

REPORT: VACCINATIONS AND TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS

What you need to know

July 2021

While they have yet to become a mandatory condition of travel, a traveler's vaccination status is increasingly being used to determine which travel restrictions they are subject to and which services and amenities they can access at their destination. This report summarizes how some countries are associating vaccination status with an easing of travel restrictions. Click on the region below to access the relevant content.

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Middle East	North America	Southwest Pacific	

Africa

Mauritius

Since mid-July 2021, any non-vaccinated travelers arriving in Mauritius have had to undertake a mandatory 14-day quarantine in a hotel room.¹ This must be booked before departing for Mauritius. Fully vaccinated travelers may take a 14-day "resort bubble" holiday in the country. Subject to a negative PCR test result during their stay, vaccinated travelers may also leave their hotel and travel around the island.

All travelers, with or without a vaccination, must take a PCR test between five and seven days before departure, take another PCR test on arrival and on days seven and 14 while in their resort or in a quarantine hotel.

Tunisia

From the start of June 2021, fully-vaccinated travelers, as well as those who have tested positive for COVID-19 at least six weeks before departure, no longer needed to quarantine for seven days or provide a negative PCR test result.² Travelers must be able to prove they have been fully vaccinated, however.

Asia

Cambodia

Cambodia's government is studying the feasibility of allowing vaccinated tourists from low-risk markets to enter the country by the fourth quarter of 2021. At this early stage, it's unclear if vaccinated arrivals will still be subject to 14-day quarantines.

China

China now accepts U.S. travelers inoculated with American-made vaccines, including those made by Johnson & Johnson, Moderna and Pfizer.³ The Chinese Embassy in the U.S. issued a notice on April 21,

¹ [Breaking Travel News](#), June 30, 2021

² [Breaking Travel News](#), June 2, 2021

³ [China Briefing](#), Apr. 21, 2021

2021, allowing U.S. passengers vaccinated with American-made non-inactivated vaccines to depart from Dallas and enter mainland China. Passengers must be fully-vaccinated before departure.

Hong Kong

From May 2021, fully-vaccinated people coming from a handful of low-risk countries including Australia, New Zealand and Singapore had their mandatory hotel quarantine shortened from 14 to seven days.⁴

Nepal

Travelers visiting Nepal must provide a negative COVID-19 PCR test or provide evidence of being fully vaccinated.⁵ However, it is advisable for everyone to still get a PCR negative report from a test taken within 72 hours, as the airline or some countries may require this.

Thailand

The Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) confirmed Phuket as the first destination in Thailand to reopen to vaccinated foreign visitors without quarantine requirements from July 1, 2021.⁶

Europe

European Union

The European Union introduced the EU Digital COVID Certificate to facilitate the safe free movement of EU citizens within the EU during the pandemic.⁷ The scheme launched officially on July 1, 2021. At this stage, regulations support the use of the new certificates for 12 months, i.e., until June 30, 2022.

So that travel restrictions may be lifted in a coordinated manner, all EU Member States must accept the EU Digital COVID Certificate. Certificate holders will be exempt from any restrictions on free movement, although countries may retain some restrictions if justified to safeguard public health. The EU Digital COVID Certificate is used by all 27 EU Member States, while non-EU countries Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland may also participate.

The certificate provides digital evidence that a person has either:

- Been fully vaccinated against COVID-19
- Received a negative test result
- Recovered from COVID-19

Croatia

EU citizens, as well as non-EU citizens, who have either recovered, been vaccinated (AstraZeneca, Gamaleya, Moderna, Pfizer or Sinopharm) or have a negative PCR or EU-approved antigen test result, may enter Croatia.⁸ If a traveler presents a vaccination certificate, they must have received their second vaccine dose more than 14 days before travel.

