



### **Note No. 527/21**

The Department of Foreign Affairs, Protocol, presents its compliments to all Heads of Mission and has the honour to refer to the ongoing measures being taken by the Government of Ireland to address the COVID-19 public health pandemic as well as Notes issued previously by the Department on this subject.

#### **International Travel From Ireland**

The Department wishes to inform Missions of the recent Government announcement that from Monday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2021, new advice and rules on international travel come in to effect. The Department further wishes to remind Missions of the Government advice that international travel continues to carry an element of risk and that public health measures and requirements in place are subject to change at short notice on the expert advice of public health officials. The Government has issued public health advice to persons who are not vaccinated that they should continue to avoid high-risk activities, including international travel.

Persons undertaking international travel from Ireland should check the requirements and public health measures in place at their destination prior to travel. Country specific advice on measures in place is available on [Re-open EU](#) and the [Department of Foreign Affairs](#) website.

#### **EU Digital COVID Certificate**

With reference to Note 493/21 issued 9th July 2021, the Department wishes to inform Missions that the EU Digital COVID Certificate (EU DCC) will be operational in Ireland from 19<sup>th</sup> July 2021. The certificate is not a pre-requisite for travelling but will make it easier to travel safely across EU/EEA and will serve as valid proof of vaccination, recovery from COVID-19 or that a persons has had a negative test. Persons with the EU DCC must still adhere to the restrictions in place in their destination country.



The Department wishes to advise that certificates based on vaccination are now in the process of being issued. For urgent and emergency cases where a person has not received their certificate in the coming weeks or where a person needs to request a certificate based on recovery they can call the EU DCC Helpline which is open Monday – Friday on **1800 851 504** or **1800 807 008**.

### **Travel to Ireland from EU Member States, Iceland, Lichtenstein, Norway and Switzerland**

From 19<sup>th</sup> July 2021, it is possible to travel to Ireland from EU Member States, Iceland, Lichtenstein, Norway and Switzerland with no requirement to quarantine or to have travel-related testing if persons have proof of one of the following:

- Being fully vaccinated with an EMA approved vaccine with recommended number of days after the final dose.
- Having recovered from COVID-19 in the last 180 days

Persons who do not have valid proof of being fully vaccinated or of being recovered must have had a negative RT-PCR test taken within 72 hours prior to arrival to Ireland. The EU DCC will also be accepted as proof of vaccination, recovery or negative test.

### **Travel to Ireland from Other Countries**

For passengers travelling from countries outside of the EU, Iceland, Lichtenstein, Norway and Switzerland the following measures will apply. Please note that this also applies to persons travelling from Great Britain.

To protect its citizens against importation of variants of COVID-19, an ‘emergency brake’ mechanism will be coordinated at EU level to react swiftly to the emergence of a variant of concern or variant of interest. Government advice will be to avoid travel to a country where the emergency brake has been applied.



***Journeys originating from countries where Emergency Break is not applied***

For persons who have valid proof of vaccination or valid proof that they have recovered from COVID-19 in the last 180 days, no travel related testing or quarantining upon arrival to Ireland will be necessary.

Persons who do not have proof of vaccination or recovery may also travel to Ireland but must comply with the following measures

- present evidence of a negative RT-PCR pre-departure test taken within 72 hours prior to arrival in Ireland
- Self-quarantine for a period of 14 days.
- This quarantine period can be reduced if they received a second negative or ‘not detected’ result taken from a RT-PCR test taken after a minimum of 5 days after arrival in Ireland. Persons are permitted to temporarily leave their place of quarantine for the purposes of and only as strictly as long as required to take this test.

Please note post-arrival testing can be booked free of charge via the Government testing platform: [www.gov.ie/test](http://www.gov.ie/test)

***Journeys originating from countries where Emergency Break is applied***

For persons who have valid proof of vaccination or valid proof that they have recovered from COVID-19 in the last 180 days they must:

- present evidence of a negative RT-PCR pre-departure test taken within 72 hours prior to arrival in Ireland
- Self-quarantine for a period of 14 days.
- This quarantine period can be reduced if they received a second negative or ‘not detected’ result taken from a RT-PCR test taken after a minimum of 5 days after arrival in Ireland. Persons are permitted to temporarily leave their place of



quarantine for the purposes of and only as strictly as long as required to take this test.

