Restrictions

The Government has announced a "state of emergency" with a set of bans and limitations, including (as of 14/03 0:00h):

- Foreigners coming from high risk countries (unless permanent residents) are temporarily banned to enter in the national territory. High risk countries are: Italy, France, Spain, Germany, Switzerland, Norway, Denmark, the Netherlands, Sweden, UK, Belgium, Austria, China and South Korea,

- Prohibition for Czech citizens and foreign permanent residents to travel to high risk countries,

- The international transport of passengers by bus is stopped from March 14th 00:00 a.m (exemption for foreigners being transported out of the Czech Republic and Czech citizens being brought home, or empty buses. This temporary exemption will stop come to end on 16th March (0:00) when the general prohibition to travel to and from the Czech Republic will start to apply),

- International freight transport is exempt of the restriction. However, only major border crossings with Austria (Dolní Dvořiště, České Velenice, Hatě Mikulov) and Germany (Strážný, Pomezí n.O., Rozvadov, Folvama, Žel. Ruda, Krásný Les, H.Sv. Šebestiána) will remain open.

The Government of the Czech Republic decided to prolong the “state of emergency” until 24 April 2020.

Relieves

Note that the Ministry of Transport, Czech Republic, has granted a general exemption from the driving restrictions on motorways and class I roads in the Czech Republic for trucks and combination vehicles with an MPW of over 7.5 tons and trucks and special vehicles with trailers, if an MPW of the motor vehicle exceeds
3.5 tons. The exemption is valid from 15:00 on 13 March 2020 for the time the state of emergency is in force, but not longer than one year. However, note that From 19 March 2020 for a period of 60 days, the border sections of the D1, D2, D5, D8 and D11 motorways are affected by the following restriction:

In the direction of the border crossing points, lorries over 3.5 tonnes are prohibited from overtaking.

Exceptions to this prohibition are vehicles used in:

- The carriage of perishable goods, at least half the volume of the cargo space of a vehicle or combination of vehicles.
- The transport of live animals.
- Carriage of fuel intended for petrol stations.
- Carriage of postal items.
- The transport of medical and biological material, medicines and material for their manufacture.

The reason for this restriction is to reduce queues at border crossing points and give preference to essential transport.

The restriction applies to the following sections of road:

- Highway D1 from km 366,300 to the right (direction of state border).
- Highway D2 from km 35,000 to the right (direction of the state border).
- Highway D5 from km 136,300 to the right (direction of parking).
- D8 motorway from km 86,900 to the right (direction of the state border) and from the state border to km 88,200 to the left (direction Prague, due to checks by the Czech Republic police).

In addition, the government announced on March 16th a temporary tolerance concerning the enforcement of driving and resting times for drivers involved in all transport of goods on all Czech territory. Measures lifted are the ones in articles 6 to 9 of the EU Regulation No. 561/2006. This exception applies from 16/03/2020 (00:00) for a period of 30 days.
On 22 March, a critical situation was reported on the CZ/SK borders due to drivers taking the 45 min. rest in the right lane blocking the access to the border crossing. Drivers are asked to take the rest elsewhere or to postpone it.

On 23 March, the Czech Ministry of Transport published a comprehensive overview of the measures taken in the field of transport. The table can be consulted here.

**SOURCE:** CESMAD BOHEMIA and Czech Police