

REPORT: VACCINATIONS AND TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS

What you need to know

November 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.

Africa	Asia	Europe	Latin America
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 have had their mandatory hotel quarantine shortened from 14 to seven days.⁴

Indonesia

Indonesia has agreed to create a travel corridor with Malaysia, which could be launched early in [2022](#). The Travel Corridor Arrangement (TCA) or Vaccinated Travel Lane (VTL) will initially restore travel between Jakarta and Kuala Lumpur. Preference will be given to people who are fully vaccinated or are travelling for official, business, medical or humanitarian purposes.

Malaysia

From [August 10, 2021](#), Malaysia started to ease restrictions on domestic and international travel for fully-vaccinated travelers. Vaccinated citizens and permanent residents entering Malaysia may now complete their 14-day quarantine at home, regardless of their state of residence.

On [September 16](#), Langkawi, a cluster of 99 islands in the Straits of Malacca, reopened to fully-vaccinated travelers as part of a domestic tourism bubble.⁵ Travelers must still test negative for COVID-19 before arrival. If successful, other holiday destinations could also be included in the scheme. At the moment, only domestic tourists may visit Langkawi.

From [October 11, 2021](#), Malaysia lifted restrictions on domestic travel for individuals fully vaccinated for at least two weeks. Children may also travel with vaccinated parents.

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Nepal

Travelers visiting Nepal must provide a negative COVID-19 PCR test or provide evidence of being fully vaccinated.⁶ 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.

Singapore

The Singapore Government has launched [Notarise](#), a portal where outbound travelers can upload their Pre-Departure Test (PDT) HealthCerts for digital authentication and endorsement by the Ministry of health (MOH) or be issued their Vaccination HealthCerts for travel.⁷ Such digital certificates should be easier for travelers to share for inspection and verification by local and overseas border authorities. Singapore is engaging with other countries to accept the HealthCerts as part of a process that could lead to fully-vaccinated travelers facing fewer restrictions.

HealthCerts should be used by all travelers on Reciprocal Green Lane (RGL) arrangements, which have been set up to enable essential business and official travel between Singapore and Brunei and parts of Mainland China.

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

⁵ [Reuters](#), Sept. 15, 2021

⁶ [Welcome to Nepal](#), May 07, 2021

⁷ [Notarise](#)

All outbound travelers are required to present their PDT or Vaccination HealthCert as a QR image on their mobile devices or as a paper copy.

Singapore's vaccinated travel lanes

As part of its efforts to safely reopen its borders, Singapore's Ministry of Health (MOH) has created Vaccinated Travel Lanes (VTLs) to enable fully vaccinated Singapore Citizens and Permanent Residents to return to Singapore without the need to quarantine.⁸ The scheme is also open to (unvaccinated) children, who must be accompanied by a fully-vaccinated adult.

Foreign travelers on short-term visits (including business and official trips) to Singapore and holders of Long-Term Passes may also use the VTLs, but they must first apply for a vaccinated travel pass (VTP).⁹ Applications must be made via the SafeTravel website between seven and 30 calendar days prior to a traveler's intended date of entry into Singapore. The VTP is valid for single entry into Singapore.

The first VTL schemes were implemented on [September 8, 2021](#), covering travelers arriving from Brunei and Germany. Canada, Denmark, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain, U.K. and U.S. were added on [October 18](#).

Under revised rules effective [October 18, 2021](#), VTP holders must:¹⁰

- Be fully-vaccinated and be able to prove this
- Have remained in the country of departure for at least 14 consecutive days before traveling to Singapore
- Travel to Singapore only on a dedicated VTL flight
- Test negative for COVID-19 using a PCR test taken within 48 hours of the scheduled flight departure time
- Download the TraceTogether app
- Purchase travel insurance with a minimum cover of S\$30,000 for COVID-19-related medical expenses
- Provide contact details

Effective [November 15, 2021](#), a new VTL enables fully-vaccinated travelers to fly between Singapore and Seoul, South Korea. There are no restrictions on purpose of travel or requirements for controlled itinerary or sponsorship. To support the operation of the VTL, both countries have agreed to mutually recognize each other's COVID-19 vaccination certificates.

