



COVID-19 Measures in Effect in Latin America

March 16, 2020

Below is a brief overview, country by country, of some of the measures adopted in response to the COVID-19 virus in Latin America. This is not meant to be an all-encompassing document of every measure taken in each country, but rather a quick snapshot of the situation today. As with everywhere in the world, this is a fluid situation and measures will likely change over the coming days and weeks.

ARGENTINA

All inbound and outbound flights are restricted to repatriating Argentine citizens or residents to Argentina, or foreigners in Argentina to their respective countries. All borders are closed to non-Argentine citizens or residents. Returning citizens are subject to a 14-day home quarantine. All shows have been cancelled and no groupings over 50 people are permitted. Schools have been cancelled through the end of March but commerce remains open. The government is currently considering a forced 10 day quarantine for the entire country.

CHILE

All land and border crossings will be closed as of March 18 for passengers, but will remain open for cargo and for repatriation of Chilean nationals and residents returning to Chile. Schools have been suspended for two weeks and visitation to geriatric facilities has been limited. As of March 18, no public gatherings in excess of 200 people will be permitted.

URUGUAY

All international flights originating from Europe will be suspended on March 20. From now until March 20, only Uruguayan citizens or residents will be allowed to enter the country. Flights to the U.S. will be suspended as of Wednesday March 18. Schools have been closed and the government is urging people not to travel and to stay at home.

PARAGUAY

Most of the land and air border crossings have been closed, with the remaining crossings to close at midnight tonight. Schools have been closed as have been most shopping centers. As of tonight, a curfew has been imposed from 8:00 PM – 04:00 AM where nobody will be allowed out on the streets. Many companies and private enterprises have closed.

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BOLIVIA

Flights originating from China, Korea, Iran and Europe have been cancelled. Arriving passengers forced to provide medical information and temperature taken. Schools have been cancelled. No crowds in excess of 100 people permitted. Stores and commerce close at 4:00 PM daily. All gyms and clubs have been closed.

BRAZIL

Brazil has adopted several economic measures to ensure that the country continues to produce, but has not enacted any national sanitary measures. No travel restrictions are in place but the health ministry recommends that all arriving international passengers remain at home for 7 days and seek medical attention if they experience any coronavirus symptoms. The State of Rio de Janeiro closed all schools as of March 16 and the State of Sao Paulo will begin shutting schools down gradually. The State of Sao Paulo has also decreed that all state employees over the age of 60, except for those working for public safety or public health, should work from their homes. Sao Paulo also recommended closing museums, libraries, theaters and cultural centers for 30 days, as well as convention centers for 60 days. Brasilia has cancelled all schools and public events.

PERU

State of emergency declared. Borders to be closed as of midnight tonight. Individuals are required to remain at home for the next 15 days. Supermarkets, pharmacies and banks remain open. Public transportation is limited. Schools are closed and all social events have been cancelled.

ECUADOR

All inbound flights cancelled through April 5 except those repatriating Ecuadorian citizens. Repatriation ends at midnight tonight. Restricted movement for the population starting March 17 – can only leave residence to purchase food or medicine, or to go to and from work. Restaurants and cafes to remain open for delivery only.

COLOMBIA

All land and air borders closed to non-citizens and non-residents. All citizens and residents arriving to Colombia are subject to a 14-day quarantine. Schools are closed through April 20. No events over 500 people permitted.

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VENEZUELA

Travel from Europe, Colombia, Panama and the Dominican Republic suspended. Quarantine in effect for all passengers arriving from Europe. Further quarantine in effect for 7 provinces in Venezuela. All schools and sporting events have been cancelled and public gatherings prohibited. All restaurants are closed except for deliveries.

PANAMA

Restricted air travel for those coming from Europe and Asia. As of March 16, only Panamanian citizens and legal residents are allowed to enter Panama. All commerce is closed except for supermarkets, pharmacies, gas stations and hospitals/clinics.

EL SALVADOR

Borders closed to all non-citizens or non-residents of El Salvador. All citizens/residents arriving in El Salvador must remain in quarantine for 30 days. There is a 21-day national quarantine in effect for the rest of the country. Schools and commerce are closed.

HONDURAS

Borders closed to all non-citizens or non residents as of March 16. A 14-day quarantine is in effect for all travelers. Schools are closed through the end of March. All sporting and social events are closed. Visitation rights to prisons have been suspended.

GUATEMALA

U.S. citizens and residents are restricted from entering Guatemala. All remaining foreigners restricted from entering after midnight tonight for a period of two weeks. Schools are closed for 21 days and all social gatherings of more than 100 persons have been suspended, including religious activities.

COSTA RICA

State of Emergency declared. All border crossings will be closed from March 18 – April 12. Passengers arriving before March 18 will be subject to a 14-day quarantine. School has been suspended and the government recommends that people stay at home.

MEXICO

No travel restrictions are in place, but arriving passengers will be subject to spot-checks for health issues. Schools will close from March 20 – April 20. No public events will be permitted from March 23 – April 19. Professional soccer will continue to be played but behind closed doors with no public.

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