

Beat: Travel

Canada Suspends Flights

To Caribbean And Mexico

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USPA NEWS - Air Canada, WestJet, Sunwing, and Air Transat are cancelling air service to all Caribbean destinations and Mexico starting this Sunday until April 30th.

In order to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and the new strains of the virus, The Government of Canada along with the major airlines announced, in a press conference on January 29th, that flights to sun destinations would be suspended until the end of April 2021.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau advised that as of January 31, 2021, Air Transat, Sunwing, Air Canada and WestJet will be halting service to all destinations in the Caribbean and Mexico.

The Prime Minister said, "With the challenges we currently face with COVID-19 both here at home and abroad, we all agree that now is just not the time to be flying. We appreciate the work the Canadian airlines and their front line workers have done to make air travel safer and to bring Canadians home when this pandemic struck last spring." Trudeau went on to say, "The government is enacting the tough measures now and is committed to a safe restart to travel and tourism as soon as conditions improve, ideally, later this year. Ottawa and airlines will be working together on the future of COVID-19 testing and quarantine requirements. This will enable the safe, gradual return to international air travel, grounded in science and evidence."^[2]

For Canadians that are currently traveling in the affected regions, the airlines will be making arrangements with to secure their return flight. Cargo only flights will be exempt from these new measures.

The federal government will force incoming international travellers to be tested upon landing in Canada and they must quarantine in hotels for at least three days at their own expense. Those who test negative will be allowed to quarantine at home for the remainder of the mandatory two week period. Those who test positive, however, must then quarantine in designated government facilities.

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