Singapore continues to launch VTLs with more countries. From [November 29](#), new schemes open to vaccinated travelers arriving from Finland, India, Indonesia, Malaysia and Sweden. And from [December 6](#), Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the U.A.E. will join the list of VTL countries. The Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore also plans to increase the VTL daily traveler quota for all VTL countries from 6,000 to 10,000.

Thailand

The Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) selected Phuket as the first destination in Thailand to reopen to vaccinated foreign visitors without quarantine requirements from [July 1, 2021](#).¹¹

From [November 1, 2021](#), Thailand ended quarantine requirements for fully-vaccinated travelers arriving

⁸ [SafeTravel](#), Vaccinated Travel Lane

⁹ [SafeTravel](#), Requirements and Process

¹⁰ [SafeTravel](#), Conditions of the VTL

¹¹ [Tourism Authority of Thailand](#), June 1, 2021

from at least ten low-risk countries.¹² These include China, Germany, the U.K. and the U.S.

Vietnam

Airlines were allowed to restart domestic flights on [October 1, 2021](#). To be able to travel, passengers must present a negative COVID-19 test result and complete a medical declaration. However, fully-vaccinated travelers, or those having received their first dose at least three weeks ago, are exempt from COVID-19 testing.¹³

From [December 2021](#), the Vietnamese government will reopen key tourism destinations to fully-vaccinated foreign visitors arriving from countries considered to be low-risk for COVID-19.¹⁴ A full reopening to international tourism is not expected until [June 2022](#).

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.¹⁵ 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 are 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

The European Commission has proposed reducing the validity of COVID-19 vaccination certificates to 9 months.¹⁶ This would allow citizens 3 months to arrange a boost dose, which is recommended 6 months after two doses have been administered.

Austria

As it faced a sharp rise in COVID-19 cases, on [November 15, 2021](#), Austria imposed a lockdown on 2 million citizens, who were not fully vaccinated. They may only leave home for limited reasons, including working or buying food. The restrictions were initially introduced for [10 days](#). It has also reduced the validity period for vaccination certificates from 12 to 9 months.

Belgium

From [November 26](#), Belgium relaxed its COVID-19 testing rules for fully-vaccinated passengers arriving from certain countries outside the European Union or Schengen area.¹⁷ Foreign nationals arriving from a red zone country, who have been fully-vaccinated, are no longer required to take a rapid antigen test on

¹² Break Travel News

¹³ [The Star](#), Oct 3, 2021

¹⁴ [Travel Pulse](#), Oct. 10, 2021

¹⁵ [European Commission](#), EU Digital COVID Certificate

¹⁶ [Schengen Visa Info](#), Nov. 25, 2021

¹⁷ [BTN Europe](#), Nov. 24, 2021

day one or two of their stay and on day seven. But they will still need to present a negative result from a PCR test taken within the 72 hours before arrival or a rapid antigen test taken the day before or on arrival.

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.¹⁸ 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 a antigen test taken not more than 48 hours before arrival, or from a PCR test not taken more than 72 hours before arrival.¹⁹

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.²⁰

Denmark

From [May 1, 2021](#), Denmark made entry easier for travelers arriving from EU or Schengen Area countries, if they are fully vaccinated.²¹ 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.²² 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.²³ Arrivals from Russia, Turkey, the U.K. and U.S. remained 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

Since [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.²⁴ It's

¹⁸ [Travel Weekly](#), Apr 07, 2021

¹⁹ [Breaking Travel News](#), July 22, 2021

²⁰ [Schengen Visa Info](#), Apr. 27, 2021

²¹ [Schengen Visa Info](#), Apr. 14, 2021

²² [Ministry of Foreign Affairs](#), Apr.29,2021

²³ [Schengen Visa Info](#), July 27, 2021

²⁴ [Government of France](#), Health Pass

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 [August 9](#), the government required French citizens and all international travelers to present proof of vaccination or a recent (within 48 hours) negative COVID-19 test result in order to access public attractions and hospitality venues.²⁵ Visitors must now use the [pass sanitaire](#) or paper certificate to access cafes, restaurants, shopping centers, sports events, amusement parks, communal spaces in hotels, hospitals, as well travel by air, rail and long-distance bus. Other situations may be added at a later date. International visitors using their own country's digital vaccine pass, such as the NHS App, may be able to scan their QR code directly into [TousAntiCovid](#).

