



Experts Agree: It's Safe to Fly and America is Open for Business

Government and Health Officials

"I think where these people are flying, it's safe to fly. And large portions of the world are very safe to fly. I think people are going to be very impressed with what the airlines are doing." – [President Donald J. Trump](#)

"The American people deserve to know that, according to all of our experts, the risk to the average American of contracting the coronavirus remains low." – [Vice President Mike Pence](#)

"I just want to echo again that the risk is low — the risk is low. I encourage Americans to go about their life. That includes travel to California, Oregon, and the state of Washington." – [Director Robert R. Redfield, M.D., Centers for Disease Control](#)

"The risk to any average American is low, from the novel coronavirus. The risk remains low. Thanks to the unprecedented actions President Trump has taken and the actions he's announcing today, that risk remains low." – [Secretary Alex M. Azar, Health and Human Services](#)

"The risk [for travelers] is going to be very low." – [Infectious Disease Expert Dr. William Schaffner, Vanderbilt University](#)

"At the moment there are no restrictions on domestic travel within the United States. At the end of the day, it's most important to be cautious, but not panicked. Like I said, I traveled three times this week. Follow the CDC guidelines and always wash your hands." – [Dr. Sanjay Gupta, CNN Chief Medical Correspondent](#)

"[Canceling travel plans] is not necessary. We have to live our lives." – [West Virginia Governor Jim Justice](#)

"We are open for business, and we expect to welcome thousands of people to our city over the next few weeks." – [Mayor Muriel Bowser, Washington D.C.](#)

"We still expect Saint Patrick's Day to continue to be what it is - a beautiful day where people from all over the world will come here." – [Mayor Van Johnson \(Savannah, GA\)](#)

"We are taking the concerns around coronavirus very seriously, but it's important also that we not panic. Soap and water are our best defense. Wash your hands often, at least for 20 seconds. Use a hand sanitizer that includes at least 60% alcohol. Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth." – [Mayor Michael Hancock \(Denver, Colorado\)](#)

"Boston is taking extensive steps to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Right now the risk here is low. Everyone should take simple precautions to prevent spread of respiratory illnesses: wash hands with soap & water and stay home when sick." – [Boston Public Health Twitter](#)

"We invite families and others to consider vacation here, especially during spring break. We are still open for business here in Orange County," – [Mayor Jerry Demings \(Orlando, FL\)](#)

Travel and Industry Voices

"Now is not the time to panic. Fear and panic undermine our ability to contain the virus, minimize disruptions to daily life, and keep our economy humming along. Americans should continue to monitor the situation but feel confident as they go about their daily lives, head to work, conduct meetings, or drop their children off at school. What we are telling our members is the same advice we are following ourselves: be prudent and be prepared, but don't overreact." – [Thomas J. Donohue, U.S. Chamber of Commerce](#)

"The fact is there's no place in the U.S. right now where it's not safe to travel. It's still safe to travel. Millions of Americans should not be putting off their plans out of fear." – [Chip Rogers, American Hotel and Lodging Association](#)

"There are no current warnings for travel in the United States. It's reasonable...that Americans might question if it's safe to travel, but they should continue with their upcoming travel plans. At present, with proper health practices in place, there is no official guidance whatsoever that travel within the U.S. should be curtailed or cancelled." – [Roger Dow, U.S. Travel Association](#)

"In the United States, there are no travel restrictions that have been put in place on anybody by the federal government or a state government....Look, travel is still safe....we don't see any reason why people wouldn't be traveling, certainly domestically." – [Scott Solombrino, Global Business Travel Association](#)

"We don't think this situation is going to pose any lasting, long-term negative effect on our industry or on other industries...It's irresponsible to speculate, and certainly to speculate negatively, at this point." – [Stephanie Martz, National Retail Federation](#)

"As long as you're following the CDC's warning against all nonessential travel to China and South Korea, there's no reason to stay off airplanes." – [Sara Clemence and Barbara Peterson, The Wall Street Journal](#)