### Riskline / Destination Report

This document was generated on 22 December 2023



## Overall risk level

Low

Take normal safety

Moderate

Take normal safety precautions

Medium

Exercise caution

High

consider travel

Extreme

Defer non-essential travel

The Overall Risk Level will be determined by the higher of the Security Risk Level and Covid-19 Risk Level.

# Security risk level

<b>Low</b> Take normal safety  precautions	Moderate  Take normal safety precautions	Medium  Exercise caution	High Reconsider travel	<b>Extreme</b> Defer non-essential travel
Safe, with few security risks	Generally safe, with some predictable security risks	Not completely safe, but typically presents predictable security risks	Can be dangerous and may present unexpected security risks	Extremely dangerous and presents unpredictable security risks
Travel is possible with an expectation of routine disruptions and delays	Travel is possible with an expectation of routine disruptions and delays	Travel is possible, but there is a potential for disruptions	Travel is possible, but there is a potential for disruptions	Chaotic; travel impossible

## Covid-19 risk level

Low

Take normal safety precautions

Travellers should take normal precautions when travelling to **Low Risk** locations, which have limited or no restrictions on international travel and domestic activities.

Moderate

Take normal safety precautions

normal precautions when travelling to Moderate
Risk locations, which have few restrictions on international travel and limited or no restrictions on domestic activities

Medium

Exercise caution

should exercise caution
when travelling to Medium
Risk locations, and
vaccinated travellers
should take normal
precautions. These
locations may have some
restrictions on
international travel, but
few restrictions on

High

econsider travel

should reconsider their need to travel to **High Risk** locations, and vaccinated travellers should exercise caution. These locations may have severely restricted international travel and partially restricted domestic activities. Extreme

Unvaccinated travellers should defer non-essential travel to **Extreme Risk** locations, and vaccinated travellers should reconsider their travel. These locations may have severely restricted international travel and domestic activities.





# **Overview**

# **Upcoming Events**

There are no upcoming events scheduled



# **Travel Advisories**



## **Summary**

### **Overall** • Moderate Risk

The Chinese special administrative region (SAR) of Macau is a **Moderate Risk** destination: take normal safety precautions.

## **Security** • Moderate Risk

Moderate Risk locations are generally safe, with some predictable security risks. Travel is possible with an expectation of routine disruptions and delays.

### Covid • Low Risk

Authorities have lifted COVID-19-related entry requirements and eased domestic measures. As of around early January, officials no longer impose localised lockdowns, require the public to present the Macau Health Code when entering public venues, and mandate staff to undergo routine tests or quarantine mandate for close contacts, among other measures. Certain individuals, namely visitors to hospitals, symptomatic individuals or those who are in contact with a COVID-19-positive person, are required to wear facemasks.

# **Political Instability** • Low Risk

A special administrative (SAR) region of China, Macau operates with a high degree of autonomy since transitioning from Portuguese rule. The main drivers of the economy are the gambling and tourism industries. High wealth disparity as well as antigovernment sentiment felt in nearby Hong Kong have seen some public opposition to various government policies in recent years, though they have rarely affected Macau's long-term political stability.



### **Conflict** • Low Risk

There currently is no significant risk of political violence to travellers in Macau, as it is not involved in any conflict and has no external tensions with neighbouring polities or noteworthy internal disputes among the populace. As mainland China is responsible for Macau's external affairs and defence, Macau will be affected in the event of a conflict in the South China Sea or across the Taiwan Strait. However, the likelihood of either event occurring is small. Even if a conflict occurs, the effects would be limited for Macau considering its small size and distance from those areas.

### **Terrorism** • Moderate Risk

There are no terrorist groups active in the territory, and there have been no reported incidents of terrorism or threats made against foreign nationals or foreign interests in the territory. However, a large tourism industry presents a number of soft targets, including **Macau International Airport (MFM/VMMC)** and the various casinos operating in the territory. Therefore, although not necessarily likely, a terror attack cannot be ruled out.

### **Unrest** • Moderate Risk

Public protests, demonstrations and strikes rarely occur. When demonstrations do occur, they are likely in relation to economic issues in the territory, as income disparity in Macau is very high.

### **Crime** Low Risk

Macau has greatly improved its image as a hotbed for drug- and gang-related violence it had before the handover to China. Thanks to large investments and an economic boom, crime rates are now low; though, petty crimes like pickpocketing and bag-snatching as well as scams, can occur in areas frequented by tourists. Violent crime is very low.



### Natural and Environmental Moderate Risk

Typhoons have the potential to cause damage to Macau, typically between May and October, and trigger landslides and flooding; the areas most prone to flooding include the **Inner Harbour**, **Taipa**, **São Lourenço**, **Santo António** and **Coloane**. Disruptions from natural disasters are mitigated by an effective system of well-trained emergency personnel. Air pollution can be severe in Macau.