Use of the health pass was 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.²⁶ 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.²⁷ 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.²⁸

Hungary

Hungary will seek to conclude a bilateral agreement with other countries which have COVID-19 immunity certificates.²⁹ 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.³⁰ 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

²⁵ [Schengen Visa Info](#), Aug. 10, 2021

²⁶ [Travel and Leisure](#), May. 12, 2021

²⁷ [Foreign Affairs Georgia](#), Apr. 29, 2021

²⁸ [Schengen Visa Info](#), Apr 15, 2021

²⁹ [Schengen Visa Info](#), May 06, 2021

³⁰ [Iceland COVID](#), May 07, 2021

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.³¹ 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
- 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 they are fully-vaccinated.³²

From [August 6](#), Italy imposed restrictions on all unvaccinated people not holding the country’s Green Pass. Everyone over the age of 12 must present the health pass to access certain activities and services: entertainment venues, museums, sporting events and facilities, private parties and trade fairs. It’s also mandatory to access restaurants, bars and pastry shops.

The Green Pass is issued to anyone who has received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine, has recently recovered from the disease, or has presented a negative test result taken within 48 hours.³³ Non-EU travelers from Canada, Israel, Japan, the U.K. and the U.S. can present an equivalent certificate in paper or digital format issued by their national health authorities.³⁴ Accepted equivalent green passes include:

- Israeli Green Pass
- CDC-approved vaccination cards from the U.S.
- Government-issued vaccination certificates from Japan
- NHS Pass or certificates from the U.K.

On [September 1](#), Italy made the Green Pass mandatory for domestic air, rail and long-distance bus travel.

³¹ [Citizens Information](#), Travelling to Ireland during COVID-19

³² [Schengen Visa Info, May 14, 2021](#)

³³ [Schengen Visa Info](#), July 28, 2021

³⁴ [Tuscany and more](#), Travelling to Italy with a Covid Green Pass

From the first week of [December 2021](#), Italy adjusted Green Pass rules, removing a negative test result from the conditions of entry. Only someone who has been vaccinated or is fully-recovered may now use the Green Pass. It also shortened the period of vaccination validity from 9 months to 12.³⁵ People fully-vaccinated more than 9 months ago will now need a booster shot, which is now available (in Italy) 5 months after the second vaccination. Occupations for which immunization is mandatory have also been expanded to include teachers, police officers and military personnel.

Lithuania

The requirements for COVID-19 testing and self-isolation 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.³⁶

Malta

From [June 1, 2021](#), Malta activated a red, amber, green list for people wanting to enter the country.³⁷ 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.³⁸

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.³⁹

Vaccinated travelers from third countries may soon be subject to milder restrictions. However, since [September 6](#), those arriving from the U.S. have been required to quarantine for 10 days.⁴⁰

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 COVID-19 certificate (for EU/EEA countries linked to the EU-specific system).⁴¹ 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

³⁵ [Politico](#), Nov. 24, 2021

³⁶ [Vilnius](#), Apr. 28, 2021

³⁷ [Visit Malta](#), May. 6 2021

³⁸ [UK Gov.](#) Apr.29, 2021

³⁹ [Schengen Visa Info](#), July 27, 2021

⁴⁰ [Schengen Visa Info](#), Sept. 6, 2021

⁴¹ [Helse Norge](#), International travels

- AstraZeneca
- Janssen

Portugal

Portugal has been accepting the EU Digital COVID Certificate since [July 1, 2021](#) as a means of proving vaccination, COVID-19 recovery or a negative test result.⁴² Acceptable proof of full-vaccination enables travelers to mainland Portugal to avoid a 14 day quarantine.

