

Beat: Travel

## **JB LEMOYNE SECRETARY OF STATE OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS RELEASES TOURISM MEASURES**

### **OVER COVID-19 OUTBREAK**

Paris, Washington DC, 16.03.2020, 19:45 Time

**USPA NEWS** - We publish Today's information as regard of the COVID-19 outbreak in France and the recent measures taken by the Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs, about the touristic sector. The hotels are still opened and still welcome customers. At this stage, hotels are not affected by this measure, and can continue to welcome their customers. Hotel restaurants and bars should, however, remain closed. The hotels will be able to continue to offer a meal to their customers but only in room. Take-out and delivery activities can be maintained in all restaurants and drinking places. To date, the virus is present on the national territory, with in particular several zones of regrouping of cases called "clusters". We are currently in stage 3 of the government's action plan which aims to prevent and limit the circulation of the virus. Since January 24, 2020, France has 5,423 confirmed cases of COVID-19 Coronavirus. Regarding the toll death, it rose 127 people who have died since the start of the epidemic. A referral hospital has been designated in each of the overseas departments and regions.

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**AT THIS STAGE HOTELS RESTAURANTS ARE NOT AFFECTED BY HE BAN OF GATHERINGS, STILL THE ROOM SERVICE FOR THE MEALS-----**

The Prime Minister, Edouard Philippe, announced the closure since midnight yesterday of all places receiving public not essential to the life of the country. These measures, made necessary by the evolution of the epidemic, apply in particular to restaurants, cafes, cinemas and nightclubs. They will be specified by means of decrees. At this stage, hotels are not affected by this measure, and can continue to welcome their customers. Hotel restaurants and bars should, however, remain closed. The hotels will be able to continue to offer a meal to their customers but only in room. Take-out and delivery activities can be maintained in all restaurants and drinking places. The Government is fully aware of the consequences of these new measures on the sectors concerned, and more broadly for the whole tourist economy. The accompanying measures already in place, which will soon be amplified in accordance with the request of the President of the Republic, will particularly aim to protect businesses in the tourism sector and their employees. The government will take all necessary measures to mitigate the economic impact of the epidemic and prepare for a rapid recovery as soon as health conditions are met. Jean-Baptiste Lemoine, Secretary of State to the Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs will meet on Tuesday March 17 at 9 am with the tourism sector committee. Source : French Ministry fo Europe and Foreign affairs

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