

**TO PREVENT COVID-19 OUTBREAKS IN THE COUNTRY, THE GOVERNMENT OF GUATEMALA REPORTS THAT GUATEMALAN PASSENGERS COMING FROM EUROPE ARE TO BE QUARANTINED**

Guatemala has established strict prevention protocols through the Ministry of Public Health and Social Welfare (MSPAS in Spanish). It is thanks to this that the country has no COVID-19 cases reported to date. Today, the President of the Republic stated that, in view of the virus' expansion in other countries of the region, he has made the difficult decision to disallow the entry into the country of citizens coming from Spain, Italy, Germany, China, Iran and Korea, and that Guatemalans coming from Europe will be quarantined.

**Guatemala, March 11, 2020.-** The President of the Republic of Guatemala has prioritized the wellbeing of Guatemalans and foreigners in our country and has announced that this morning his difficult decision to quarantine Guatemalan passengers coming from Spain, Italy, Germany, China, Iran and Korea into the country. This measure will impact tourism. However, the health of all persons is taken seriously and is a priority.

In line with the recommendations issued by the World Tourism Organization (WTO), the Guatemalan Tourism Board (INGUAT), is designing recovery strategies together with other stakeholders from the sector.

The Ministry of Health is following the recommendations made by the World Health Organization (WHO) and by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention of the United States (CDCs).

We ask tourism service providers to take the following information into account:

- There are no cases of COVID-19 in Guatemala.
- The global evolution of COVID-19 is being constantly monitored, and prevention recommendations have been issued to tourism authorities, tourism businesses and service providers in the entire country, as well as to the general public, to remain alert and to follow strict hygiene measures.
- Every person should follow personal hygiene recommendations made by agencies such as the CDCs, WHO and, locally by the Ministry of Health, including:
  - When coughing or sneezing, cover your mouth and nose with tissue or with your forearm;
  - Wash your hands thoroughly (at least 20 seconds) and frequently with water and antibacterial soap;
  - Constantly disinfect often-used areas and surfaces (door knobs, counters, elevator buttons, and similar).

We remain at your service to coordinate any action and support you may need. Please remain informed through social networks:

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