

# Guidelines for International Cruise Ships Calling at Ports for Inbound Travel

Approved by the Central Epidemic Command Center on 2022.10.24

## I. Requirements for Inbound Passengers, Cruise Ship Owners, and Travel Agents and Related Operational Procedures

### A. Requirements for passengers and required documents

1. Passengers are advised to stay up to date with their COVID-19 vaccinations and to have received recommended doses at least 14 days before embarkation. Accepted vaccine brands are those with the WHO Emergency Use Listing (WHO EUL) or granted emergency use authorization (EUA) by Taiwan's government. Passengers should also have the relevant documents (e.g., vaccination certificate, visa, etc.).
2. Before entry, passengers should provide a negative result of a COVID-19 rapid antigen test (RAT) taken within 2 days (on the day of embarkation or the day before that day, except for those with symptoms who must take their test on the day of embarkation). Passengers under the age of 2 are not required to provide a negative COVID-19 RAT result. Passengers who are unwilling/unable to take a COVID-19 test should not be allowed to disembark from the ship.
3. Passengers with chronic diseases (e.g., cardiovascular disease) should ensure that they monitor their own health. Passengers should inform relevant authorities if they require medical attention.
4. Inbound passengers are advised to take out travel insurance and overseas medical insurance when coming to Taiwan to cover costs that may be incurred in the event of an infection. While in Taiwan, they should comply with epidemic prevention and control measures.

### B. Requirements for cruise ship owners and related operational procedures

1. Cruise ship owners shall clearly explain to passengers the current epidemic prevention and control measures in Taiwan (e.g., entry and quarantine measures, hand washing, the mask mandate, use of the multi-language version of the Taiwan Social Distance App, etc.).

2. Cruise ship owners shall provide passengers with emergency contact information of the on-board doctor and local medical institutions during their travel in Taiwan.
  3. Cruise ship owners should check the entry requirements of the next port of call and the country to which they return and find out if they are required to provide a negative PCR test result. If necessary, cruise ship owners should take into account the turnaround time of PCR testing in Taiwan and make proper arrangements.
  4. Cruise ship owners should ensure that the ship is equipped with an on-board doctor, adequate quarantine cabins (with private bathrooms and air-conditioning or ventilation), personal protective equipment, medicines, relevant testing equipment, and rapid tests.
  5. Cruise ship owners should submit a maritime declaration of health before the ship enters a port to report whether there are any confirmed cases of COVID-19 on board and to provide public health information as required by the health authority of the port.
  6. Regarding public health, health protocols and management plans for their ships, cruise ship owners should follow the EU's "Guidelines for Cruise Ship Operations in Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic" during the pandemic.
  7. Please follow the regulations for port operations, pilotage, and boarding personnel in the port area and relevant regulations for boarding personnel.
- C. Requirements for travel agents and related operational procedures  
The "Operational Guidelines for Travel Agents Organizing Inbound Group Tours" should be followed.

## II. Information about Inbound Group Travel

- A. For group tours, the "Operational Guidelines for Travel Agents Organizing Inbound Group Tours" should be followed.
- B. Passengers traveling by themselves ashore after disembarkation are required to comply with Taiwan's entry, quarantine, and testing measures.

III. Response mechanism to be followed in case of suspected COVID-19 infection in inbound passengers (subject to change according to the latest regulations issued by the Central Epidemic Command Center for COVID-19).

A. Medical support: cruise ship owners and travel agents should work with the government of the city/county near their travel venue and designate a contact person at the local health authority to keep track of nearby medical resources and to identify the notification process.

B. Notification process to be followed in case of suspected COVID-19 infection in inbound passengers:

1. If passengers have fever, cough, diarrhea, abnormal sense of smell and taste, or any other discomfort or symptoms suspected of being associated with COVID-19 during the trip, travel agents should cancel activities of the passengers traveling with individuals suspected of being infected with COVID-19 and have all passengers return the ship for testing. Passengers traveling by themselves should contact the contact person of their cruise ship owner immediately if they have suspected COVID-19 symptoms.

2. Those who test positive and with mild illnesses should be isolated. However, for those who are assessed by the on-board doctor to be seriously ill and require treatment ashore, cruise ship owners should first notify relevant authorities and arrange isolation as well as medical treatment as directed. The treating hospital will follow the "COVID-19 Case Management and Discharge Criteria" The case may leave Taiwan after being discharged from isolation.

3. For matters relating to the procedure to follow if passengers test positive ashore, the "Operational Guidelines for Travel Agents Organizing Inbound Group Tours".

C. In the event of a sizeable COVID-19 outbreak, or in the event of a health authority's epidemiological investigation revealing a sustained chain of transmission on board a cruise ship, the cruise ship owner should cooperate with relevant authorities in implementing enhanced or preventive control measures such as environmental cleaning and

disinfection, limited shore excursions for passengers, voyage adjustments, etc.