### **Local Travel** • Low Risk

Road travel in Macau is relatively safe, though roads tend to be narrow and winding, making traffic jams commonplace. Due to this congestion, taxis and buses are the recommended forms of transportation and are considered safe and reliable; commonsense precautions against petty theft should be taken on the latter. Ferry and international bus services also connect Macau to mainland China and Hong Kong.

### **Health and Medical** • Moderate Risk

The quality of medical care in Macau is good, with public and private hospitals equipped to handle routine medical needs, in addition to several health centres that provide free care to residents. Evacuation to Hong Kong may be required for more serious ailments or emergencies. Outbreaks of dengue fever may occur during the wet season, from May to October, and high levels of pollution may worsen pre-existing respiratory conditions. Emergency services are reliable.



## **Political Overview:** • Low Risk

The Sino-Portuguese Joint Declaration and the Basic Law of Macau stipulate that the territory shall operate with a high degree of autonomy until at least 2049. Macau special administrative region's (SAR's) retained powers include control of the legal system, police force, monetary system, customs and immigration. Exceptions include the areas of defence and foreign policy, both of which are overseen by the People's Republic of China's (PRC's) Central People's Government under the policy of "one country, two systems." In 2019, Ho lat Seng was sworn in as the chief executive of Macau and has focused on economic recovery from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic by striving to diversify Macau's economy away from the hard-hit gambling and tourism industries. Despite socioeconomic issues, particularly wealth disparity, Macau is expected to be politically stable for the perceivable future, considering the small territory's overall wealth and the relative lack of popular discontent.

In the period leading up to the 2021 legislative elections, in which 14 of the 33 members of Macau's Legislative Assembly were elected directly, 21 candidates, most of whom were pro-democracy and intended to run, were disqualified. The Government of Macau argued that these candidates did not uphold the Basic Law of Macau SAR. It was the first time that candidates were disqualified from legislative elections and the 2021 elections saw a record low turnout, with many ballots being cast as blank or spoiled with the names of the disqualified candidates written on them as protest votes. Amid the low turnout, pro-Beijing candidates retained a majority of seats in the Legislative Assembly.

Compared with Hong Kong's pro-democracy sentiments, Macau's politics and popular sentiments have been more aligned with the PRC. This is due to numerous factors, such as Macau's economy not being as integrated with Western corporations and institutions, and the fact that a larger proportion of Macanese citizens are born in mainland China compared to Hong Kong. In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, the government's efforts have focused on enhancing the capabilities of the healthcare sector to tackle new outbreaks, while also promoting cultural and creative industries to diversify and improve Macau's long-term economic growth. Additionally, officials aim to broaden bilateral exchanges with Hong Kong and mainland China's Pearl River Delta cities in Guangdong province, together forming the Greater Bay Area, and strengthen cooperation in finance and tourism as well as scientific and technological innovations. The government also seeks to address wealth disparities between



sections of local residents and migrants employed in foreign companies in the territory to prevent this issue from escalating to social unrest.

## There are no recent incidents



## **Conflict:** • Low Risk

Under the "one country, two systems" policy, the People's Republic of China's Central People's Government retains exclusive responsibility for Macau's defence and foreign policy.



## **Terrorism**

Concerns have grown in recent years that public spaces in Macau could constitute an ideal target for a high-profile Islamist attack. The significance of the threat is increased by the relative vulnerability of the city, especially its casinos, hotels and **Macau**International Airport. The risk remains low due to the absence of any known terrorist or extremist elements in the territory, but a terror attack cannot be altogether ruled out.

## There are no recent incidents



## **Unrest:** • Moderate Risk

Demonstrations are illegal without prior approval from the local government. Significant anti-government sentiment has failed to take hold when compared to Hong Kong and only small rallies have occurred in solidarity with pro-democracy activists in Hong Kong.

There are no recent incidents



## **Crime:** • Low Risk

**Petty Crime:** Instances of pickpocketing and fake currency exchange scams have been reported periodically at casinos and **Macau International Airport (MFM/VMMC)**. Petty thieves occasionally target tourists on public buses as well.

Beware of your surroundings, do not leave your belongings unattended and exercise general personal safety for travel. Only carry what is needed, do not flash expensive valuables or large sums of money, and keep cash, identification and mobile phones in front pockets, or in a zipped or concealed pocket or pouch rather than in a bag. Secure belongings when using public transport or when frequenting markets and other crowded public areas; secure bags diagonally across the body against the chest, keep bags within sight and away from the street. Refrain from using mobile phones or laptops in congested public places; avoid putting bags containing valuables on the ground. Avoid walking in poorly lit and isolated areas. Stay in groups. Reject rides or drinks from strangers and never leave drinks unattended. Exercise extreme caution when purchasing and consuming alcohol in public venues. Do not accept pamphlets in the street or shopping centres; these could be impregnated with potent and disorienting drugs, which permeate the skin. If you start to feel unwell, tell staff or close friends and do not leave the venue alone or with strangers. Shout to attract attention, if needed.