On July 26, 2021, Croatia temporarily revoked the right of fully-vaccinated or recovered visitors arriving from Cyprus, Russia and the U.K. to enter the country without a negative test result. They must now also present a negative result from an antigen test taken not more than 48 hours before arrival, or from a PCR

⁴ [The Straits Times](#), May 07, 2021

⁵ [Welcome to Nepal](#), May 07, 2021

⁶ [Tourism Authority of Thailand](#), June 1, 2021

⁷ [European Commission](#), EU Digital COVID Certificate

⁸ [Travel Weekly](#), Apr 07, 2021

test not taken more than 72 hours before arrival.⁹

Cyprus

Tourists from 65 countries may visit Cyprus without quarantine, if holding an EU Digital COVID Certificate (proof of vaccination) or present a negative result from a COVID-19 PCR test not older than three days.¹⁰

Denmark

From May 1, 2021, Denmark made entry easier for travelers arriving from EU or Schengen Area countries, if they are fully vaccinated.¹¹ Further easing of restrictions is linked to Denmark's own vaccination program. From May 14, when Denmark expected to have given a first vaccine dose to all vulnerable citizens, it aimed to allow unrestricted travel from more countries. With the introduction of the EU COVID Digital Certificate, Denmark allows anyone holding such a certificate to enter the country without quarantine.

Estonia

Travelers entering Estonia who have been vaccinated abroad can prove this by presenting a vaccination certificate.¹² It must include (written in the Latin or Slavic alphabet - in Estonian, Russian or English) the personal data of the individual vaccinated; the disease against which the individual was immunized; the time at which the vaccine was administered; and the exact name of the vaccine, batch number, the dose administered and the number of doses administered to the individual.

Finland

On July 26, 2021, Finland reopened its borders for vaccinated travelers worldwide.¹³ Arrivals from Russia, Turkey, the U.K. and U.S. remain banned until August 22. Visitors must still present a Vaccine Passport on arrival, indicating receipt of the final vaccine dose at least 14 days earlier. Finland has so far approved six vaccines: AstraZeneca, CoronaVac, Johnson & Johnson, Moderna, Pfizer and Sinopharm. Anyone arriving unvaccinated or part-vaccinated must provide a negative result from a PCR test and be tested again on day three or five of their visit.

France

France was preparing to ease travel restrictions for vaccinated travelers and for anyone who has tested negative for COVID-19.¹⁴ The easing will apply to European Union (EU) and third country travelers, and in particular the U.S.

From July 21, 2021, using the *pass sanitaire* has been obligatory for visits to leisure and culture venues, such as concert halls, sports halls, cinemas and amusement parks, where more than 50 are gathered.¹⁵ It's also required on any ships with accommodation. Using the *TousAntiCovid* track and trace app (or paper certificates), people may access these venues by demonstrating they have been fully-vaccinated. Otherwise, they will need to present a negative RT-PCR or antigen result from a test not older than 48 hours or evidence of recovery from COVID-19. In other words, if not fully-vaccinated, most people will have to test every 48 hours.

From the start of August, the government plans to abolish the 50-person threshold and extend the use of *pass sanitaire* to cafes, restaurants, shopping centers, hospitals, as well as for travel by air, rail and long-

⁹ [Breaking Travel News](#), July 22, 2021

¹⁰ [Schengen Visa Info](#), Apr. 27, 2021

¹¹ [Schengen Visa Info](#), Apr. 14, 2021

¹² [Ministry of Foreign Affairs](#), Apr. 29, 2021

¹³ [Schengen Visa Info](#), July 27, 2021

¹⁴ [Schengen Visa Info](#), Apr. 19, 2021

¹⁵ [Government of France](#), Health Pass

distance bus. Other situations may be added at a later date.

Use of the health pass has been delayed until the end of August for people aged 12 to 17 and employees at the affected establishments, to give them time to have their first vaccination.

Germany

Germany allows travelers who have been fully-vaccinated or have recovered from COVID-19 to skip mandatory testing and quarantine when entering the country.¹⁶ These rules do not apply to passengers arriving from countries deemed “high-risk,” due to a high case count of COVID-19 infections.