The Portuguese government has expanded the use of the certificate to enable access to services and activities. It's required to eat inside restaurants on public holidays and weekends from 19:00 on Fridays, to use gyms and spas, to enter casinos and bingo halls, and to attend cultural, sporting, corporate and family events.⁴³

The EU Digital COVID Certificate is also required to check into a hotel and other tourist accommodation. Other health certificates, such as the U.K.'s NHS vaccination certificate are also accepted.⁴⁴

Romania

Authorities allow 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.⁴⁵

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.⁴⁶ In addition, from June 2021 Spain permitted U.K. travelers to visit the country to revive the tourism sector.⁴⁷

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.⁴⁸

Slovenia

Since [April 2021](#), Slovenian authorities have allowed travelers who have been fully vaccinated to enter the country without being subject to quarantine restrictions.⁴⁹ 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 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

⁴² [VisitPortugal](#), COVID-19 measures implemented

⁴³ [UK.Gov](#), Portugal

⁴⁴ [Government of Portugal](#), FAQs

⁴⁵ [Romania Embassy](#), May 07, 2021

⁴⁶ [Schengen Visa Info](#), Apr. 16, 2021

⁴⁷ [Schengen Visa Info](#), Apr. 28, 2021

⁴⁸ [Schengen Visa Info](#), Apr. 17, 2021

⁴⁹ [Schengen Visa Info](#), Apr. 28, 2021

Switzerland

To ease restrictions on travelers, Switzerland recognizes as valid proof of immunity against COVID-19 all vaccines approved by the European Medicines Agency (EMA) as well as those that are part of the World Health Organization (WHO) Emergency Use Listing.⁵⁰ The Swiss authorities recognize:

- BIBP Sinopharm
- Comirnaty (Pfizer/BioNTech)
- CoronaVac (Sinovac Life Sciences)
- Covishield (Serum Institute)
- Janssen (Johnson & Johnson)
- Spikevax (Moderna)
- Vaxzeria (AstraZeneca)

Vaccination certificates currently remain valid for 12 months. The EU Digital COVID-19 Certificate or other equivalent certificates are acceptable. Travelers from some countries (such as the U.K.) may only enter Switzerland with proof of full vaccination; other full-vaccinated travelers may be released from the requirement to quarantine for 10 days.⁵¹

Switzerland also issues its own COVID certificate, which documents vaccination, recovery from infection and COVID-19 test results. Like most certificates, the Swiss version uses a QR code and is available in paper form and via an app. The Swiss certificate is recognized by European Union (EU) and European Free Trade Area (EFTA) countries.

Within Switzerland, use of its vaccination passport is mandatory when attending large-scale events (1,000 or more people) and clubs where large numbers of people congregate in confined spaces.⁵² Its use was discretionary for smaller events, in bars and restaurants, trade and consumer fairs and to attend leisure, cultural and sports activities. However, from [September 13](#), it became mandatory for every person in Switzerland (including tourists) to hold a COVID-19 passport to order to visit cafes, restaurants and other similar establishments.⁵³ In a further complication, vaccination certificates from tourists vaccinated outside of the EU or EEA will not be accepted. Instead, these travelers will have to test for COVID-19 every three days. Rapid COVID-19 tests, previously free in Switzerland, have been charged for from [September 30](#). According to Switzerland Tourism (ST), travelers from third countries will need a COVID-19 certificate simply to enter the restaurant area of their hotel.

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.⁵⁴

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 show their COVID-19 vaccination status.⁵⁵ It will also allow them to provide COVID-19 tests results. Work is under way to ensure the app can be internationally recognized.