**Violent Crime:** Travellers to Macau have largely been unaffected by violent crime in recent years. Crime rates are low compared to most countries and territories.

Commonsense measures are best kept to ensure against becoming the victim of a violent crime. Travellers are advised to remain vigilant at all times and exercise general personal safety for travel: avoid walking alone at night, do not venture down roads with poor lighting and few access points. Be careful when using taxis and public transport and plot route bypasses around rowdy crowds. Seek local advice for areas to avoid. If you are held-up by an armed robber do not become confrontational as any resistive behaviour may cause more violence by the attackers.

**Kidnapping:** In the past, express kidnapping cases involving locals with gambling debts have been reported; however, there have been no known kidnappings targeting foreign travellers to Macau in recent years. The response of law enforcement officials, in the event of a kidnapping, is likely to be very good.

Travellers should remain aware of their surroundings and follow the latest advisories



for their destination. Maintain communications and your itinerary with local contacts, authorities or embassy staff, especially in locations with a higher risk of kidnapping. Consider a local guide or security escort for the highest risk locations.

## There are no recent incidents



#### Law

#### **Overview**

Macanese law is broadly rooted in Portuguese civil law. Other influences include Chinese law, Italian law and some narrow aspects of common law. Chinese national law does not generally apply in Macau due to its status as a Special Administrative Region. However, the Central Authority has power over the Basic Law and decisions made by the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress can override territorial judicial processes. Activities considered national security violations are only vaguely defined and can include activities not considered illegal in other countries; penalties are severe and can include lengthy prison sentences.



# Corruption

#### **Overview**

The Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) of Macau was established in 1999 pursuant to Article 59 of the Basic Law and modelled on the Independent Commission Against Corruption of Hong Kong. The CCAC is primarily tasked with carrying out preventive actions against acts of corruption or fraud in the Macau SAR, particularly in regard to corruption and links to the territory's casinos.



# **Security Services**

#### **Overview**

In general, Macau Police Force's support and response to foreign victims of crime are good. Police stations are strategically located throughout the various districts and communities of the SAR. Emergency response time is satisfactory.



## **Natural Risks:** • Moderate Risk

Typhoons have the potential to cause damage to Macau, typically between May and October, and trigger landslides and flooding; the areas most prone to flooding include the **Inner Harbour**, **Taipa**, **São Lourenço**, **Santo António** and **Coloane**. Disruptions from natural disasters are mitigated by an effective system of well-trained emergency personnel. Air pollution can be severe in Macau.

#### **Hurricanes/Typhoons/Tropical Cyclones**

A cyclone/typhoon/hurricane is essentially a large mass of air that spirals around a low-pressure centre. It is an organised collection of thunderstorms embedded in a swirling mass of air. This mass of air is called a cyclone if it forms in the Indian or South Pacific oceans, a typhoon if formed in the West Pacific Ocean and a hurricane if formed in the East Pacific and Atlantic oceans. Cyclones/typhoons/hurricanes normally bring gale-force winds, heavy rainfall and high tides, with the potential of causing significant or destructive damage and widespread travel disruptions.

The typhoon season for Macau is between May and October. An average of six typhoons affect Macau each year, but few make direct landfall; most often, typhoons approach close to Macau as they head towards China's eastern coastal areas. The territory has a 10-tier typhoon warning system, and warnings are usually sent when a storm approaches within 800km (500 miles) of Macau. Public offices shut down when a Typhoon 8 signal is announced. The progression of warnings depends on the strength and proximity of the typhoon. In 2017, Super Typhoon Hato, the strongest storm to hit the territory in over 50 years, triggered widespread disruptions to travel and power outages. Travellers should follow advice issued by the local authorities during storm events.

Follow local radio or television broadcasts for information and evacuation instructions. If not under an area with mandatory evacuation orders, remain indoors. Locate and secure important documentation, including passports, photo identification, travel permits and any indispensable personal effects. Be advised that the calm 'eye' is deceptive and should by no means be interpreted as a sign that the storm has passed. The second winds are likely to be worse and may destroy trees and buildings damaged in the first pass. If caught in a region hit by a cyclone/typhoon/hurricane, remain



indoors until the storm passes. If there is a need to move to an evacuation centre, evacuate in a calm manner and ensure you carry important personal identification. Avoid all low-lying coastal areas due to storm surges. Confirm the viability of overland travel routes due to the risk of flooding. Air and sea travel are also likely to be impacted. Anticipate disruptions to power, communications and other essential services.

#### **Flooding**

A flood is an overflow of water that submerges land that is usually dry. It is normally triggered by an extended period of heavy rainfall and can be exacerbated by poor drainage systems in the affected area.

Flooding usually occurs in Macau during strong typhoons. Areas most prone to flooding include the **Inner Harbour**, **Taipa**, **São Lourenço**, **Santo António** and **Coloane**. Floods can also cause evacuations and widespread road congestion, but disruptions rarely last for more than 24-48 hours in Macau due to the efficiency of emergency and disaster management personnel.