Georgia

Passengers traveling by air from any country (except India) may enter Georgia if they present the validation confirming the full course of any COVID-19 vaccination.¹⁷ Arrivals from India, or anyone visiting the country during the last 14 days, must provide a negative result from a PCR test conducted within the 72 hours before their visit to Georgia, and then complete a mandatory 14-day quarantine.

Greece

As an alternative to a negative PCR test result, from April 19, 2021, travelers arriving in Greece from the EU, Israel, Serbia, the UAE, UK and US could also avoid quarantine by providing proof of having received two doses of an approved COVID-19 vaccine.¹⁸

Hungary

Hungary will seek to conclude a bilateral agreement with other countries which have COVID-19 immunity certificates.¹⁹ It has had announced that all vaccinated travelers from Serbia and Montenegro would be permitted to enter once fully vaccinated.

Iceland

Iceland had allowed entry to people presenting a vaccination certificate or a certificate of previous infection, requiring them only to quarantine until a negative result was obtained from testing on-arrival.²⁰ A negative result could be assumed if no message was received within 24 hours.

From July 27, Icelandic authorities reintroduced the requirement for vaccinated travelers to present a negative result from a PCR or rapid antigen test (RAT) taken within the 72 hours before arrival. The move followed a recent surge in COVID-19 infections in Iceland.

Ireland

Passengers arriving from the European Union (EU) or European Economic Area (EEA) in possession of an EU Digital COVID Certificate (DCC) no longer have to quarantine after entering Ireland.²¹ Exceptions apply to travelers where the DCC is based on an antigen test or to those who have been in a non-EEA country in the 14 days before arrival.

Even without a DCC, visitors can avoid quarantine if they are able to provide proof of full-vaccination using a vaccine approved by the European Medicines Agency (EMA):

- 15 days after the second AstraZeneca dose

¹⁶ [Travel and Leisure](#), May 12, 2021

¹⁷ [Foreign Affairs Georgia](#), Apr. 29, 2021

¹⁸ [Schengen Visa Info](#), Apr 15, 2021

¹⁹ [Schengen Visa Info](#), May 06, 2021

²⁰ [Iceland COVID](#), May 07, 2021

²¹ [Citizens Information](#), Travelling to Ireland during COVID-19

- 7 days after the second Pfizer-BioNtech dose
- 14 days after the second Moderna dose
- 14 days after the single Janssen dose

Fully-vaccinated travelers entering Ireland from the U.K. no longer require travel-related testing or quarantine. Both can also be avoided by anyone with valid proof of recovery from COVID-19 in the past 180 days.

Arrivals from outside the EU, EEA and U.K. can also avoid testing and quarantine if they are fully vaccinated or recovered from COVID-19. But these exemptions do not apply to travelers arriving from countries with an “emergency brake” (do not travel advice) applied in the 14 days before arrival. In such cases, fully-vaccinated travelers will still need to present a negative result from an RT-PCR test taken no more than 72 hours before arrival, self-quarantine at home for 14 days and take a post-arrival test.

Italy

Since May 16, 2021, travelers from the European Union (EU), U.K and Israel, have been permitted to visit Italy if fully-vaccinated.²²

Lithuania

The requirements for COVID-19 testing and self-isolation will no longer apply for travelers holding a country-specific vaccination certificate or an international vaccination certificate confirming that they have gone through the full program of COVID-19 vaccination.²³

Malta

From June 1, Malta activated a red, amber, green list for people wanting to enter the country.²⁴ For travelers arriving from an amber country, evidence of a full vaccination (last dose of the vaccine 14 days earlier or more) can be used instead of a negative COVID-19 PCR test certificate, subject to the Digital Green Certificate being approved and enacted by the European Union.

