

# CUSTOMS CLOSED/PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

---



## **Important considerations**

Local courier service (pickup and delivery) may be limited prior to, during and following observed holidays in the country to which you are shipping specimens. It is imperative that you check local service schedules in advance of the holiday. Listed below are important considerations when planning your patient visits during the holidays.

- Your courier service reserves the right to observe earlier than usual pick-up times during the holidays. Call your courier service for local pick-up schedules.
- During the December/National holidays, schedule your pickups in advance of the holiday where possible.
- Call early in the day to schedule your pickup.
- When a holiday is observed on Monday, avoid laboratory collections on the preceding Saturday (i.e. Labor Day). (Not applicable to Japan)
- Frozen specimens should NOT be shipped on the day before the observed holiday. Send frozen specimens on the next available business day. (Not applicable to Japan)
- If shipping specimens on Friday, mark airway bill for Saturday delivery. (Not applicable for Japan)
- Specimens with short stabilities (eg. lymphocyte subsets, reticulocyte counts, etc.) should not be collected on the day prior to the holiday. (Not applicable to Japan)
- For sites with 24 hours delivery time to Covance, do not schedule any shipment 24 hours before one of the dates on the next pages. (Not applicable for Japan)
- For sites with 48 hours delivery time to Covance, do not schedule any shipment 48 hours before one of the dates on the next pages. (Not applicable for Japan)

Holiday reminders are also available on the Covance website:  
<http://www.covance.com/investigators/holidays.pdf>

**CUSTOMS CLOSED/PUBLIC HOLIDAYS  
CALENDAR**

<b>US, Canada, Puerto Rico and Latin America (specimens sent to Indianapolis)</b>			
2012	2013	2014	
1 January <sup>2</sup>	1 January	1 January	New Year's Day
28 May	27 May	26 May	Memorial Day
4 July	4 July	4 July	Independence Day
3 September	2 September	1 September	Labor Day
22 November <sup>1</sup>	28 November <sup>1</sup>	27 November <sup>1</sup>	Thanksgiving Day
23 November <sup>1</sup>	29 November <sup>1</sup>	28 November <sup>1</sup>	Thanksgiving Day
25 December	25 December	25 December	Christmas Day
<p><u>For sites in US and Canada</u>            If you ship specimens on a Thursday that is a holiday in the United States, you should mark "Saturday delivery" on the airway bills.</p> <p><sup>1</sup> limited operations within Covance this day due to Thanksgiving period.  <sup>2</sup> 2012 - New Year's Day observed 2 January.</p>			
<b>Europe, Middle East and Africa (specimens sent to Geneva)</b>			
2012	2013	2014	
1 January	1 January	1 January	New Year's Day
6 April	29 March	18 April	Good Friday
9 April	1 April	21 April	Easter Monday
17 May	9 May	29 May	Ascension Day
28 May	20 May	20 May	Whit Monday
1 August	1 August	1 August	Swiss National Day
6 September	5 September	11 September	Jeûne Genevois
24 December	24 December	24 December	Christmas Eve
25 December	25 December	25 December	Christmas Day
31 December	31 December	31 December	New Year's Eve

# CUSTOMS CLOSED/PUBLIC HOLIDAYS CALENDAR

<b>Asia, Australia and New Zealand (specimens sent to Singapore)</b>	
2012	
<p>1 January <sup>1</sup>                      New Year's Day                  23 January                      Chinese New Year                  24 January                      Chinese New Year                  6 April                              Good Friday                  1 May                                Labour Day                  5 May                                Vesak Day                  9 August                            National Day                  19 August <sup>2</sup>                      Hari Raya Puasa                  26 October                        Hari Raya Haji                  13 November <sup>3</sup>                    Deepavali                  25 December                      Christmas Day</p> <p><sup>1</sup> New Year's Day observed 2 January.  <sup>2</sup> Hari Raya Puasa observed 20 August.  <sup>3</sup> Subject to change.</p> <p>Taiwan Customs are closed on Saturday/Sunday.</p>	
<b>China (specimens sent to Shanghai)</b>	
2012	
<p>1-3 January<sup>1</sup>                      New Year's Day                  22-28 January <sup>2</sup>                    Spring Festival                  2-4 April <sup>3</sup>                            Tomb Sweeping Day                  29 April - 1 May                    Labor Day                  22-24 June                            Dragon Boat Festival                  30 September - 7 October<sup>4</sup>      Mid-Autumn Festival and National Days</p> <p><sup>1</sup> January 1-3. December 31 (Saturday) is adjusted as working day.  <sup>2</sup> January 21st (Saturday) and January 29 (Sunday) are adjusted as working day  <sup>3</sup> March 31 (Saturday) and April 1 (Sunday) are adjusted as working day  <sup>4</sup> September 29 (Saturday) is adjusted as working day</p> <p>The courier may be ordered any calendar day of the year. However, as much as possible, please avoid shipping samples on Saturdays and Sundays.</p>	

**CUSTOMS CLOSED/PUBLIC HOLIDAYS  
CALENDAR**

**Japan (specimens sent to Tokyo)**

2012

2013

1 January	1 January	New Year's Day
9 January	14 January	Coming of age Day
11 February	11 February	National Foundation Day
20 March	20 March	Vernal Equinox
29 April	29 April	Showa Day
3 May	3 May	Constitution Memorial Day
4 May	4 May	Greenery Day
5 May	5 May	Children's Day
16 July	15 July	Marine Day
17 September	16 September	Respect of the Aged Day
22 September	23 September	Autumnal Equinox
8 October	14 October	Sports Day
3 November	3 November	Culture Day
23 November	23 November	Labor Thanksgiving Day
23 December	23 December	Birthday of the Emperor

(1) With the exception of New Year Bank Holidays, if a holiday falls on a Sunday, the following day is treated as a holiday instead.

(2) When there is a single day between two national holidays, it's also taken as a holiday.