If instructed of the possibility that flash-flooding may affect the area you are in, monitor local updates and move immediately to higher ground away from rivers, streams, creeks and storm drains. Though flash-flooding is commonly attributable to excess upstream precipitation, be aware that flooding can occur without typical warning signs of rain clouds or heavy rain. This is especially true near streams, drainage channels, canyons and other areas known to flood suddenly. If you happen across a flooded road in your car, turn around and drive in the opposite direction. When trapped on a flooded road, vacate your vehicle immediately and climb to higher ground.

### **Smog/Haze and Pollution**

Smog is a kind of air pollution, originally named for the mixture of smoke and fog in the air. Haze often occurs when dust and smoke particles accumulate in relatively dry air. When weather conditions block the dispersal of smoke and other pollutants they concentrate and form a low-hanging shroud that impairs visibility. Industrial pollution and large forest fires generally contribute to smog/haze. Even short exposure to occasional "very high" or "severe" particulate concentrations are dangerous for those



suffering from existent heart or lung illnesses. Air pollutants including respirable suspended particulates and nitrogen dioxide increase the viscosity of elements in the blood, binding cells together to form clots that may obstruct blood vessels in the heart or the head and contribute to the risk of heart attack or stroke.

Pollution levels have increased in recent years in Macau due to population growth leading to more road traffic, combined with high levels of industrialisation in neighbouring China. The territory lacks effective environmental regulations to limit pollution. High levels of particle pollution between November and January cause respiratory problems and asthma. Visitors with respiratory problems should carry medication at all times. High levels of pollution also tend to reduce visibility on roads, leading to daily traffic congestion.

Travellers with acute respiratory problems are advised to consult regional air quality reports before engaging in outdoor activities. Carry required medication at all times and consider using a face mask.

#### Recent incidents

08 October 2023 - 09 October 2023

 Medium risk: Officials likely to issue Signal No.8 warning due to Typhoon Koinu - Update

Local sources indicated that a Signal No.3 alert, the second-lowest level, for tropical cyclone conditions, including strong winds, remained in effect across Macau as of late morning hours local time due to Typhoon Koinu which was last tracked about 120km (74 miles) southeast of the territory. The present signal was likely to be replaced by a Signal No.8 alert, the third-highest warning level, between 16:00-20:00 local time (08:00-12:00 GMT).



## Medium risk: Officials issue Signal No.8 warning due to Typhoon Koinu - Update

Local sources indicated that weather officials issued a Signal No.8 alert, the third-highest warning level, for tropical cyclone conditions, including strong winds, at around 16:30 local time (08:30 GMT) due to Typhoon Koinu which was last tracked about 90km (55 miles) southeast of the territory.

08 October 2023 - 10 October 2023

## Medium risk: STS Koinu disrupts flights at Macau International Airport - Update

Local sources indicated that at least 200 flights were cancelled or postponed through Macau International Airport (MFM/VMMC) since 8 October, due to adverse weather conditions caused by the severe tropical storm (STS) Koinu which was last tracked about 90km (55 miles) southwest of the territory. A Signal No.3 alert, the second-lowest level, for tropical cyclone conditions, including strong winds, was in effect across Macau.

08 October 2023 - 10 October 2023

## Medium risk: Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge closed due to STS Koinu - Update

Local sources reported that the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge was temporarily closed to traffic since 14:30 local time (06:30 GMT) on 8 October, due to adverse weather conditions caused by the severe tropical strom (STS) Koinu. It was not immediately clear when the bridge would reopen.



## **Health and Medical:** • Moderate Risk

#### **Overview**

The quality of medical care in Macau is good, with public and private hospitals equipped to handle routine medical needs, in addition to several health centres that provide free care to residents. Evacuation to Hong Kong may be required for more serious ailments or emergencies. Outbreaks of dengue fever may occur during the wet season, from May to October, and high levels of pollution may worsen pre-existing respiratory conditions. Emergency services are reliable.

## Before you travel

Consult your doctor or a healthcare provider who specialises in travel medicine at least six weeks before your departure. If you have a medical condition, you should also share your travel plans with your doctor.

### **Outbreaks and Other Diseases**

#### Malaria

There is no risk of malaria transmission.

#### **Yellow Fever**

There is no risk of Yellow Fever infection.

## Vaccinations, Medicines and Documentation



**Note:** Requirements and recommendations for vaccines and other medicines as well as Yellow Fever vaccine are based on guidelines from the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Yellow Book 2024. All other entry requirements are based on Riskline research.

#### **Routine vaccines**





Make sure you are up-to-date on all routine vaccines before every trip. Some of these vaccines include

- Chickenpox (Varicella)
- Diphtheria-Tetanus-Pertussis
- Flu (influenza)
- Measles-Mumps-Rubella (MMR)
- Polio
- Shingles

COVID-19





All eligible travellers should be up to date with their COVID-19 vaccines.