Montenegro

Travelers can provide proof of a second dose of COVID-19 vaccination administered at least seven before arrival.²⁵

Netherlands

From July 27, 2021, all vaccinated European citizens from the European Economic Area and Schengen Zone have been allowed to enter the country, regardless of the infection rates in the country from which they're arriving. The full vaccine dose must have been administered at least 14 days before arrival.

Any travelers allowed to enter the Netherlands from a high-risk country must still self-isolate for ten days (reduced if presenting a negative test result on day five), regardless of their vaccination status.²⁶

Norway

It's possible to travel freely to Norway from any (EU/EEA) country if travelers are fully vaccinated (for more than one week) or have had COVID-19 in the previous six months and can document this through a

²² [Schengen Visa Info, May 14, 2021](#)

²³ [Vilnius, Apr. 28, 2021](#)

²⁴ [Visit Malta, May. 6 2021](#)

²⁵ [UK Gov. Apr. 29, 2021](#)

²⁶ [Schengen Visa Info, July 27, 2021](#)

COVID-19 certificate (for EU/EEA countries linked to the EU-specific system).²⁷ Such travelers will not have to quarantine, take a test in advance or at the border, or complete a registration form.

Poland

Poland has eased travel restrictions for vaccinated travelers. This applies to passengers who have been vaccinated with one of the EU approved vaccines:

- BioNTech & Pfizer
- Moderna
- AstraZeneca
- Janssen

Romania

Authorities allows travelers who have been fully vaccinated to enter the country without being subject to quarantine restrictions, providing the second dose has been received 10 days before arrival in Romania.²⁸

Spain

From June 2021, European Union citizens holding the EU Digital COVID Certificate have been allowed to enter Spain without being subject to a COVID-19 test or self-isolation.²⁹ In addition, from June 2021 Spain permitted U.K. travelers to visit the country to revive the tourism sector.³⁰

Slovakia

Being vaccinated helps travelers from most European countries enter Slovakia. But the conditions are quite specific. Anyone taking a mRNA vaccine, such as Moderna or Pfizer, must have received a second dose, which must have been administered at least two weeks before arrival. Recipients of vector vaccines, such as AstraZeneca, need only have received the first dose, administered at least four weeks before arrival.³¹

Slovenia

Since April 25, Slovenian authorities have allowed travelers who have been fully vaccinated to enter the country without being subject to quarantine restrictions³². All passengers are allowed entry if they provide a vaccination certificate as follows:

- At least seven days since the second dose of the BioNTech/Pfizer vaccine was taken
- At least 14 days since the second dose of the Moderna vaccine was taken
- At least 21 days since the first dose of the Vaxzevria/Covishield vaccine by AstraZeneca was taken
- At least 14 days since the Janssen COVID-19 by Johnson & Johnson/Janssen-Cilag was taken
- At least 14 days since the second dose of the Sputnik V vaccine by the National Centre of Epidemiology and Microbiology of Russia was taken
- At least 14 days since the second dose of the CoronaVac vaccine by Sinovac Biotech was taken
- At least 14 days since the second dose of the Chinese COVID-19 vaccine by Sinopharm was taken

²⁷ [Helse Norge](#), International travels

²⁸ [Romania Embassy](#), May 07, 2021

²⁹ [Schengen Visa Info](#), Apr. 16, 2021

³⁰ [Schengen Visa Info](#), Apr. 28, 2021

³¹ [Schengen Visa Info](#), Apr. 17, 2021

³² [Schengen Visa Info](#), Apr. 28, 2021

U.K.

Since July 19, 2021, arrivals who have been fully vaccinated with an NHS administered vaccine for more than 14 days or are on a formally approved U.K. vaccine clinical trial, and who are returning to England from an amber list country, have no longer needed to quarantine.³³

The U.K. Government has modified the existing National Health Service (NHS) app (not the NHS COVID-19 Track & Trace app) to enable travelers to demonstrate their COVID-19 vaccination status.³⁴ It will also allow them to show COVID-19 tests results. Work is under way to ensure the app can be internationally recognized.

