

Inhoud

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OVERVIEW TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS TO AND FROM BELGIUM

1. Overview of countries per colour code and the specific restrictions

1.1 EU+/Schengen Zone and EU White List

[Belgium follows the ECDC colour codes. Here's the link to the map and to Reopen.eu for news on restrictions.](#)

[More details about the exact colour of regions can be found here.](#)

Fully vaccinated or recovered travellers can travel freely from one country to another, regardless of the colour code.

This applies to:

The 27 EU member states and Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Andorra, Vatican, San Marino, Monaco.

[Check their colour code here.](#) The same measures apply to the countries on the EU White List:

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GREEN	ORANGE	RED
Australia New Zealand Ukraine Singapore South Korea Hongkong Macau Taiwan Bosnia and Herzegovina Canada Moldova Saudi Arabia	Albania Japan Serbia Armenia Brunei Darussalam Jordan Qatar	Libanon Republic of North Macedonia Azerbaijan Kosovo United States of America Israel Montengro

Travel from any of these countries to Belgium is allowed! The measures below apply to every traveller from 12 years on.

Passenger Locator Form:

- ALWAYS when you travel by boat, plane
- ALWAYS when you have your own transportation, travel by bus or train AND you stay more than 48hrs

From a GREEN/ORANGE zone:

- no test or quarantine

From a RED zone to Belgium:

- if you're vaccinated or have proof of recovery, no test or quarantine, if your certificate is accepted by the Belgian authorities. Check below for details.
- If no vaccination or recovery, PCR test max. 72hrs before arrival.
- If you travel from a green/orange zone but you've been in a red zone in the 14 days before your arrival in Belgium, you need to follow the rules for the red zone.

NEW: vaccination certificates from the countries on the White List are accepted by the Belgian authorities under a few strict conditions.

To travel to Belgium, a traveller needs

- The Digital EU COVID Certificate from one of the EU countries
- OR the certificate of countries with which Belgium has a bilateral agreement (Wales, England, Northern Ireland for now) or for which the EU considers the certificate equivalent (Turkey, North Macedonia, Ukraine)
- OR the vaccination certificate issued by a country that is not part of the EU if and only if it contains at least the following information:
 - o It's in EN/FR/DE or NL!!
 - o Data to identify the person who was vaccinated: name, date of birth and or ID number
 - o Data to attest all the doses of the vaccine were administered at least 14 days earlier, following the instructions of that particular vaccine.
 - o The name of the vaccine. Only Pfizer, Moderna, AstraZeneca-Vaxzeria-Covishield, Johnson are allowed.
 - o The brand name and the name of the manufacturer or commercial licence holder of the vaccine.
 - o The date of the administration of the vaccine.
 - o The country in which the vaccine was administered
 - o The issuer of the vaccination with their signature, stamp, or digitally readable unique certificate identification code

1.2 All other countries are considered RED zone

Passenger Locator Form:

- ALWAYS when you travel by boat, plane
- ALWAYS when you have your own transportation, travel by bus or train AND you stay more than 48hrs

Fully vaccinated travellers: ALL travel is allowed

- Test PCR on the day of arrival or the second day.
- Mandatory quarantine until the negative result of the test

Their vaccination certificate needs to fulfil the following conditions (same as above):

- It's in EN/FR/DE or NL!!
- Data to identify the person who was vaccinated: name, date of birth and or ID number
- Data to attest all the doses of the vaccine were administered at least 14 days earlier, following the instructions of that particular vaccine.
- The name of the vaccine. Only Pfizer, Moderna, AstraZeneca-Vaxzeria-Covishield, Johnson are allowed.
- The brand name and the name of the manufacturer or commercial licence holder of the vaccine.
- The date of the administration of the vaccine.
- The country in which the vaccine was administered
- The issuer of the vaccination with their signature, stamp, or digitally readable unique certificate identification code

Non-vaccinated travellers: only essential travel is allowed

- PCR test max. 72hrs before arrival
- Mandatory quarantine for 10 days
- PCR test on day 1 and day 7.
- If the test is negative on day 7, the quarantine may be shortened

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Proof of essential travel:

- Official documentation => a letter from VISITFLANDERS. [You can use our drafts.](#)
- A certificate by the Belgian consulate => better avoid this solution

The quarantine can be lifted partially during the official program of a journalist, jury member, chef, ...
More info below.

The border with China is still closed.

1.3 Exemptions to the measures for travellers coming from a RED zone

- Children under 12
- When they travel by their own means of transportation (car, bike...) and the stay is less than 48hrs

2. Information for international travellers

2.1 How can international travellers get a PCR test in Belgium?

<https://www.info-coronavirus.be/en/testing/>

Travellers may need a PCR test on arrival or to travel back to their home country, to continue their journey to another country. As they don't have a Belgian identity number or a Belgian general practitioner (huisarts), many test centres can't accommodate them.

These are the test facilities which can register foreign travellers:

- Brussels:
 - o Midi Station (open every day from 9:30 to 23:30), it's in a bus at the main entrance of the station, testing goes quickly and results take often around 6hrs (officially it's 24...)
 - o [Brussels Airport](#)
 - o [Testing facilities located in Brussels](#): Pacheco (city centre), Molenbeek, Albert, Merode, Schaarbeek, Anderlecht
- Antwerpen: Wilrijkse Plein/Antwerpen Expo: <https://antwerpen.testcovid.be/>
- Gent: University hospital (UZ)
- Brugge: Testcentrum Daverlo, Dries 2, open 7/7 between 9-12.30 and 13-17. Before taking the test, you need to create a 'CTCP' code via the website [Mijngesondheid.belgie.be](https://mijngesondheid.belgie.be). Cost 55€, to be paid in the center. Results in 24hrs max via app [CovidSafeBE](#). You need the CTCP code and your phone number for the results. No ID will be required.
- Charleroi Airport <https://www.brussels-charleroi-airport.com/en/news/COVID-19-test-center>
- Private laboratories in any city, mostly by appointment

The PCR test costs minimum 47EUR and needs to be paid on the spot. It's not a fixed price so it can be higher and especially private laboratories ask a higher fee. In Brussels, you get your test result most often within 12hrs, but officially, it can take up to 48hrs.