### **Hepatitis A**









Recommended for unvaccinated travellers one year old or older going to Macau.

Infants 6 to 11 months old should also be vaccinated against Hepatitis A. The dose does not count toward the routine 2-dose series.

Travellers allergic to a vaccine component or who are younger than 6 months should receive a single dose of immune globulin, which provides effective protection for up to 2 months depending on dosage given.

Unvaccinated travellers who are over 40 years old, immunocompromised, or have chronic medical conditions planning to depart to a risk area in less than 2 weeks should get the initial dose of vaccine and at the same appointment receive immune globulin.

#### **Hepatitis B**







Recommended for unvaccinated travellers of all ages traveling to Macau.

#### Measles



Infants 6 to 11 months old traveling internationally should get 1 dose of measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine before travel. This dose does not count as part of the routine childhood vaccination series.



#### **Rabies**





Macau is free of dog rabies. However, rabies may still be present in wildlife species, particularly bats. CDC recommends rabies vaccination before travel only for people working directly with wildlife. These people may include veterinarians, animal handlers, field biologists, or laboratory workers working with specimens from mammalian species.

### **Typhoid**



Recommended for most travellers, especially those staying with friends or relatives or visiting smaller cities or rural areas.

#### **Required documentation**

Yellow Fever entry requirement (Source: USA CDC):

None

Other entry requirements:

None

**Note:** Documentation requirements are subject to change. Consult your destination embassy or consulate prior to departure for confirmation.

## While you are there

**Emergency services** 



Emergency medical assistance is largely reliable, and response times are good.

#### **Evacuation**

In the event of life-threatening injury or illness, medical evacuation may be required, generally to Hong Kong.

#### **Routine care**

There are only three hospitals in Macau, two private, one public, and several other health centres and private clinics. Healthcare services are generally good; however, the public **Hospital Conde S. Januario** suffers from bed shortages and medical personnel understaffing, resulting in long waiting times for non-urgent procedures. Highly developed medical facilities and trained personnel are available in Hong Kong, which is about an hour by jetfoil and 10 minutes by helicopter from Macau.

#### Medicine

There are no known issues with the availability or quality of prescription and over-the-counter medicine. However, prescriptions issued by foreign-based doctors might not be valid in Macau; travellers need to see a local doctor to obtain prescription medicine. All prescription drugs should be kept in their original container, noting the patient's name. Travellers are also advised to carry their prescription scripts and a letter from a medical doctor explaining the need for the medication and justifying the quantities needed.

### **Payment**

Up-front or cash payments may be required prior to treatment, even for individuals with medical insurance. Whenever possible, check with medical providers for payment requirements prior to treatment. Travellers are advised to have adequate travel health insurance and accessible funds to cover the cost of any medical treatment abroad and repatriation.

## **Ailments**

**Dengue Fever** 





Outbreaks of dengue fever can occur during the wet months of May to October.

Dengue fever is a viral infection, transmitted by the bite of the Aedes mosquito, which is most active during early morning and late afternoon hours and is commonly found in urban areas. Symptoms include a high fever, joint pain and headaches, although severe cases may cause significant falls in blood pressure and/or haemorrhaging, which can be fatal. There are no vaccines or treatments for dengue fever.

### Recent incidents

01 November 2023 - 02 November 2023

Moderate risk: Mainland Chinese officials lift COVID-19
 Health Declaration requirement for travellers bound
 from and to Hong Kong or Macau - Update

Mainland Chinese officials have lifted the COVID-19-related Health Declaration requirement for travellers bound from and to Hong Kong or Macau. Customs officials continue to require those with symptoms of contagious illnesses to declare their health status.

01 May 2023 - 02 May 2023

 Moderate risk: Authorities lift one-round trip daily limit for travel between Macau and mainland China's Zhuhai
 Update

Updated reports indicated that officials lifted the one-round trip daily limit for travellers entering or exiting through Gongbei and Qingmao ports linking Macau and mainland China's Zhuhai in Guangdong province due to the improving COVID-19 situation.



 Moderate risk: Authorities lift remaining COVID-19 entry restrictions for international arrivals

Official sources reported that from 1 April, authorities no longer require international arrivals to submit negative COVID-19 nucleic acid or antigen tests before departure. Individuals from most countries travelling via Macau to China within seven days of arrival must present a valid negative test result for exit to China.

01 April 2023 - 02 April 2023

 Moderate risk: Qatari officials to lift COVID-19 entry requirements for arrivals from China, Hong Kong and Macau from 1 April - Update

Health officials announced that effective from 1 April, all arrivals from China, Hong Kong and Macau, including residents and citizens of Qatar, will no longer be required to show a negative COVID-19 PCR test performed within 48 hours prior to departure. The decision comes after an improved COVID-19 situation in the country.