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, have been able to enter England without having to quarantine or take a test on day eight of their stay. But they will still have to take

⁵⁰ [Schengen Visa Info](#), July 29, 2021

⁵¹ [Gov.uk](#), Switzerland

⁵² [Federal Office of Public Health](#), COVID Certificate

⁵³ [Schengen Visa Info](#), Sept. 11, 2021

⁵⁴ [UK Government](#), July 8, 2021

⁵⁵ [Breaking Travel News](#), Apr. 28, 2021

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.

The U.K. Government has suspended plans to mandate vaccine passports to access certain hospitality services, ensuring that only fully-vaccinated people access nightclubs and other venues where large crowds gather. However, it retains the measure as a Plan B option for dealing with the pandemic during the winter.

Latin America

Argentina

Argentina opened its borders only to fully-vaccinated travelers from [November 1, 2021](#), but visitors will still have to comply with a number of conditions.⁵⁶ Travelers must provide proof of their vaccination status, be fully-vaccinated for at least two weeks before arrival and show a negative result from a PCR test taken in the 72 hours before departure. They must also take PCR tests on days five and seven after arrival, but they will not have to quarantine.

Barbados

From [May 8, 2021](#), vaccinated travelers have been able to substantially reduce their period of quarantine after arrival in Barbados.⁵⁷ 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.⁵⁸ Passengers must have completed a full vaccination process two weeks or more before travel and must bring a copy of their vaccination document.

Chile

Chile reopened its borders on [October 1, 2021](#), to fully-vaccinated international travelers.⁵⁹ However, they must still present a negative result from a COVID-19 test taken in the 72 hours before arrival, as well as quarantine for five days after landing, although no longer needs to be a government-mandated hotel or facility. Travelers must also buy travel insurance with a minimum coverage of US\$30,000, fill out a medical questionnaire, and stay in touch with authorities for the first 14 days of their visit.

Grenada

At the end of [November 2021](#), Grenada updated its visitor protocols. All travelers who have been fully-vaccinated with a WHO-approved vaccine, and who can present a negative PCR result from a test taken not more than 72 hours before travel, are no longer required to quarantine for 48 hours upon arrival.

⁵⁶ [The Independent](#), Sept. 23, 2021

⁵⁷ [BTN Europe](#), Apr. 15, 2021

⁵⁸ [Belize Tourism Board](#), Mar 17, 2021

⁵⁹ [The Independent](#), Sept. 23, 2021

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.⁶⁰

Puerto Rico

Since the end of [May 2021](#), fully-vaccinated visitors from the U.S. have no longer been required to take a COVID-19 test on arrival in Puerto Rico.⁶¹ 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.⁶² 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.⁶³ 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.⁶⁴ 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.⁶⁵ At a later date, individual travelers who have been vaccinated will also be allowed to visit Israel.

Kuwait

Since [June 27, 2021](#), only fully-vaccinated people have been able to enter restaurants and cafes, health clubs and large commercial spaces. From [September 1](#), as Kuwait allowed more activities to resume, only fully-vaccinated people have been able to access them.⁶⁶ From [August 1](#), unvaccinated citizens were only allowed in to pharmacies, consumer cooperative societies and food and catering outlets.

⁶⁰ [US Embassy](#), Feb.25, 2021

⁶¹ [Breaking Travel News](#), May 27, 2021

⁶² [Breaking Travel News](#), June 1, 2021

⁶³ [Twitter](#), May 23, 2021

⁶⁴ [Reuters](#), Apr. 13, 2021

⁶⁵ [Breaking Travel News](#), Apr. 14, 2021

⁶⁶ [Arab News](#), July 27, 2021

Since [August 1](#), non-citizens have been able to enter Kuwait if fully-vaccinated with COVID-19 vaccines approved by the Gulf state.⁶⁷ 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 have been able to leave Kuwait.

