



## Destination Updates as on 1 October 2021

### INDIA

As part of the graded opening of the international borders, the Indian government may allow charter flights to and from foreign countries from 15 October, as a prelude to allowing commercial flights after mid-November. The charter flights will not be limited to the 28 countries that India is currently under travel bubble arrangement. It will extend to other countries as well as per the report available as on date.

Only full-vaccinated tourists or those having a negative RT-PCR report 72 hours prior to the departure would be allowed at Indian airports. Those without a negative RT-PCR test report would be tested on arrival to ensure genome sequencing in case a Covid-19 variant or mutant enters the country.

The same protocol is likely to be followed for commercial flights, which could resume after mid-November. However, as of now, as per a circular issued by the aviation regulator Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) on 28 September, the ban on scheduled international flights has been extended till the end of October.

However, with international airlines gearing up and increasing their reach in the Indian market, the hopes of the industry are on a high. The latest statement comes from American Airlines that has announced a codeshare agreement with IndiGo, India's largest airline in terms of the number of passengers carried. This announcement will give travellers access to 29 new routes from Bangalore and Delhi.

American's code will be placed on 29 of IndiGo's domestic routes in India and the move will provide a convenient option for travellers of American Airlines arriving on the carrier's new Bengaluru-Seattle and Delhi-JFK flights.

India's vaccination drive is continuing to provide doses of Covid-19 antibodies to her citizens and over 883 million doses have been doled out as on date. As we near a whopping 1 billion doses, we would also like to announce that most of our staff is also fully vaccinated and we have fully sanitised our offices across India and Nepal. We are considering reopening the offices across India and Nepal for fully vaccinated staff soon.

For detailed and latest updates on vaccination and number of cases, please [click here](#).