

Travel Health Advisory: Coronavirus Update

The Grueninger Travel Group recognizes and shares the concerns of all our travelers. We consider the safety and security of our passengers and staff members as paramount and would not knowingly place anyone in danger on any of our tours or cruises.

All our tours and cruises are currently scheduled to operate. We continue to stay up to date and are following the advice of our ground operators, government travel advisories, World Health Organization (WHO), Center for Disease Control (CDC), and the Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA). Ensuring our guest and staff health and safety is important to us. Should there be any changes required to your itinerary, we will be in contact as soon as these are known.

For further and current information we recommend visiting the below sites:

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

FAQs

What is happening around the country to assure travelers' safety?

Heightened health screening is in place for boarding all cruise ships and at all airports receiving international flights. Any passenger arriving from a location where there is any known incidence of the coronavirus is being placed in 14-day quarantine.

What can I do to make sure I stay healthy?

There is currently no vaccine to prevent coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus. However, as a reminder, CDC always recommends everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases, including:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- Follow CDC's recommendations for using a facemask.
 - CDC does not recommend that people who are well wear a facemask to protect themselves from respiratory diseases, including COVID-19.
 - Facemasks should be used by people who show symptoms of COVID-19 to help prevent the spread of the disease to others. The use of facemasks is also crucial for [health workers](#) and [people who are taking care of someone in close settings](#) (at home or in a health care facility).
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.

- If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Always wash hands with soap and water if hands are visibly dirty.

Has the United States government limited travel within the country?

The government has not suggested limiting domestic travel.

What is the impact of the coronavirus in the U.S.?

As of March 2, there are 43 confirmed (and presumptive positive) cases in the U.S., not including 48 passengers of a cruise ship in Japan and from Wuhan, China who tested positive and were brought back to the U.S. under the watch of federal health officials. More cases of community spread coronavirus are expected according to the CDC. For the latest information, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-in-us.html>.

How does that compare to incidents of influenza and pneumonia?

The flu is widespread in 30 states and has caused almost 2,000 deaths this season. In 2019 there were 34,000 deaths in the U.S. due to the flu and pneumonia. Over the last 10 years, that number ranged from 12,000 to 51,000.

What about international travel?

The U.S. government has issued warnings for travel to Italy, South Korea, Hong Kong, Iran and Japan in addition to China. For the latest travel alerts, visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) web page [COVID-2019 Information for Travel](#).

What if I don't want to travel?

Tour can be canceled in accordance with the Grueninger Travel Group (dba Grueninger Music Tours, Ambassador, Ambassador Groups and Incentives) cancellation policies as shown in our *Trips* magazine and on our websites.

What does my Travel Protection Plan cover?

There is no coverage under Travel Insured International Group Deluxe Plan or other plans due to the coronavirus, except for those with CFAR (Cancel for Any Reason). Cancelling travel due to "fear" of contracting coronavirus (or the flu or any illness) isn't covered by travel protection plans. However, should travel be delayed, canceled, or interrupted, there would be coverage as specified in the policy documents.

What if I have Cancel for Any Reason coverage?

Some travelers may prefer to cancel their trip out of concern for the coronavirus. For insured travelers who purchased Cancel for Any Reason coverage, we remind you that cancellations must be made 48 or more hours prior to scheduled departure and payment is limited to 75% of the non-refundable trip cost up to the stated plan maximum limit.

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