



Frequently Asked Questions regarding Travelling
between Japan and India as of March 22 2021

Travelling between Japan and India in COVID times with special focus given to Kerala as destination in India

For Indian community in Japan, there is a difficulty in consolidating information regarding travelling, considering changing Covid related rules and the actual experiences of travelers. By this FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions), Nihon Kairali, a Non Profit organization for Keralites in Japan is trying to address as much concerns as possible regarding travel taking into account rules prevailing on March 22 2021 (Date of publishing of this FAQ)

From March 2020 Nihon Kairali Volunteer group is actively involved in supporting community and near to 200 passengers travelled to Kerala and another 200 travelled from Kerala to Japan making use of Nihon Kairali travel WhatsApp groups

There are four sections in this FAQ as follows

- A. Travel from Japan to Kerala**
- B. Travel from Kerala to Japan**
- C. Covid Test in Japan for travel to India**
- D. Border control measures in Japan for people from India**

Note : Rules taken into account in this FAQ

https://www.mofa.go.jp/ca/fna/page4e_001053.html

(Border enforcement measures by Japan updated as of March 22 2021)

https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/seisakunitsuite/bunya/0000121431_00209.html

(Ministry of health japan)

<https://www.mohfw.gov.in/pdf/Guidelinesforinternationalarrivals17022021.pdf>

<https://www.mohfw.gov.in/pdf/Algorithmforinternationalarrivals.pdf>

(International Travel regulations by India updated on 17th Feb 2021)



Frequently Asked Questions regarding Travelling between Japan and India as of March 22 2021

A: Travel from Japan to Kerala

- How can we book a ticket to travel from Japan to Kerala
You can book directly from airlines sites or through travel agents etc.
- What are the possible airlines based on the experiences
So far people are travelling by Air India, Emirates, Qatar airways, ANA, JAL etc. It is recommended to book air bubble agreed routes
- Is it required to inform Embassy of India in Japan
No need to inform Embassy
- Is it smooth when we transit a third country while travelling
So far Qatar and UAE has no trouble in transiting
- Is there any facility in transiting airport to stay
Travelers has availed the airport hotels in Dubai, Delhi, Qatar etc.
- Do we need to do any test at the transiting nation
No need to do any test at transiting nations since you carry a certificate with you already
- Can we book two different connecting airlines for international travel
It is advisable to book same airlines, but passengers have travelled by connections to Kerala like Emirates-Fly Dubai, Emirates-Indigo, Air India-Indigo etc.
- Is luggage directly checked in till India if transiting through a third nation
If same PNR it is through check in till India, if not normally you have to do by yourself at transiting nation, but there are services in airports like in Dubai (Marhaba) and when you pay they can do
- If I am transiting through an Indian airport like Delhi, is Covid test required at Delhi
When you have negative certificate, covid testing at Delhi not required
- If transiting through an airport in India do we need to quarantine at first port of arrival
It is not necessary
- Covid negative certificate needed for travel, is it within 72 hours before departure from Japan
Yes it should be taken within 72 hours before departure from Japan



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- Is Covid negative certificate needed for kids and infants
Yes covid negative certificate is needed for passengers irrespective of age
- Since I am planning to return to Japan how can I obtain re-entry permit for the same
When you depart from Japan normal procedure for special re-entry(within 1 years) is followed. At the immigration when you fill in that you will return, they will stamp re entry permit and attach it to passport
- Do we need to do any Covid Test after arrival in Kerala
If transiting through middle east they will collect samples for testing or else it is not required
- How many days quarantine required after arriving in India
For Kerala it is 7 days quarantine rule and followed by a test, if the test is negative you can stop quarantine. Contact the local health body for the type of test
- What are the typical Covid documents required for travelling to India

Typical covid related documents are

- Air Suvidha registration
<https://www.newdelhairport.in/airsuvidha/apfo-registration>
- Covid Jagratha registration
<https://covid19jagratha.kerala.nic.in/home/pravasiEntry>
- Arogyasethu App in mobile
- Covid Negative Certificate
- Valid passport and ticket



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B: Travel from Kerala to Japan

- Can I travel to Japan with present travel restrictions
If you have valid re entry permit you can travel smoothly, or you if you are a spouse or child of a permanent resident you can travel after confirmation of visa from embassy. Details are there in the below link and section D
<http://www.moj.go.jp/isa/content/001338898.pdf>
- What will happen if my re-entry permit(1 Years) or visa expired
You must apply for new visa with COE and currently new visa issuance is suspended
- How can we book a ticket to travel from Kerala to Japan
You can book directly from airlines sites or through travel agents, etc.
- What are the possible airlines based on the experiences
So far people are travelling by Air India, Emirates, JAL, etc.
- Is it required to inform Embassy of Japan in India
No need to inform Embassy when you have re entry permit
- Is it smooth when we transit a third country while travelling
So far UAE transit is fine, but in different connecting airlines cases you may require transit visa. Also contact the respective airlines to have smooth transit at Dubai
- Do we need to do any test at the transiting nation
No need to do any test at transiting nations since you carry a certificate with you already
- Can we book two different connecting airlines for international travel
It is advisable to book same airlines, but passengers have travelled by connections like fly Dubai-Emirates
- Is luggage directly checked in till japan if transiting a third nation
If same PNR it is through checkin, if not normally you have to do, but there are services like in Dubai(Marhaba) for which when you pay they can do
- If transiting through an Indian airport like Delhi, is Covid test required at Delhi
When you have negative certificate covid testing at Delhi not required
- If transiting through an airport in India do we need to quarantine at the international airport location in India