## Covid-19: Low Risk



## **Summary**

Authorities have lifted COVID-19-related entry requirements and eased domestic measures. As of around early January, officials no longer impose localised lockdowns, require the public to present the Macau Health Code when entering public venues, and mandate staff to undergo routine tests or quarantine mandate for close contacts, among other measures. Certain individuals, namely visitors to hospitals, symptomatic individuals or those who are in contact with a COVID-19-positive person, are required to wear facemasks.

What is the current nationwide Policy?: Open

Policy starts: 04 February 2020

**Policy ends:** indef

#### **Policy explanation:**

International borders are open. Officials opted for preventive measures, such as voluntary testing for symptomatic workers, in line with mainland China's eased Class B measures. Authorities urged the public to refrain from public gatherings.

**Policy source:** https://www.ssm.gov.mo/apps1/PreventCOVID-19/en.aspx#clg

22916

Last update: 09 November 2023





## Infection

**Infection Level:** Moderate

0.43 cases per 100k in the last 14 **Infection rate:** 

days

As of date: 06 March 2023

**Hotspots:** 



### **International Travel**



## International Flights

**Is there a ban on international commercial flights?** No Through what date?

#### **Flight Ban Explanation:**

A previous ban on all commercial inbound flights arriving from destinations other than mainland **China** was lifted.

However, flights remain limited to mostly those to and from mainland **China**, Taiwan, Singapore, Vietnam, Thailand, South Korea and Japan at Macau International Airport (MFM/VMMC).

Transit flights to mainland China resumed.

**Last Update:** 09 November 2023



## Entry and Borders

Is there a ban on entry for any travellers? No Through what date? indef



#### Travellers from where are banned?

**Land border:** Partially Open **Maritime border:** Open

#### **Entry Rules Explanation:**

All COVID-19-related entry requirements, including prior approval, testing and quarantine regulations, have been lifted from.

Mainland border crossings resumed normal operations. Officials lifted the oneround trip daily limit for travellers entering or exiting through Gongbei and Qingmao ports linking Macau and mainland **China**'s Zhuhai in Guangdong province.

Air-to-sea and sea-to-air transfer ferry services resumed between **Taipa Ferry Terminal** and **Hong Kong**'s **Skypier** at Hong Kong International Airport (HKG/VHHH).

https://gcloud.gcs.gov.mo/ncv/annex/index.html?p=0&l=en https://www.macaotourism.gov.mo/en/travelessential/before-y

ou-travel/entry-requirements?tab=passports-and-visas

Entry Rules: <a href="https://www.ssm.gov.mo/apps1/PreventCOVID-19/en.aspx#clg2">https://www.ssm.gov.mo/apps1/PreventCOVID-19/en.aspx#clg2</a>

2916

https://www.ssm.gov.mo/apps1/anexo/522-A-SS-2022

**Exemptions:** https://www.ssm.gov.mo/faen

Last

**Update:** 



Do travellers need to take a COVID-19 test No When?
Is it mandatory or optional?



**Test Type:** 

Minimum age requirement:

Pre-travel test validity, in hours:

After arrival test days:

**Testing Explanation:** 

**Testing Rules:** 

**Last Update:** 09 November 2023

## Health and Travel Documentations

Do arriving travellers need any health and/or travel documentation? No

**Documentation Explanation:** 

**Last Update:** 09 November 2023

# Tracing App

Do travellers need to use a contact tracing app after arriving? No

**Tracing App Explanation:** 

**Last Update:** 09 November 2023

## Quarantine on Arrival

Who needs to quarantine on arrival All travellers



Travellers from where need to quarantine?

How many days is quarantine? 14 Is it self-quarantine or operated by the government? Gov

#### **Quarantine Explanation:**

https://www.ssm.gov.mo/apps1/PreventCOVID-19/en.a

Quarantine Rules: Spx#clg17458

Quarantine mandate https://www.gcs.gov.mo/detail/en/N22DSwW83V?1

list:

**Last Update:** 2023-11-09



Is there a ban on exit for any travellers? No

Are there special requirements to exit? No

### **Exit Requirements Explanation:**

https://www.ssm.gov.mo/apps1/PreventCOVID-19/en.a

**Exit Requirements** spx#clg22916

(URL): https://www.ssm.gov.mo/apps1/anexo/632-A-SS-2022

https://www.gcs.gov.mo/detail/en/N22LTilvyw

**Last Update:** 09 November 2023



Percent vaccinated with at least one dose: - as of - Percent fully vaccinated: 92.39 as of 13 Apr 2023

**Is vaccination mandatory for entry?** No



Fully vaccinated are exempt from:

Minimum age for vaccine requirements for travel:

**Exemptions for vaccine requirements for travel:** 

"Fully vaccinated" is defined by the destination as:

Accepted vaccines, validity and special age restrictions:

Is mixing of vaccine doses authorised?

Are specific combinations of mixed doses required?

"Boosted" is defined by the destination as:

**Accepted boosters:** 

"Recently recovered" is defined by the destination as:

Recovery status is valid from days until after .