By the end of September 2021, using a vaccine passport will be mandatory to access certain hospitality services, ensuring that only fully-vaccinated people access nightclubs and other venues where large crowds gather. It's likely that patrons will need to use the NHS app.

From August 2, travelers from amber-list countries, who are fully-vaccinated with a vaccine approved by the US Food and Drug Administration or the European Medicines Agency, may enter England without having to quarantine or take a test on day eight of their stay. But they will still have to take a pre-departure test before arrival and a PCR test on day two of their stay in the U.K. This effectively eases travel restrictions on travelers from the European Union (except France) and the U.S.

Latin America

Barbados

From May 8, 2021, vaccinated travelers have been able to substantially reduce their period of quarantine after arrival in Barbados.³⁵ All arrivals must currently submit a negative result from a PCR test taken no earlier than 72 hours before departure, spend seven or eight nights in a government-approved quarantine facility and take a PCR test five days after arrival.

In future, vaccinated travelers will be able to take a PCR test on arrival and then quarantine for just one or two days while awaiting a negative test result. Travelers are considered to have been vaccinated after receiving the full courses recommended for the AstraZeneca, Johnson & Johnson, Moderna and Pfizer vaccines more than two weeks prior to travel. Vaccinated travelers must also show they have not visited a "country of special consideration" within the 21 days prior to travel.

Belize

Belize now accepts a traveler's COVID 19 immunization.³⁶ Passengers must have completed a full vaccination process two weeks or more before travel and must bring a copy of their vaccination document.

Guatemala

Proof of vaccination completed at least two weeks before arrival has joined a negative COVID-19 test within 72 hours of arrival or recovery from COVID-19 within three months of arrival as a condition for entry in Guatemala.³⁷

³³ [UK Government](#), July 8, 2021

³⁴ [Breaking Travel News](#), Apr. 28, 2021

³⁵ [BTN Europe](#), Apr. 15, 2021

³⁶ [Belize Tourism Board](#), Mar 17, 2021

³⁷ [US Embassy](#). Feb.25, 2021

Puerto Rico

Since the end of May 2021, fully-vaccinated visitors from the US have no longer been required to take a COVID-19 test on arrival in Puerto Rico.³⁸ Unvaccinated travelers from international markets are now offered an antigen test on arrival, removing the need to quarantine.

St. Lucia

Since the start of June 2021, the government of St. Lucia has allowed more freedom to vaccinated visitors. Once able to prove they've been fully vaccinated, visitors can now hire cars, dine at more local restaurants and take part in more leisure activities.³⁹ And vaccinated returning St Lucian nationals no longer have to quarantine on arrival.

Irrespective of vaccination status, all arrivals must continue to provide a negative result from a PCR test taken no more than five days before arrival.

Middle East

Bahrain

Travelers arriving from countries that are not on Bahrain's red list are exempted from a 10 day quarantine and PCR testing if they're vaccinated, presenting a vaccination certificate proved by authorities in Bahrain or issued by a country with a reciprocal recognition agreement with Bahrain.⁴⁰ Quarantine alone may be avoided by vaccinated travelers holding certificate issued by the US, UK, EU member state, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Korea, Japan or Singapore. These travelers must still provide a negative PCR test result to enter Bahrain.

Israel

From May 2021, Israel allowed limited entry by groups of vaccinated tourists.⁴¹ All foreign visitors must still present a negative PCR test result before boarding their flight to Israel. And on arrival, they must also take a serological test to prove they have been vaccinated. This second test will not be required once Israel secures government agreements on vaccine certificate validation.⁴² At a later date, individual travelers who have been vaccinated will also be allowed to visit Israel.

Kuwait

Since June 27, only fully-vaccinated people have been able to enter restaurants and cafes, health clubs and large commercial spaces. From September 1, as Kuwait allows more activities to resume, only fully-vaccinated people will be able to access them.⁴³ From August 1, unvaccinated citizens will only be allowed in to pharmacies, consumer cooperative societies and food and catering outlets.

