

Influenza A/H1N1 Update

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

WHAT IS HAPPENING IN MEXICO:

- On Friday May 15, 2009, the CDC removed its Travel Health Warning against all nonessential travel to Mexico; downgrading to a "travel health precaution."
- As a result of the CDC's announcement, the U.S. Department of State announced that its travel alert to Mexico, due to the H1N1 Influenza outbreak, was no longer in effect.
- On May 18, Canada also lifted its travel advisory to Mexico.
- Carnival Cruise Lines and Royal Caribbean have announced they will resume their visits to Mexico ports later this month.
- Mexico's beach resorts of Costa Maya, Puerto Vallarta, Los Cabos, Cozumel, Mazatlan and Ixtapa-Zihuatanejo continue to report no cases of Influenza A (H1N1).
- As of 06:00 GMT, May 20, 2009, 41 countries have officially reported 10,243 cases of influenza A (H1N1) infection. The United States leads with 5,469 cases followed by Mexico with 3,648 laboratory confirmed human cases of infection.



WHAT THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT IS DOING:

- ✓ Mexico's Minister of Tourism, Rodolfo Elizondo, retains that Mexico's main priority continues to be the safety of its citizens and visitors; Mexico is ready to welcome back all of its visitors and offer them the hospitality and services that have always distinguished us.
- ✓ Mexico's Minister of Health, Jose Angel Cordova, was present at the 62nd Annual World Health Assembly to report on Mexico's declining status of cases with Influenza and presented the WHO with a letter in which the Mexican Government places any and all Influenza related information at their disposition in hopes of assisting in the development of a vaccine.
- ✓ According to Mexico Tourism Board CEO, Oscar Fitch, Mexico's travel industry -at all levels- is ready to offer its visitors what they go there for: diversity, culture, relaxation, luxury, adventure, world class infrastructure and most importantly, the best service in the world .



WHAT THE WORLD IS SAYING ABOUT MEXICO AND THE H1N1:

- ✓ The Governments of Argentina, Peru, Ecuador, Uruguay, Italy, Austria, Belgium, United Kingdom, Switzerland and Canada have decided to lift their travel advisories against travel to Mexico, resuming all commercial flights to Mexico.
- ✓ WHO Director-General, Margaret Chan, sustains that the WHO continues to support and hold great respect towards the Mexican government for its response and preventive measures taken after being faced with such a large responsibility as was the Influenza outbreak.
- ✓ According to Carnival Cruise lines spokeswoman, Jennifer de la Cruz, "A majority of our Passengers wanted to see us return to Mexico and so we have."
- ✓ The Cruise Line International Association (CLIA) applauds the CDC's decision to lift its travel warning to Mexico, stating this is very good news for Mexico and its port communities as well as for Americans planning to travel to Mexico.
- ✓ Apple Vacations has reported that Mexico sales are rebounding and with the help of its "Biggest-Ever Mexico Sale" program, bookings will gain better momentum as they have even extended their offer through the end of the month due to the great response.

FOR MORE INFORMATION WHILE IN MEXICO:



- Contact your Embassy or Consular Office in the destination where you are located.
- Tourism information and assistance: in the U.S 1-800-44-MEXICO, in Europe 00-800-1111-2266, and in Mexico 078
- Ministry of Health call center in Mexico 01-800-123-1010
- Visit the mexico-update page through www.visitmexico.com or directly at www.mexico-update.com
- Updates and complete information about Influenza A/H1N1 from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention are available at: www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu
- For health questions and concerns visit www.who.int