

THAI NEWS UPDATE: 28 APRIL 2022

1. Thailand Pass to end on June 1

Source: Bangkok Post ([Link](#))

The cancellation of Thailand Pass registration is expected to take place on June 1, with tourists using their TM6 immigration form for vaccine declaration, says the Tourism and Sports Ministry. After the Test and Go scheme is scrapped from May 1, the removal of Thailand Pass will create a more seamless travel experience and stimulate more travel to the country, said Tourism and Sports Minister Phiphat Ratchakitprakarn. He said Public Health Minister Anutin Charnvirakul already agreed to terminate the Thailand Pass scheme.

2. Rice Department to distribute special rice granted by His Majesty

Source: The Nation ([Link](#))

To celebrate the upcoming Royal Ploughing Ceremony, which will be held at Bangkok's Sanam Luang on May 13, the Rice Department is handing out six breeds of rice weighing 1,728 kilograms that it received from His Majesty King Maha Vajiralongkorn. Department director-general Nutthakit Khongthip said on 27 April the six breeds of rice are 245kg of Jasmine 105, Pathum Thani 1 (399kg), Kor Khor 43 (125kg), Kor Khor 6 (70kg), Kor Khor 87 (300kg), and Kor Khor 85 (589kg). To reduce the risk of Covid-19 spreading, those interested in receiving the rice can scan the QR code below or register online at <https://rice.moac.go.th/> from May 8. Each person will be entitled to two bags of rice in husks that they can grow themselves. Registrants can pick up the rice at provincial or district agricultural offices from May 13.

3. Thailand inks deal with Gansu region

Source: Bangkok Post ([Link](#))

Thailand signed a memorandum of understanding on 27 April to form deeper trade partnerships through a so-called mini free trade agreement (mini-FTA) with China's Gansu province, aiming to push trade to reach 1.26 billion baht over the next 12 months. According to Commerce Minister Jurin Laksanawisit, the partnership is meant not only to boost trade between Thailand and Gansu province, but also pave the way for future cooperation in trade and investment development. According to Mr Jurin, potential products which are expected to benefit from the partnership include halal food, farm products, processed agricultural products, food and logistics services.

4. Phuket removes all Covid-related restrictions for visitors from May 1

Source: The Nation ([Link](#))

Phuket has fully opened its doors to travellers from May 1 without restrictions, as the number of Covid-19 patients is continuously decreasing. Phuket's Committee of Communicable Disease on 26 April approved to cancel screening measures by any method, in line with the Centre for Covid-19 Situation Administration (CCSA)'s conclusion on April 22. Phuket Governor Narong Woonsiew said after the meeting that the committee had analysed the Covid-19 situation. They found that the number of patients in Phuket had continued to decrease. He said that as of Sunday there were only 98 new confirmed cases. The committee has decided to allow travellers to enter Phuket without presenting vaccination certificates or Covid-19 test results from May 1.