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.⁶⁸

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.⁶⁹ 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),⁷⁰ uploading vaccination certificates and COVID-19 test results and confirmation of a hotel booking to the *Ehteraz* website.⁷¹

Saudi Arabia

From the start of [August 2021](#), Saudi Arabian residents must be fully-vaccinated to enter all places, activities, events, government and private facilities, or use public transportation in all regions of the kingdom, according to the country's Ministry of Interior.⁷²

From [August 9](#), only fully-vaccinated citizens can travel abroad. Children, anyone having recovered from COVID-19 in the past six months, and citizens who've been infected with the virus and have received one dose of an approved vaccine (AstraZeneca, Johnson & Johnson, Moderna, Pfizer), may also travel. Health insurance, covering the treatment of COVID-19 while abroad, is also essential.

Foreign tourists have been able to enter Saudi Arabia since [August 1](#), but they must present a vaccination certificate and a negative result from a PCR test taken within 72 hours of departure.

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.⁷³

United Arab Emirates

Since [September 5](#), all vaccinated visitors have been able to travel quarantine-free to Abu Dhabi, although testing is still required.⁷⁴ Vaccines must be on the World Health Organization's (WHO) approved list. From [October 1, 2021](#), in order to gain entry to Dubai's Expo 2020, visitors aged over 18 years must present proof of any vaccination recognized by the national government or a negative result from a PCR test taken within the previous 72 hours.

⁶⁷ [Reuters](#), June 17, 2021

⁶⁸ [Gov.UK, Foreign & Commonwealth Office](#), June 4, 2021

⁶⁹ [Arabian Business](#), July 18, 2021

⁷⁰ Qatar Ministry of Public Health

⁷¹ [Breaking Travel News](#), July 14, 2021

⁷² [Arabian Business](#), August 1, 2021

⁷³ [Breaking Travel News](#), Apr. 23, 2021

⁷⁴ [Gov.UK](#), United Araba Emirates

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.⁷⁵

Canada

From [August 9, 2021](#), Canada reopened its borders to fully-vaccinated travelers arriving from the U.S. This was 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.

By the end of [October 2021](#), the Canadian government is expected to require all commercial air travelers to be vaccinated against COVID-19.⁷⁶ The requirement may also include rail passengers traveling between Canadian provinces and cruise ship passengers. Air, rail and marine transportation employees must also be vaccinated.

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.⁷⁷ They should have been fully vaccinated at least two weeks before their trip.

The U.S. eased restrictions on non-U.S. citizens arriving in the country from [November 8, 2021](#). Foreign citizens, who have been fully-vaccinated with a vaccine approved by the WHO or the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), may now enter the country. They must still present a negative result from a COVID-19 test conducted not more than three days before flight departure.⁷⁸

Southwest Pacific

Fiji

All airline passengers arriving in Fiji must be fully vaccinated, have a negative result from a PCR test taken within the 72 hours prior to boarding the flight, and complete an additional rapid test at their pre-booked resort or hotel upon arrival. Travelers may then commence their visit to Fiji quarantine free.

New Zealand

New Zealand will begin reopening its borders to international travelers early in [2022](#), but only to anyone who is fully-vaccinated.⁷⁹ Visitors will still have to self-isolate for a week after arrival, but they will no longer have to pass through managed isolation facilities.

From [January 17, 2022](#), New Zealanders will be able to travel home from Australia. Other nationalities will be able to arrive from Australia from [February 14](#). Arrivals from all other countries will be accepted from

⁷⁵ [Island of the Bahamas](#), Apr. 29, 2021

⁷⁶ [BTN](#), Aug. 13, 2021

⁷⁷ [BTN](#), Apr. 2, 2021

⁷⁸ Go.UK, US travel advice

⁷⁹ [Breaking Travel News](#), Nov. 24, 2021

the end of [April](#), as long as they are fully-vaccinated.

From [February 1, 2022](#), airline Air New Zealand will mandate COVID-19 vaccination for all passengers aged 18 years and older arriving or departing New Zealand on its international flights. Passengers who are not vaccinated will have to present proof that this was not possible for medical reasons.

Note

The information presented in this report represents the latest view as at November 25, 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.

Do you have questions or comments regarding this report?

Please email mike.eggleton@bcdtravel.co.uk to share your thoughts.