It is not necessary

- Covid negative certificate needed for travel, is it within 72 hours before departure from Kerala
Yes it should be taken within 72 hours before departure from Kerala
- Is there any prescribed format for Covid Negative Certificate
Yes it should be in the format mentioned below
<http://www.moj.go.jp/isa/content/001337717.pdf>
- Do we need to do any Covid Test after arrival in Japan
Yes you need to do saliva test at airport in Japan
- How many days quarantine required after arriving in Japan
14 days strict quarantine is needed after arrival in Japan
- If I am transiting through middle east is 3 days institutional quarantine must before home quarantine
If you are not exiting in Dubai, no need of institutional quarantine
- Is it required to have a smart phone for the passengers
Yes smart phone is must and if you don't have, you have to rent at airport after arriving in Japan
- Can I take public transport for travel from airport in Japan to home
You cannot use normal public transport, either book cars, take special shuttle buses, special trains, ask your friends to pick up, rent a car etc.
- What are the typical Covid documents/arrangements required for travelling to Japan from India
Typical covid related documents are
 - **Passport, ticket and valid visa**
 - **Covid Negative certificate in prescribed format**
<http://www.moj.go.jp/isa/content/001337717.pdf>
 - **Pledge in the prescribed format**
https://www.mofa.go.jp/ca/fna/page4e_001053.html#section2
 - **Smart phone with applications**
<https://www.mhlw.go.jp/content/000753094.pdf>
 - **Questionnaire and QR code printout**
<https://arqs-qa.followup.mhlw.go.jp/#/>
 - **Health Card (Will receive from flight)**

C: Covid Test in Japan for Travel to India

- When I should take COVID negative test before travel
You should take it 72 hours(max) before departure from Japan
- Is Saliva Test accepted in India
Yes saliva test result is accepted in India
- Can the saliva testing canthers do testing for infants/small kids
Most of the centers recommend swab test for infants and small kids as it is difficult to obtain saliva from them
- Is English certificate must
People have travelled with Japanese certificate/mails with English translation and there are cases in emirates where they denied travel siting clarity in details like
 - Date of Test
 - Clearly “Negative” is not mentioned
 - Name and passport number not mentioned correctly
- What are the test options in Japan
There are plenty of options among which the following is popular among travelers who did so far
<https://toa-pcr.com/>
(Emirates/Qatar Airways there are some risks but of course many have travelled)
<https://www.pcr-english.team-medical.or.jp/>
(Provide clear English certificate)
- How long it take to obtain the result
There are testing centers which give result in same day (Morning test and result at night) and also some centers give next day
- How much it costs for PCR test
It costs approximately from 2500 Yen to 30,000 Yen



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D : Border control measures in Japan for people from India

- Can I travel to Japan with present travel restrictions
If you have valid re entry permit you can travel smoothly
- What will happen if my re entry permit(1 Years) or visa expired
You have to apply for new visa with COE and currently new visa issuance is suspended
- Is new visa issued by consulate of Japan in India
At present new visa issuance is suspended except the below cases
<http://www.moj.go.jp/isa/content/001338898.pdf>
- What is mean by Long Term Resident
For immigration purpose it is a special category as mentioned in COE/resident card etc. Examples: persons with Japanese ancestry, Indochinese refugee settlers, the spouse or children of Japanese nationals left behind in China, etc
- Is COE(Certificate of Eligibility) issuance happening smoothly
Yes COE can be obtained from immigration office in Japan
- When visa issuance will re start
There is no clear date of restarting the visa issuance and as of March 22 it is suspended



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Notes

- **This FAQ is made with prevailing regulations as of March 22**
- **This FAQ considered the travel experience of nearly 400 passengers**
- **If you are Nihon Kairali Member, we request to join travel groups for further updates where people support each other**
- **There may be better unexplored options for travel and the above options are based on experiences**
- **This guidelines or FAQ has no legal stance and please follow Japan and Indian authority rules**
- **Nihon Kairali cannot take any responsibility for the circumstances happening to a passenger referring these FAQ.**

Please Contact :

Nihon Kairali Volunteer Group if you have some questions regarding this FAQ at coronavolunteer@nihonkairali.com