



Covid-19 Travel Restrictions

Marine Notice No. 16 of 2021

updated 1 December 2021

This Marine Notice is being issued on behalf of the Department of Health to inform industry of changes to travel restrictions in Ireland as set out in the [Health \(Amendment\) Act 2021](#).

Updated Travel Requirements

The advice against non-essential travel has been revised and the updated position with regard to international travel is set out in detail at www.gov.ie/travel. All passengers arriving to Ireland, including those arriving aboard leisure vessels should familiarise themselves with travel requirements that will come into effect from 3 December 2021 as set out below and summarised in the attached Annex. It is an offence not to follow the legal requirements below which may result in penalties up to and including fines of €6,000 and/or imprisonment.

Passenger Locator Form

As already communicated, any passenger arriving to Ireland must complete a passenger locator form (www.gov.ie/locatorform) online in advance of travel. Ferry companies are required to **deny boarding** to any passenger who does not produce an e-receipt from a completed Covid-19 Passenger Locator Form. This Form may be used by authorities to make follow-up contact with a person arriving from overseas to verify their location in the country. The form will also help contact tracers get in touch with passengers should someone who may have travelled on the same vessel subsequently test positive for Covid-19. This form should be presented to immigration officers on arrival in the State. Passengers arriving to Ireland outside of the major ports should retain evidence of having completed a form and must when requested, present it to a member of An Garda Síochána, an employee of the Health Service Executive (HSE) or an agent working on its behalf.

Health related information

From Friday 3rd December 2021, in addition to the passenger locator form, all passengers arriving to Ireland are legally obliged to have the following:

1. Evidence of a negative/not detected result from an antigen test up to 48 hours prior to arrival or evidence of a negative/not detected result from a RT-PCR test up to 72 hours prior to arrival.
2. If travelling on the basis of a negative antigen test taken up to 48 hours prior to arrival, a passenger must also have one of the following:
 - a) Evidence of having been fully vaccinated with an approved vaccine; or
 - b) Evidence of having recovered from Covid-19 in the previous six months*;

otherwise the passenger must have evidence of a RT-PCR test taken up to 72 hours prior to arrival.

*Note: Where a person has been subject to a RT-PCR test administered no less than 11 days and no more than 6 months prior to their arrival in the State and Covid-19 has been detected in the person at the time of taking the test, this will also be accepted, if proof of recovery as set out above cannot be secured.

Passengers arriving to Ireland outside of the major ports should retain evidence of having one of the above and must when requested, present it to a member of An Garda Síochána, an employee of the Health Service Executive or an agent working on its behalf.

Further information on new travel restrictions can be found here [gov.ie - New rules for travelling to Ireland \(www.gov.ie\)](https://www.gov.ie/en/news/2021/05/new-rules-for-travelling-to-ireland/)

Self-quarantine

Passengers arriving to Ireland, who have not been in or transited through a [scheduled state](#) in the 14 days prior to their arrival and are in possession of evidence of a negative/not detected result from a RT-PCR test up to 72 hours prior to arrival or a negative antigen test taken up to 48 hours prior to arrival if they also have evidence of vaccination or recovery, are not subject to any quarantine requirements.

Children aged 11 and under are not required to undergo pre-departure testing. Children aged 12-17 are treated the same as adults and must have evidence of a negative/not detected result from a RT-PCR test up to 72 hours prior to arrival or alternatively they may present a negative antigen test taken up to 48 hours prior to arrival if they also have evidence of vaccination or recovery.

Exemptions

There are limited [exemptions](#) to these travel requirements which include international transport workers who hold an Annex 3 Certificate, aviation and maritime crews and drivers of heavy goods vehicles. **However, a maritime crew member who has been in one of the [scheduled states](#) in the 14 days prior to their arrival in Ireland must have evidence of a negative/not detected result from an RT-PCR test taken 72 hours prior to their arrival or present a negative result from an antigen test where they also have evidence of vaccination or recovery from Covid-19. Post arrival quarantine arrangements do not apply to maritime crew.** Testing requirements **do not** apply to maritime crew who have not been in one of the scheduled state in the 14 days prior to their arrival in Ireland.

