



Covid 19 Update – 06 AUG 2021

As you would be aware through the media, Vietnam is facing its biggest test yet in the fight against the Covid 19 Pandemic, which has taken its biggest hold on HCMC otherwise known as Saigon.

As of 5th August, Vietnam has 7,244 new Covid cases, in which HCMC has recorded the highest.

Number of cases just across major cities are as follows:

HCMC - 3886 cases.

Hanoi - 69

Danang – 92

In addition many popular tourism destinations such as [Nha Trang](#), Mui Ne and [Hoi An](#) have been placed under 14 day lockdowns after they detected Covid clusters.

In this the fourth wave, the country has had 153,621 cases in 62 of its 63 cities and provinces.

Total deaths 2720 in which HCMC 2105

Almost 90% of the country is coping with Covid to some degree while at the same time the government is doing their best to acquire and push the Vaccine agenda.

Steep fines have been put in place to enforce the lockdowns and social distancing rules, and it is hoped that as the vaccine gets to those most at risk namely front line workers and the elderly, the situation in HCMC in particular will ease. However, the current Directive 16 in place in HCMC could stay in place for some time. At this stage these orders are in place till 16th August.

Travel domestically is limited to 2-3 flights between Hanoi and HCMC, with most other services to other cities cancelled at this stage.

How is Vaccination in Vietnam progressing?

Vaccination is slow and mostly that is due to low supply. Up to 5th August, 7% of the population has at least 1 dose and 0.8% are now fully vaccinated.

Many countries around the world are offering their assistance and donations of vaccines, from Japan, the US, UK, Germany and Australia are arriving into Vietnam over the coming months.

Travel update re the lowering of the Quarantine period to 7 days.

Vietnam has cut the centralized quarantine period for fully vaccinated foreign arrivals to 7 days from the previous 14 days. We think this will most assuredly benefit the business and diplomatic travellers, because as at this time NO tourist visa's are being issued.

Arrivals must also test negative for the virus within 72 hours before arrival and would then be required to self-monitor for another 7 days after the quarantine period. In addition, those infected with COVID-19 and have certificates that they have recovered from the virus within six months would also have their quarantine period reduced.

No date as yet has been advised of when this will begin and how it will be implemented.

Please contact ITS Vietnam Office for more information – sm@itsvietnam.com

Re – Foreigners still in Vietnam

Vietnam's Immigration Department has announced another automatic stay extension for foreigners stranded in Vietnam due to the pandemic until August 31, 2021. The measure applies to those who entered since March 1, 2020, allowing them to leave the country without any penalty or official procedures. Those that have entered prior to March 1, 2020, are also eligible provided they show documents by their embassies or by Vietnamese authorities to confirm they were quarantined or treated for COVID-19.

How can you help?

If you would like to know ways to help and support Vietnam through this time and witness some of the beauty of mankind through acts of kindness, you might find this link useful:

<https://saigoneer.com/podcast/20432-saigoneer-podcast-vietnam-s-massive-outbreak-acts-of-lockdown-kindness>

Ref: <https://e.vnexpress.net/news/travel/hoi-an-makes-lockdown-townwide-as-infections-rise-4332759.html>

<https://e.vnexpress.net/news/travel/tourist-hotspots-clamp-social-distancing-measures-amid-growing-covid-threat-4334179.html>

<https://vn.usembassy.gov/u-s-citizen-services/covid-19-information/>