to see the sign of endemic.

