

Further Covid restrictions in HCMC and Hanoi amidst hope for Vaccine Passport



Ho Chi Minh City

Authorities have extended social distancing measures for another 15 days under the stricter Directive 16 from July 9. Under the Directive 16 all non-essential businesses and services are banned while public transport including buses and taxis are suspended.

There is to be NO gathering of more than two people, and people are required to stay at home unless they need to go out for food, medicine, or emergencies.

HCMC is preparing to administer 1.1 million doses of Covid-19 vaccines in two to three weeks amid the swift rise in daily infections.

Hanoi

Hanoi will close down indoor restaurants, cafes and barbershops starting Tuesday 13/7/21 amidst a rising coronavirus threat, only three weeks after resuming these services.

A document by the municipal People's Committee published on the government portal Monday noon stated all non-essential businesses like indoor food and beverage facilities and barbershops must shut down after midnight on Tuesday for coronavirus prevention. Physical exercises, entertainment activities and other large gatherings at parks, gardens and other public locations would be suspended too, the document added.

Takeaways are still allowed, it noted.

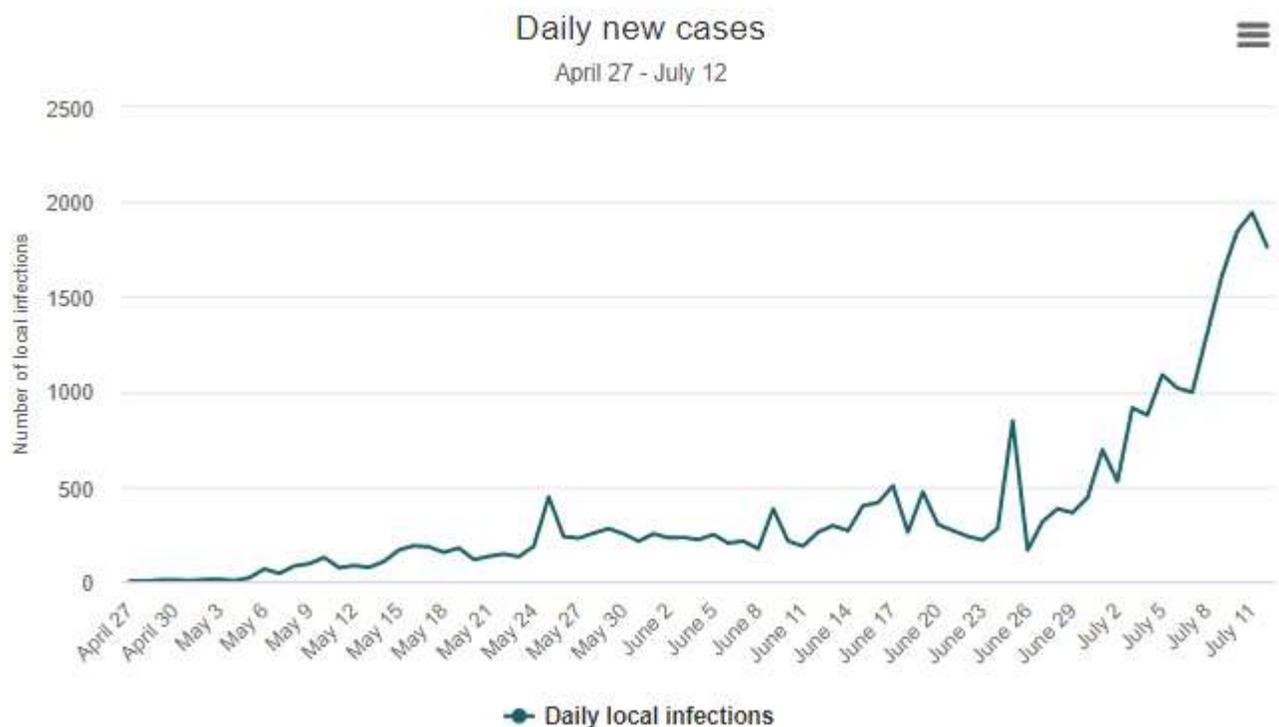
Danang

The People's Committee of Da Nang City has lifted restriction on swimming at public beaches and some sport activities, starting at 4:30 a.m on July 10.

Swimming on public beaches is allowed from 4:40 am to 8:00 am and 4:30 pm to 7:00 pm. Street food vendors, sport and entertainment activities, mass gatherings and other services on beaches have been banned, excluding parking service

In addition, the country's popular tourist city has asked all arrivals coming or returning to Da Nang City from affected areas to pay for their 21-day quarantine at dedicated centralized quarantine facilities and Covid-19 test fee from July 7.

COVID numbers – Report up to 11th July, 2021



Vietnam recorded 1,945 new local Covid-19 cases Sunday night, 11th July.

VIETNAM AIRLINES start IATA-travel-pass / APP

(IATA) and Vietnam Airlines are to "open the border" for international flights by participating in the trial of the IATA Travel Pass application. The IATA Travel Pass App developed by IATA is the solution to facilitate international travel during the pandemic, providing peace of mind and ensuring that passengers meet COVID-19 health requirements will have a safe and seamless travel experience.

Trial of IATA travel Pass of Vietnam Airlines will be applied on 2 first flights from Japan: VN301 Tokyo Narita (NRT) – Da Nang (DAD) on July 15th, 2021; and VN301 Tokyo Narita (NRT) – Da Nang (DAD) on July 23rd, 2021.

Travel Planning – International Update

Those planning to travel to Vietnam should be aware of the latest restrictions currently in place:

- **Vietnam has suspended the entry of all foreign tourists since March 22, 2020, until further notice to limit the spread of COVID-19. The measure will not apply to diplomats, officials, foreign investors, experts, and skilled workers.**
- Please check with airlines and [ITS Vietnam](http://www.itsvietnam.com) for information on flights in and out of major cities.
- Vietnam Airlines will reopen international commercial flights connecting Hanoi and HCMC with Australia along with several Asian and European destinations starting this week. A representative of the carrier said resumption of these international routes are meant to meet growing travel demand among Vietnamese citizens wishing to study and work abroad as well as stranded foreigners longing to return home. On return trips, **the carrier would only carry Vietnamese repatriates or foreign experts** with permission to enter the country. Vietnam is NOT yet open to foreign tourists.
- Vietnam is now working on a vaccine passport scheme that will allow fully vaccinated entrants to enter certain regions like **Quang Ninh** and **Phu Quoc** with the centralized quarantine period shortened to seven days. Watch this space!

Ref: <https://www.vietnam-briefing.com/news/covid-19-vietnam-travel-updates-restrictions.html/>

<https://www.vietnamairlines.com/vn/en/plan-book/experience/iata-travel-pass>