For persons who **do not have valid proof of vaccination or recovery** they must:

- Present evidence of a negative RT-PCR pre-departure test taken within 72 hours prior to arrival in Ireland
- **Undergo mandatory hotel quarantine**
- When a negative result from a RT-PCR test taken from day 10 onwards after arrival into Ireland is received the person can leave quarantine.

### **Passenger Locator Form**

All passengers travelling to Ireland unless otherwise exempt are continued to be required by law to complete the Passenger Locator Form. With reference to Note 493/21 issued 9<sup>th</sup> July 2021, this form must be completed online only. Further guidance and access to the online form can be found on the Government of Ireland website here: <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/ab900-covid-19-passenger-locator-form/>

### **Children Aged Between 12 and 17 Travelling to Ireland**

From 19<sup>th</sup> July, children between the ages of 12 and 17 will be required to have a negative RT-PCR test taken within 72 hours prior to arrival into the country, unless they have valid proof of vaccination or recovery. Children of any age, travelling with accompanying vaccinated or recovered adults will not be required to self-quarantine post arrival. However, where one accompanying adult needs to self-quarantine, then all children must also self-quarantine.

### **Update to the list of Designated States**

The Department wishes to remind Missions that all persons arriving into Ireland who have travelled from or via a state in the 14 days prior to arrival in Ireland must also pre-book and pre-pay for a place in a designated facility for mandatory hotel quarantine.



The Department wishes to advise Missions that the Minister for Health has announced updates to the list of designated countries and territories and that **Cuba** will be added to the list of Designated States for which Mandatory Hotel Quarantine is required with effect from 04.00 am Tuesday, 20 July.

The Department has the honour to inform Missions that with immediate effect from the 16<sup>th</sup> July the following countries have been removed from the list of Designated States by the Department of Health; **Afghanistan, Angola, Bahrain, Burundi, Cape Verde, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, French Guiana, Guyana, Haiti, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Malawi, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, Oman, Panama The Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Sri Lanka, Somalia, Sudan, Tanzania, Turkey, The United Arab Emirates, Venezuela and Zambia.**

The gov.ie website has been updated and the revised list of designated countries and territories is available here: [gov.ie - Designated States and exemptions to PCR/MHQ rules \(www.gov.ie\)](http://www.gov.ie)

The current list of Designated States is:

#### **Africa**

- Botswana
- Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Eswatini
- Mozambique
- Namibia
- Seychelles
- South Africa
- Tunisia
- Uganda
- Zimbabwe

#### **Asia**

- Bangladesh
- India
- Indonesia
- Kuwait
- Myanmar
- Pakistan

#### **Europe**

- Russia

#### **Americas**

- Argentina
- Bolivia
- Brazil
- Chile
- Colombia
- **Cuba\***
- Paraguay
- Peru
- Suriname
- Trinidad and Tobago
- Uruguay



The Department continues to request that Missions monitor relevant Government websites for the most up-to-date requirements at time of travel, in particular: [gov.ie](http://www.gov.ie) - [Travelling to Ireland during the COVID-19 pandemic \(www.gov.ie\)](http://www.gov.ie). The Department would be grateful if Missions could ensure that the updates on travelling to Ireland during the COVID-19 pandemic, as outlined at the above website, are reflected in their travel advice and disseminated to members of their communities.

The Department continues to appreciate sincerely the solidarity of the Diplomatic Corps at this time. Missions are requested to contact Protocol at [protocol@dfa.ie](mailto:protocol@dfa.ie) with any queries arising in relation to these measures.

The Department of Foreign Affairs, Protocol, avails itself of this opportunity to renew to all Heads of Mission the assurance of its highest consideration.

Dublin, 20<sup>th</sup> July 2021

To All Heads of Mission