Vaccination certificates accepted:

Vaccination certificates accepted in the following languages:

Recent recovery document required:

Recent recovery document accepted in the following languages:

#### **Explanation:**

https://www.ssm.gov.mo/apps1/anexo/381-A-SS-2

022

Sources: https://www.ssm.gov.mo/apps1/PreventCOVID-19/

en.aspx#clg22916

Last change to

vaccination policy:

18 August 2022

**Last Update:** 09 November 2023

## Other International Travel Restrictions

**Exit Requirements Explanation:** 

**Last Update:** 09 November 2023





## **Domestic Situation**

Areas on Lockdown
Last Update:

O Areas under Curfew

**Last Update:** 

Domestic Travel

**Domistic Travel Explanation:** 

**Last Update:** 

## Other Domestic Restrictions

Authorities had intermittently imposed mass testing zones. People who reside or have worked in the designated area must undergo nucleic acid tests. Symptomatic staff are also urged to take rapid antigen tests.

Symptomatic employees or residents in elderly, rehabilitation and drug rehabilitation facilities must take daily rapid antigen tests for three days. Symptomatic individuals and those who test positive for COVID-19 are not

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allowed entry into these facilities.

Individuals may book a nucleic acid test on the <u>Free test booking link</u> (cannot be used for border-crossing purposes) or on the <u>Self-paid booking link</u>. Further instructions on how to book the tests can be found here.

**Last Update:** 09 November 2023

### Resources

**Government COVID Site:** https://www.ssm.gov.mo/apps1/PreventCOVID-19/en.aspx

### There are no recent incidents



### **Local Travel:** • Low Risk

#### **Travel Safety**

**Air Travel:** Macau has one international airport, **Macau International Airport** (**MFM/VMMC**) located at the eastern end of **Taipa area**. The facility is the primary hub for Air Macau. Several major airlines, such as AirAsia, Air Busan, Scoot, Philippines Airlines and China Eastern Airlines, also operate from **Macau Airport**, offering flights to regional destinations.

Although the government of Macau's Civil Aviation Authority has not yet been assessed for compliance with International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) aviation safety standards, airport facilities are considered adequate and there have been no major incidents in recent years. Bus and taxi services are readily available to and from the airport. Though transport options from the airport are safe and reliable, always keep your bags close and your valuables on your person.

**Airspace:** A previous ban on all commercial inbound flights arriving from destinations other than mainland **China** was lifted.

However, flights remain limited to mostly those to and from mainland **China**, **Taiwan**, **Singapore**, **Vietnam**, **Thailand**, **South Korea** and **Japan** at Macau International Airport (MFM/VMMC).

Transit flights to mainland China resumed.

**Borders and Entry:** All COVID-19-related entry requirements, including prior approval, testing and quarantine regulations, have been lifted from.

Mainland border crossings resumed normal operations. Officials lifted the one-round trip daily limit for travellers entering or exiting through Gongbei and Qingmao ports linking Macau and mainland **China**'s Zhuhai in Guangdong province.

Air-to-sea and sea-to-air transfer ferry services resumed between **Taipa Ferry Terminal** and **Hong Kong**'s **Skypier** at Hong Kong International Airport (HKG/VHHH).

**Road Travel:** Traffic moves on the left in Macau and narrow, winding roads contribute to near-constant congestion. Roads are generally well-maintained, and traffic signs are in both Chinese and Portuguese. Speed limits on public roads in Macau are generally 60kph (37mph) for cars and motorcycles and 40kph (25mph) for mopeds unless otherwise stipulated by traffic signs.



#### **Public Transport**

**Buses:** Well-established public transport networks connect the **Macau Peninsula**, **Cotai**, **Taipa Island** and **Coloane Island**. Franchised public buses are inexpensive and widely available, but travellers may have difficulty accessing them outside major tourist areas. Though transportation by bus is considered safe, visitors are advised to guard against petty theft.

**Ferries and Boats: The Outer Harbour Ferry Terminal** provides cross-border transportation services for passengers travelling between Macau and Hong Kong; the **Yuet Tung Terminal** in the **Inner Harbour** serves those travelling between Macau and mainland China, including the ports of Shekou and Shenzhen. There have been no reported accidents in recent years, and ferries are considered safe and reliable.

**Taxis:** Taxis are a widely used form of transport. However, travellers can be overcharged; always check if a taxi is metred before setting out. Travellers are advised to write down the destination in Chinese, as most taxi drivers know only Chinese. Police have recently begun taking enforcement action against both drivers and passengers of unlicensed taxi services, including ride-shares.

**Bicycles:** A hybrid of the tricycle and the rickshaw, trishaws are safe and widely available, though used mainly for sightseeing purposes.

### **Recent incidents**

11 December 2023 - 12 December 2023

 Low risk: Kyrgyz officials allow visa-free entry for Macau SAR passport holders

Local sources reported that Kyrgyz officials allowed Macau Special Administrative Region (SAR) passport holders to enter Kyrgyzstan for up to 30 days without a visa, with immediate effect.

