



**Directorate of health**  
Chief Epidemiologist for Iceland



## Information for travellers to Iceland 14 August 2020

Iceland's borders have remained open to other EU and Schengen states throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Travellers have to pre-register on [covid.is](https://www.covid.is). Those arriving from [high-risk areas](#) for COVID-19 need to choose between 2 tests after arrival or quarantine for 14 days. If testing is chosen, the 1st test is at the border but the 2nd test 5 days later at a primary care centre. In between the 2 tests rules of [quarantine](#) need to be followed.

- Passengers fill out a pre-registration form on [covid.is](https://www.covid.is) before arrival
- Passenger choose to undergo screening for COVID-19 after arrival or else stay in quarantine for 14 days. Screening involves 2 tests and quarantine for 5-6 days in between.
- Passengers, crew and staff wear facemasks at the airport and on international flights.
- Attention to hygiene and basic infection control is required and physical distancing should be respected
- Passengers are encouraged to download and use the app Rakning C-19
- While awaiting test results travellers stay at their residence and adhere to rules of quarantine.
- More details on these items and other information can be found below and on [covid.is](https://www.covid.is).

### Before departure

Passengers are required to fill out a [pre-registration form](#) before departure to Iceland, with their personal details, contact information, type of transport, travel dates and address(es) during their stay in Iceland. The form also includes a declaration of health and passengers are required to provide information on where they are travelling from, whether they have any symptoms of COVID-19, whether they have been diagnosed with COVID-19 before their arrival, or if they have been in close contact with an infected individual. Children born 2005 and later are exempted from pre-registration, testing and quarantine. The form contains information on other exemptions.

Passengers are also encouraged to download and use the COVID-19 app *Rakning C-19*. The app contains important information on COVID-19 and how to contact the health care service in Iceland.

### Health safety of air travellers, aviation personnel, ports and ships

Updated guidelines for health safety measures are in line with EASA and ECDC's COVID-19 Aviation Health Safety Protocol Operational Guidelines. Passengers will be required to abide by the guidelines regarding infection control, physical distancing and use of facemasks during flights and at the airport. Guidelines are available for ports and ships. This information is available on [www.covid.is](https://www.covid.is).

## Health safety control measures at the border

Iceland's borders are open to other EU and Schengen states. Passengers need to obtain information on the conditions for entry into Iceland at [the Directorate of Immigration](#). Passengers can choose a [PCR-test](#) for COVID-19 on arrival or to self-quarantine for 14 days (or during their stay if that is shorter). Children born in 2005 or later are exempt from these measures, as well as those who have stayed outside of [high-risk areas](#) for 14 days prior to arrival and flight and freight ship crews who are residents in Iceland.

At this time, the Icelandic health authorities cannot accept proof of test results or certificates from other countries. Those with a previously confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19 in Iceland or confirmed antibodies measured in Iceland are exempt from quarantine upon their return from travel abroad. Certificates of previous infection can be obtained from the Directorate of Health (email: [mottaka@landlaeknir.is](mailto:mottaka@landlaeknir.is)). Certificates of antibody testing by DeCode can be found on [www.heilsuvera.is](http://www.heilsuvera.is) (need electronic ID). Other antibody certificates need to be obtained from a doctor. These certificates can be presented at the border.

## Points of entry

Testing will be available at Keflavik airport. Passengers arriving in other international airports (Reykjavik, Akureyri, Egilsstadir) or ports will be tested either at the airport/port, at the local healthcare centre or a designated facility for border screening. The pre-registration process will facilitate testing and shorten wait times for passengers.

## Testing at the border

PCR testing is done upon arrival and passengers will be charged ISK 9 000 for a single test at pre-registration but ISK 11 000 if paid on arrival although no more than ISK 22 000 every 30 days for each individual. Testing at the border should take less than an hour. Following the test, passengers should travel directly to their registered address (provided in their [pre-registration form](#)) and adhere to rules of quarantine. The 2<sup>nd</sup> test is 5 days later and if negative then quarantine is lifted. A positive test requires isolation and further testing.

## While waiting for test results

Passengers need to self-quarantine until they receive their results from the 2<sup>nd</sup> test. Do not use public transport to get to your destination (use private care, rent-a-car or taxi) and then stay at your residence. Wash your hands and/or use of hand sanitizer regularly, avoid touching common surfaces, avoid touching your face (eyes, mouth and nose) with unwashed hands, and respect physical distancing (stay 2 meters/6 feet from others).

## The 2nd test and quarantine

All travellers from high-risk areas need to quarantine between the 2 tests. Here is a [list of centres](#) that perform the 2nd test. Note variable hours of operation and some centres require an appointment to be made. If the 5th day is on a weekend the 2nd test might need to be postponed for a day, if outside the Reykjavik area and quarantine is then prolonged.

## Reporting of test results

Passengers can expect to receive their test results within 24 hours. Passengers who test positive will receive a phone call notifying them. If you are not contacted in 24 hours you test is negative. Negative results are also sent through the app (Rakning C-19), or through text message. To ensure you receive your test results, all passengers are required to provide reliable contact information on their pre-registration forms and have a functioning phone. This applies to results of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> test.

### **In the event of a positive test result**

If you test positive, the health care service evaluates you and offers further testing such as antibody testing to determine whether it is an active infection. In the case of an active infection, you must self-isolate. Foreign nationals who are required to self-isolate and do not have access to a suitable location where they can isolate will be given accommodation at a specialised isolation centre at no cost to them. Infected individuals must provide information to the contact tracing team on who they have come in close contact with during two days prior to the onset of their symptoms. Further information on isolation requirements are here: <https://www.covid.is/categories/how-does-isolation-work>.

### **Requirements for a two-week quarantine**

All information on requirements for quarantine is available at <https://www.covid.is/categories/how-does-quarantine-work> Please note that violations of quarantine or isolation requirements are subject to fines or enforcement action from the relevant authorities to ensure compliance.

### **In the event of an obligatory self-quarantine**

A negative test result does not guarantee that an individual will not later be required to self-quarantine if they have been exposed to infection, e.g. on the flight to Iceland.

The contact tracing team interviews those who have been in close contact with a confirmed active case during two days prior to the onset of symptoms, e.g. been within 2 meters of an individual for more than 15 minutes, or those who have sat close to an [infected individual on an airplane](#). They might be required to self-quarantine for two weeks from the time of last contact.

### **In case of diagnosis**

Medical examination, treatment or medical supervision of notifiable diseases, including COVID-19, is of no cost to the patient. This does not apply to an elective PCR-test for the diagnosis of COVID-19.

### **During the stay**

All travellers are encouraged to take precautionary measures to protect themselves and others, such as with frequent handwashing, use of disinfectants, and to follow health safety regulations in place. All travellers are encouraged to maintain a distance of 2 meters from others as much as possible. Social distancing is an important part of preventive measures.

PCR tests do not absolutely rule out COVID-19 infections in asymptomatic individuals. Travellers are encouraged to download and use the COVID-19 app *Rakning C-19*. The app contains important information on COVID-19 and how to contact the health care service. Travellers are encouraged to follow information on the official COVID-19 information portal [www.covid.is](http://www.covid.is), which has the most up to date information and important announcements in several languages for tourists.

Tourists are encouraged to monitor their health. Those who become ill or think they may have symptoms of COVID-19 can contact the health care helpline through the app *Rakning C-19*, at [www.covid.is](http://www.covid.is), through the national health portal [Heilsuvera](http://Heilsuvera), or by dialling 1700 (+354 544 4113 if calling from a foreign phone number). In case of emergency call 112.