From August 1, non-citizens may enter Kuwait if they have been fully-vaccinated with COVID-19 vaccines approved by the Gulf state.⁴⁴ Travelers must still take a PCR test before departure and another during seven days of home quarantine. Also from August 1, only citizens who have been fully-vaccinated may leave Kuwait.

³⁸ [Breaking Travel News](#), May 27, 2021

³⁹ [Breaking Travel News](#), June 1, 2021

⁴⁰ [Twitter](#), May 23, 2021

⁴¹ [Reuters](#), Apr. 13, 2021

⁴² [Breaking Travel News](#), Apr. 14, 2021

⁴³ [Arab News](#), July 27, 2021

⁴⁴ [Reuters](#), June 17, 2021

Lebanon

Arriving passengers who can prove they have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19 at least two weeks before departure, or who have had and have recovered from COVID-19 within 90 days prior to travel are exempt from PCR test and hotel quarantine requirements.⁴⁵

Qatar

In mid-July 2021, Qatar reopened its borders to travelers who have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19 with a vaccine approved by Qatar's Ministry of Public Health.⁴⁶ While vaccinated travelers no longer need to quarantine upon arrival, all visitors must still provide a negative result from a PCR test conducted not more than 72 hours before departure. Travelers must also apply for authorization to enter Qatar at least 12 hours before departure (optional for Qatari citizens and residents),⁴⁷ uploading vaccination certificates and COVID-19 test results and confirmation of a hotel booking to the *Ehteraz* website.⁴⁸

Turkey

International travelers visiting Turkey will not be required to present a vaccination certificate, but they still need a negative result from a PCR test.⁴⁹

North America

Bahamas

Effective May 1, 2021, visitors travelling to The Bahamas from other countries, who are fully vaccinated and have passed the two-week immunity period, are exempt from COVID-19 testing requirements for entry and inter-island travel.⁵⁰

Canada

From August 9, 2021, Canada will reopen its borders to fully-vaccinated travelers arriving from the U.S. This will be extended to travelers arriving from all countries from September 7. Visitors, who are at least two weeks beyond their final vaccine dose, may travel to Canada without quarantine. They will still need to present a quarantine plan, just in case it's needed. And vaccinated travelers must still submit their travel information to ArriveCAN and provide a negative COVID-19 test result, but they are now unlikely to be tested again after arrival, unless randomly selected.

U.S.

According to guidance issued at the start of April 2021 by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), fully vaccinated individuals can make domestic trips safely without the need to quarantine or take a COVID-19 test before departure, unless required by their destination.⁵¹ They should have been fully vaccinated at least two weeks before their trip.

⁴⁵ [Gov.UK, Foreign & Commonwealth Office](#), June 4, 2021

⁴⁶ [Arabian Business](#), July 18, 2021

⁴⁷ Qatar Ministry of Public Health

⁴⁸ [Breaking Travel News](#), July 14, 2021

⁴⁹ [Breaking Travel News](#), Apr. 23, 2021

⁵⁰ [Island of the Bahamas](#), Apr. 29, 2021

⁵¹ [BTN](#), Apr. 2, 2021

The CDC remains cautious about international travel, regarding even fully-vaccinated travelers to be at risk of contracting and spreading COVID-19 variants. Guidance will remain in place for inbound international travelers to present a negative result from a COVID-19 test taken not more than 72 hours before departure, even if fully vaccinated. However, anyone departing from the U.S. no longer needs to take a pre-departure test, unless this is required by the destination country.

Note

The information presented in this report represents the latest view as at July 29, 2021. We have carefully researched and checked the information contained. However, we do not guarantee or warrant the correctness, completeness or topicality of this article and do not accept any liability for any damage or loss as a result of the use of the information contained within this article.

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