

PUBLIC ADVISORY– 19-2021

ADVISORY ON TAKING TRANSIT FLIGHTS THROUGH ISTANBUL



05 May 2021 – In view of the alarming number of Filipinos being stranded in Istanbul International Airport since late March 2021, please be reminded of the following advisory (in English and Filipino language versions) to avoid being stranded in the airport:

English:

Purchase a single-ticket itinerary (one ticket reference number for the whole trip) from the point of origin to their final point of destination instead of holding broken tickets (i.e., a ticket for each flight sector). With a single-ticket itinerary, the baggage should be checked through from the point of origin until the final point of destination (e.g., until the Philippines);

Before travelling, know the transit regulations (including the need for RT-PCR tests) of each point or country of transit since they may change suddenly due to the pandemic. In most transit points, passengers without a single-ticket itinerary and checked-through luggage are not allowed;

Passengers are also encouraged to purchase travel insurance which is very useful in purchasing daily meals, hotel accommodations or even medical expenses if and when stranded at the airport.

The Embassy requests everyone to take heed of the above advice especially in view of the present daily cap on passenger arrivals in the Philippines.



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Filipino:

Bumili ng isang ticket lamang (na may iisang reference number) na kung saan nakalagay ang lahat ng mga lugar na daraanan sa halip na kumuha ng hiwa- hiwalay na tickets. Sa pamamagitan ng iisang ticket para sa buong biyahe, ang bagahe ay dapat i-check through hanggang sa huling punto ng patutunguhan (halimbawa, Pilipinas);

Bago maglakbay, alamin ang mga regulasyon (kasama ang pangangailangan para sa RT-PCR) sa bawat lugar na daraanan. Mabilis magbago ang mga regulasyon na ito dahil sa pandemya. Sa karamihan ng mga transit points, hindi pinapayagan ang mga pasaherong may hiwa-hiwalay na tickets at hindi nag check through ng kanilang mga bagahe.

Hinihikayat din ang mga pasahero na bumili ng travel insurance na kapaki-pakinabang sa pagbili ng pang-araw-araw na pagkain, panunuluyan sa hotel, o kahit gastos sa pagpapagamot kung at kapag ma-stranded sa airport.

Hinihiling ng Pasuguan ng Pilipinas sa bawat isa na bigyang-pansin ang mga nasabing mga abiso, lalo na ngayon na may limitadong bilang ng mga pasaherong pinapayagang makapasok sa Pilipinas bawat araw.

In view of the above, the Embassy calls on the public to carefully reconsider their travel plans, including postponing their trips until after the end of the travel restrictions to avoid personal inconvenience and possible additional expenses as well as help prevent the incidence of the new COVID-19 variant in the country.

The Embassy again reminds travellers to always check ahead of travel dates with their airlines before their scheduled departure date or before booking a ticket as information published could change at any time.

Please be guided accordingly.

