



Exemption from quarantine requirement for ship crews in Iceland

An exemption from the general quarantine requirement for residents in Iceland has been granted to crews on merchant ships engaged in regular scheduled voyages between COVID-19 risk areas and Iceland according to the following criteria:

1. Crews based in Iceland or residing in Iceland have travelled only for work and have, while travelling, followed employer or chief epidemiologist instructions for infection prevention, which may be considered equivalent to protective quarantine measures, and who have not spent more than 24 hours off the ship in a risk area.
2. Crew members residing in Iceland and are active in Icelandic society will not mingle with crew members residing in risk areas when not serving on board a ship.
 - Note: if the **same individuals** works together as crew members for 14 days or longer before crew members residing in Iceland join the crew returning home AND no illness occurs within the group during those 2 weeks, the exemption is upheld, despite the different background risk at the start of the work-period.
3. Crew members who are exposed to infection despite precautions recommended by the employer, whether within the family, circle of friends or at work, are not subject to this exemption and must fully observe the rules for quarantine issued by the chief epidemiologist.

Please note that the requirement for quarantine in Iceland is lifted for those who were diagnosed with confirmed infection in Iceland, despite any requirements while working abroad. A confirmation of this can be obtained on an individual basis from mottaka@landlaeknir.is.

Exemption does **not apply**:

1. To crews with their main operating base abroad who call in Icelandic ports for a short time to load or unload cargo, take on provisions or for crew changes.
2. If new crew members who have been in risk areas have joined the crew within 14 days of arrival in Iceland.

In the circumstances described in the previous two points, crews must follow instructions provided by the Icelandic Coast Guard's Maritime Traffic Centre during the pandemic.

3. In case of illness on board the vessel within 14 days prior to arrival in Iceland, or illness is on board upon arrival in Iceland.

In those circumstances, [the instructions for ports and vessels](#) for COVID-19 infection shall be observed.

The Chief Epidemiologist for Iceland