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# **Destination Hotspots**

There are no areas of Macau to be avoided; basic security practices such as being alert to your surroundings and protective of your valuables are your best protection. Be particularly cautious in high-traffic pedestrian areas, where you may be more easily victimized.



# Safety

## **Emergency Numbers**

Any Emergency	999	
Any Emergency	110	
Any Emergency	112	

**Beaches and Public Areas:** Macau has two main beaches, **Hac Sa** and **Cheoc Van**, both on **Coloane Island**; these are clean and accessible throughout the year. The water is generally calm and suitable for swimming. However, travellers should obey any local warnings and stay alert.

**Drugs and Alcohol:** Penalties for possession, use, or trafficking of illegal drugs are severe; conviction is likely to lead to long jail sentences and heavy fines. Drinking and driving is a serious offence in Macau, and the limit is 0.8 milligrams of alcohol per millilitre of blood. This law is strictly enforced and being caught can result in fines, imprisonment or the suspension of your licence.

**Photography:** Photography of bridges, embassies and military installations is prohibited. Violations may incur penalties ranging from confiscation to detention.

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### **Culture**

**Political/Cultural/Religious Sensitivities**: Chinese culture emphasises family integrity, lineage solidarity, reserved public behaviour, and respect for parents and elderly persons. These values are also maintained in Macau. Macanese people are generally friendly to travellers; however, communication can be difficult due to the language barrier. Some casinos have strict dress codes, and travellers dressed casually might not be allowed entry.

Foreign nationals may be sanctioned, detained or expelled for activities that would not be considered criminal outside Macau. Do not criticise the Communist Party of China, the government or any Chinese leaders or policies. Macau's status as an autonomous administrative region of China may be a sensitive subject for a particular audience. Avoid mention of the Triad organised criminal group with local business owners.



# **Specific Traveller Advice**

#### **Female Travellers**

**Local Customs and Laws**: There are no local customs or laws that a female traveller should take into consideration in Macau. Familiarise yourself with your destination prior to travel, and be respectful and mindful of any cultural sensitivities, which may include dress, behaviour and topics of discussion.

**Safety**: There are minimal safety concerns for female travellers to take into consideration in Macau. Sporadic instances of sexual assault and rape have been reported at nighttime; however, visitors to the territory are not likely to face additional risk, as foreign female travellers have not been deliberately targeted. Exercise personal safety awareness if walking alone at night. Stick to main, well-lit streets and avoid walking through desolate areas or unfamiliar neighbourhoods. Refrain from wearing headphones while walking in the evening. Police are very efficient and quick in investigating reports of sexual crimes. Female travellers will not encounter any problems dealing with first responders or reporting crimes to local police.

**Health and Wellness**: Women have access to a full range of gynaecological and reproductive health services, medicines and products in Macau. These include well-maintained specialised clinics, abortion services, rape kits, female-specific OTC drugs, emergency contraceptives and prescription contraceptives and a full variety of feminine hygiene products. Abortion is legal in the territory only in cases of a risk to life or health, fetal impairment, or rape.

#### LGBT+

Homosexuality is legal in Macau. There are few legal protections for LGBT+ persons in the territory, mostly related to anti-discrimination laws in employment. Same-sex marriage is illegal. LGBT+ activities and persons are somewhat socially accepted. Despite the legal status of LGBT+ rights, social conservatism may be prevalent in the territory, as overall Chinese society remains deeply conservative. Travellers may prefer to be discreet about sexual orientation and avoid excessive public displays of affection in areas where attitudes towards the LGBT+ community are unknown or generally not accepted. Use caution in conversations about sexuality or LGBT+ issues with strangers or recent acquaintances. Consider booking hotel rooms with two separate beds. Transgender travellers may wish to consider having their passport and identification changed to reflect their new gender before travelling.



#### **Technology & Communication Risk**

Travellers are likely to face risks related to information and communication technology (ICT) in Macau. Internet access and social media have no restrictions. There are no concerns related to device searches or sensitive technology. Device searches and inspections at the border are unlikely. There are no restrictions in relation to bringing or operating sensitive equipment, which may include photo cameras, satellite phones, drones, and other GPS systems, into the territory.

State or criminal penetration of private data is likely. The People's Republic of China (PRC) government implements with local authorities some state surveillance of ICT networks in the territory. In particular, there are reports indicating PRC authorities monitor private emails and internet use of pro-democracy activists.

Travellers should exercise basic ICT safety precautions. However, travellers should note that ICT laws and practices are subject to change on short notice, and travellers are recommended to confirm the legality/appropriateness of their specific ICT needs prior to departure.

Travellers should be aware that the territory enforces a limited degree of surveillance of telephone and electronic communications, and should remember that communication may be monitored. Online activities may be monitored. Cybercriminal groups may be present in the territory. Exercise discretion in deciding to bring sensitive data into the territory.



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