



香港旅遊業議會  
TRAVEL INDUSTRY COUNCIL  
OF HONG KONG  
Incorporated with limited liability

**IMPORTANT**

**DIRECTIVE**

Issue Date: 17 July 2020

Ref: BOD248/17072020/O/JM

**Charter tour-related rules  
Resolution No. 248  
(Directive category: Outbound → Package Tour)**

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In view of the differences between charter tours and non-charter tours, the Board of Directors resolved at its meeting held on 14 July 2020 to adopt the Outbound Committee's proposal to issue this Directive with the objective of laying down rules applicable to charter tours:

- 1. The following definitions are applicable to this Directive:**
  - (1) "Charter tour" refers to package tours which satisfy all of the following three conditions:**
    - (a) members make arrangements in accordance with the requirements of their customers for any two or all of these outbound travel services: transport, accommodation and activities;**
    - (b) members and their customers enter into a written agreement regarding the outbound travel services concerned; and**
    - (c) members do not or do not attempt to solicit customers directly and openly through advertisements in the media.**
  - (2) "Media" refer to any physical or electronic carrier which carries or conveys information, including but not limited to television, radio, newspapers, magazines, the Internet, mobile phones, mail (including electronic mail), leaflets, posters, billboards located outdoors or on means of transport, etc.**
  - (3) Members are not considered to be soliciting or attempting to solicit customers directly and openly through advertisements in the media where –**
    - (a) the names and licence number of members appear in advertisements which are placed by their customers as the organisers of charter tours for the purpose of promoting such charter tours with specified departure dates; and**



- (b) members display or show in places such as their physical stores, websites, electronic platforms, etc sample itineraries of charter tours with no specified departure dates and tour fares for easy reference by those who intend to charter package tours.
2. The following rules or any other rules applicable at that time are not applicable to charter tours:
- (1) Directive No. 79: “Code of Business Practice on Outbound Package Tours – Visa Fee”;
  - (2) Directive No. 153: “Refund arrangements for tour cancellations”;
  - (3) Directive No. 223: “Cancellation of package tours for reasons beyond control (revised)”;
  - (4) Directive No. 228: “Registration of outbound package tour brochures”;
  - (5) Paragraphs 3(5)(a) to 3(5)(d): “Surcharges” of the Code of Business Practice on Outbound Package Tours; and
  - (6) Paragraphs 3(9)(b) and 3(9)(c): “Material Alterations to Package Tours for Reasons Beyond Control of Travel Agents” of the Code of Business Practice on Outbound Package Tours.
3. The written agreement as mentioned in Point 1(1)(b) shall –
- (1) specify all the rules not applicable (except for Directive No. 228) and state that the customers will not be protected by such rules; and
  - (2) stipulate provisions for cancellation of the charter tours.
4. For the avoidance of doubt, those package tours which meet the definition as laid down in Directive No. 242: “Code of Business Practice on Study Tours and Exchange Tours (revised)” are not subject to this Directive.

This Directive supersedes Directive No. 129 and applies to written agreements entered into on or after 1 August 2020 and the related charter tours. Violation of this directive will be subject to penalties laid down in Article 11 of the TIC’s Articles of Association.

For latest information on rules of the TIC, please visit the TIC website ([www.tichk.org](http://www.tichk.org) → “Codes and Regulations”).

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
TRAVEL INDUSTRY COUNCIL OF HONG KONG



Alice Chan (Mrs)  
Executive Director