

## What you need to know: COVID-19: Airline mask policy: Northeast Asia

August 6, 2020

As part of their efforts to keep travelers and employees safe, almost all airlines around the world now require passengers to wear a face covering of some sort for the duration of a trip. However, there can be some differences between airlines. This report details what airlines in Northeast Asia currently require.

### Major carriers

Airline	Seating adjustment
Air China	Passengers should wear a mask, whether at the airport or on board a flight.
ANA <sup>1</sup>	Customers are asked to wear masks or facial coverings when traveling through airports and on board ANA's aircraft.  Passengers not wearing a mask may not be allowed on board. Exceptions will be reviewed based on age and other health conditions.
Asiana	As part of its Star Hygiene Safety Commitment, Asiana requires (or recommends) passengers wear face masks before, during and after the flight.  Passengers may be exempted for age or medical reasons.
Cathay Pacific	Face coverings are mandatory at Hong Kong airport and throughout Cathay Pacific and Cathay Dragon flights.
China Southern <sup>2</sup>	Since the end of January 2020, passengers have been obliged to wear a mask in the airport and on board China Southern aircraft.
Japan Airlines (JAL) <sup>3</sup>	Passengers are required to wear a face mask. Any customer not wearing a mask may be denied boarding.  Exceptions may be made for children under 2 years and passengers with medical conditions that would be complicated by wearing a mask.
Korean Air	Passengers must wear a face mask at all times.

<sup>1</sup> [ANA](#), Requests on wearing facial coverings

<sup>2</sup> [China Southern](#), January 31, 2020

<sup>3</sup> [JAL](#), FlySafe Hygiene Measures

## Low cost carriers

Airline	Mask policy
AirAsia Japan <sup>4</sup>	Guests on all AirAsia affiliate flights are required to bring their own mask and wear it properly before, during and after the flight.  The airline also requires passengers to wash or sanitize hands frequently.
HK Express	Passengers must bring and wear a face covering throughout their journey from check-in to disembarkation. All types of mask and covering are suitable.  Passengers unable to tolerate a face covering, including children under 6 years, are exempt from the requirement while on board.
Jetstar Japan	Wearing a face mask, including handmade masks, is mandatory on board all flights. Customers must wear a mask from the check-in area through to disembarkation from the aircraft.
Peach	Passengers are required to wear a face mask when on board Peach flights. The airline makes onboard announcements to remind passengers.

### Note

The COVID-19 situation is rapidly evolving, and the situation is changing on almost an hourly basis. The information presented in this report represents the latest view as at August 6, 2020. We have carefully researched and checked the information contained. However, we do not guarantee or warrant the correctness, completeness or topicality of this article and do not accept any liability for any damage or loss as a result of the use of the information contained within this article.

Do you have questions or comments regarding this report? Please email [mike.eggleton@bcdtravel.co.uk](mailto:mike.eggleton@bcdtravel.co.uk) to share your thoughts.

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<sup>4</sup> [AirAsia](#), Flying safe with AirAsia