

Vietnam to end COVID curbs on international flights

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Southeast Asian country says it will lift curbs on flights with all markets starting February 15

Hanoi, February 14 (RHC)-- Vietnam will remove its COVID-19 restrictions on international passenger flights with all markets starting tomorrow, with no limitation on the number of flights, according to the Vietnamese newspaper Tuoi Tre newspaper.

The Southeast Asian country imposed tight border controls at the start of the pandemic to keep out COVID-19, with some initial success, but that dealt a blow to its burgeoning tourism sector which accounted for about 10 percent of gross domestic product.

“Vietnam will lift restrictions on international flights starting February 15th. The frequency of flights will be restored to pre-pandemic level,” Tuoi Tre said, citing Dinh Viet Son, deputy director of the Civil Aviation Administration of Vietnam.

Vietnam has already informed its partners about that new policy and only China has not yet agreed to resume commercial flights with Vietnam, Son was quoted as saying. Hanoi had already begun gradually resuming international flights with 15 markets from the beginning of this year while easing quarantine requirements, with vaccinated passengers now needing just three days of self-isolation.

The Southeast Asian country has recorded nearly 2.5 million COVID-19 cases since the pandemic began and approximately 39,000 deaths. Nearly 98 percent of its 98 million people have received at least two vaccine doses, official data showed.

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