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Extension of Quarantine Requirements for All Arrivals until 31 December 2020 in Qatar

The Philippine Overseas Labor Office (POLO) in Doha, Qatar has reported that the imposition of quarantine requirements for persons entering Qatar has been extended from 31 October to 31 December 2020.

Arrivals into Qatar are permitted for:

- 1. Qatari nationals and their travelling companions;
- 2. Permanent Resident Card holders; or
- 3. Other exceptionally approved visa holders who applied through the Qatar Portal service for Exceptional Entry Permit to Qatar.

Meanwhile, people coming from (COV1D-19) low-risk countries identified by the Ministry of Public Health¹ can quarantine at home, while others need to do <u>self-funded hotel quarantine</u> booked through the Discover Qatar website. The website shows 30 hotels with a price range of QR 1,950 (US\$ 536) for a three-star hotel and a QR 6,168 (US\$ 1,695) for a five-star hotel. The price includes a 7-day stay for a single person with all three meals and mandatory transfer from airport to the hotel.

Since the Philippines is not listed as a low-risk country, travelers from the Philippines who wish to go to Qatar are advised to undergo the following steps:

- 1. Visit the Qatar Portal to request approval for Exceptional Entry Permit which can be accessed at https://portal.www.gov.qa.wps/portal/qsports/home.
- 2. Once approved, check the "Type of Quarantine" stated on the certificate. If this states "Hotel", then one must book a quarantine package hotel from Discover Qatar. It can be accessed at https://www.discoverqatar.qa/welcome-home.
- Check the availability for the confirmed flight.
- 4. Book the quarantine package hotel.
- 5. Book the flight.

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6. Ensure one has copies of his/her Exceptional Entry Permit and Discover Qatar Hotel Voucher, as well as flight documents upon checking-in for the flight. If one cannot produce these documents, he/she may not be able to board the flight. Dates for arrival and hotel check-in must match.

The quarantine expenses for arriving Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) are shouldered by the employer.

OFWs are also advised to have valid copies of their Work Visa, Employment Contract, Overseas Employment Certificate (OEC) and OWWA Membership documents.

For the guidance and information of all concerned.

BERNARD P. OLALIA Administrator

October 2020

Sources:

Philippine Overseas Labor Office (Doha, Qatar)

Official Portal Government of Oatar:

https://portal.www.gov.qa/wps/portal/qsports/home https://covid19.moph.gov.qa/EN/Pages/Countries-Classified-Low-Risk-of-COVID-19.aspx

https://discoverqatar.qa/welcome-home/

https://thepeninsulaqatar.com/article/13/10/2020/Quarantine-requirements-for-all-arrivals-in-Qatar-extended-to-December-31

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