All international transport workers, including maritime crew are advised to carry an Annex 3 Certificate in order to avoid any delays at border crossings. Maritime crew are considered to be in the course of their work until they reach their home, having completed their duties on board. In addition, it is recommended that seafarers leaving a ship abroad to return to Ireland, are in possession of their seafarer's discharge book that has been appropriately signed off by the ship as proof they have just completed their time aboard a vessel and are returning immediately home.

These exemptions also extend to seafarers who arrive in the State in order to join a vessel. In such circumstances, it is recommended that seafarers arriving to Ireland to join a ship have in their possession evidence such as joining instructions from their employer or crewing agency as well as an Annex 3 Certificate. **We strongly advise that seafarers should join the vessel**

directly on arrival in Ireland. However, if for any reason a seafarer cannot join the vessel directly, they should quarantine (self-isolate) until such time as they are able to join the vessel. Further information in relation to self-isolation is available here [hse.ie/self-isolation](https://www.hse.ie/self-isolation).

An international transport worker is a person who holds a valid Annex 3 Certificate in accordance with the Communication from the EU Commission on the implementation of the Green Lanes under the guidance for border management measures to protect health and ensure the availability of goods and ensure services. These Certificates may be issued by employers to their employees, who are necessary for the safe operation of their vessel. A copy of the Annex 3 certificate can be found on the final page of the document here – [Annex 3](#). For ease of reference, the link to the EU Practical Handbook for Border Guards is also included here: [Annex 3 for land borders](#)

Owners/Operators of international ferries serving Ireland, are legally required to inform passengers of their obligations in relation to travel restrictions currently in place in Ireland.

Queries in relation to this Marine Notice can be addressed to maritimecovid@transport.gov.ie but the [maritime frequently asked questions](#) should be consulted in the first instance.

Enclosures: Annex – Summary of travel requirements

Irish Maritime Administration on behalf of the Department of Health
Department of Transport, Leeson Lane, Dublin 2, D02 TR60, Ireland.

1 December 2021

Annex – Summary of Travel Requirements

From Friday 3 December 2021 all passengers arriving to Ireland are required to have evidence of having taken a Covid-19 test prior to arrival in the State. This requirement includes maritime crew who have been in a [scheduled state](#) in the 14 days prior to their arrival in Ireland. The type of test depends on the vaccination/recovery status of the passenger as follows:

Your status	Antigen test	RT-PCR test*
Vaccinated or recovered	Negative test no more than 48 hours before you arrive	Negative test no more than 72 hours before you arrive
Not vaccinated or recovered	Not valid	Negative test no more than 72 hours before you arrive

*Where a person has been subject to a RT-PCR test administered no less than 11 days and no more than 6 months prior to their arrival in the State and Covid-19 has been detected in the person at the time of taking the test, this will also be accepted, if proof of recovery as set out at above cannot be secured.

Notes:

1. Vaccinated means fully vaccinated with an EMA approved vaccine as follows:
 - 7 days after the second dose of the Pfizer vaccine (Comirnaty);
 - 14 days after the second dose of Moderna vaccine (Spikevax);
 - 15 days after the second dose of AstraZeneca vaccine (Vaxzevria);
 - 14 days after the single dose of Janssen vaccine;
 - 14 days after the second dose of Coronavac (Sinovac)
 - 14 days after the second dose of Sinopharm BIBP
- Further information is available here: [gov.ie - New rules for travelling to Ireland \(www.gov.ie\)](http://www.gov.ie)
2. Passengers with evidence of recovery in the past 6 months will be treated the same as fully vaccinated passengers **provided that** they can provide robust evidence in the form of a **state issued Recovery Certificate or agreed equivalent**. The EU Digital Covid Certificate for recovery meets this criteria.
3. Passengers who visited a [scheduled state](#) in the 14 days prior to their arrival in the State are subject to quarantine measures. Maritime crew are exempt from post arrival quarantine measures.
4. Passengers with no valid documentation/expired documentation/antigen test only, will be denied boarding.
5. Regardless of where a passenger sails into and whether aboard a commercial or private vessel, all evidence of Covid-19 test, health status and the e-receipt from a passenger locator form should be retained for the duration of their stay and presented to an immigration officer, a member of An Garda Síochána, an employee of the Health Service Executive or an agent working on their behalf when requested to do so.