Important: when a traveller takes a test during their stay in Belgium, e.g. before re-entry in their country, and that test is positive, they have to self-isolate IMMEDIATELY in Belgium. They can't leave the country and train/bus/airline companies can't allow them to travel. This means they have to stay 7 to 10 days extra and take extra tests. How to self-isolate? <https://www.info-coronavirus.be/en/quarantine-isolation/>

Travellers from the European Union should be advised to bring proof of their European social security in case they need to get a doctor's appointment or go to the hospital.

2.2 The Digital Corona Certificate is required for (big) events

To be allowed access to certain events, you need to show your EU Digital Certificate or your certificate as recognized by the Belgian authorities. In Belgium, we call this certificate the 'Covid Safe Ticket' but it's the same thing.

The following certificates are allowed:

- The Digital EU COVID certificate issued by an EU member state
- The Covid certificates of San Marino, Monaco, Vatican, Andorra, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

Visitors who don't have one of the above certificates can get a PCR test (validity 48hrs) or a Rapid Antigenic Test (validity 24hrs). A lot of events have organized their own RAT center at the entrance of the venue.

Example: A RAT taken on Thursday is valid for Thursday AND Friday. In that case, the visitor will get a bracelet or another visible sign certifying they had a test.

When tests are taken outside of the event's organization, it's a little more complicated. They can get a Covid Safe Ticket as well if

- They first make a CTPC code via the page <https://www.myhealth.belgium.be/#/covid-19/prescriptions/request>
- They get the test, with or without an appointment, depending on the center
- When they get their result, they'll be able to get their certificate in the app CovidSafe.be or via myhealth.belgium.be

The hosts at the bus at Brussels Midi Station confirmed they make a CTPC code for anyone who presents themselves. Other test centers may do it as well.

When you go to these events, there is no social distance and mask required once you're inside. At the entrance, you still need to respect the covid measures.

The federal government has decided that smaller events will be able to use the certificate so they can skip masks and distancing.

2.3 Exemptions of quarantine for professional travellers under strict conditions

In specific cases, travellers from RED zones who don't have a valid Covid Certificate can be partially exempted of quarantine. It's the case for our journalists, bloggers, chefs, jury members etc. If they come to Belgium for a specific event, we can provide them with a letter proving the essential character of their trip.

With this letter, these people can travel to Belgium. They will have to show it at border control. On their PLF, they need to tick the box for essential travel.

In this case, and only in this case, our guest will be able to attend their program (and event) in Belgium. However, they're only partially exempted! As soon as their official program is over, they have to quarantine in their hotel. So it's important to include meals etc in the program.

3. Specific requirements per country

3.1 Netherlands: Dutch visitors arriving in BE and returning to the Netherlands

This handy app contains all the information for Dutch travellers:

<https://app.nos.nl/op3/vakantieplanner/#/?land=belgi%C3%AB>

From August 8 on, all travellers to the Netherlands will need to have a valid EU Digital Covid Certificate.

3.2 Germany

All travellers to Germany need to have a EU Digital Covid Certificate.

3.3 France

All travellers to France need to have a EU Digital Covid Certificate.

3.4 Spain

All travellers to Spain need to have a EU Digital Covid Certificate.

3.5 Italy

All travellers to Italy need to have a EU Digital Covid Certificate. Beware, in case of a PCR or antigenic test, the test needs to be taken maximum 48hrs before arrival.

3.6 United Kingdom (no longer EU zone) = RED zone

All travellers need

- A EU Digital Covid Certificate as proof of sufficient vaccination and pre book a test to take on day 2 of arrival
- If no sufficient vaccination, take a PCR test max. 72hrs before arrival, pre book 2 PCR tests, mandatory 10-day quarantine

3.7 United States of America = RED zone on the EU Council WHITE list

Only US citizens and permanent US residents are allowed to travel to the US from Belgium, the rest of the EU or the UK.

To re-enter the USA, all travellers need to have a negative PCR test (max. 72 hrs before departure) or proof of recovery (max. 90 days following recovery). When fully vaccinated, they still need the PCR test. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/testing-international-air-travelers.html>

3.8 Other non EU countries

Check the national resources as the restrictions are changing quickly. I can help you to find more information

4. Current measures in Belgium => a lot of measures that limited capacity of groups, events, ... will be lifted as of September. Will update the list below! Brussels region decided to not loosen the restrictions because of the sanitary situation and will re-evaluate in October. More info on www.info-coronavirus.be

- As of September 1, most restrictions on private and public gatherings are lifted. Weddings, sport sessions etc can take place without taking extra measures (distance, masks...)
- The curfew for restaurants and bars is lifted.
- Nightclubs will open on October 1st and dancing in bars will be allowed again.
- Events:
 - o 200 people indoors, 400 outdoors: no restrictions (masks, distance)
 - o More than 200 indoors and 400 outdoor: restrictions are lifted if they use the EU Digital Certificate (CovidSafe)
 - o From October 1: events up to 500 indoor and 750 outdoor will be allowed without restrictions
- Masks and distancing:
 - o Still mandatory in public transport, railway/bus/metro/tramway stations, shops and malls, conference venues, trade fairs, auditoria, places of worship, court houses, libraries and during protest marches, in busy shopping streets and at markets.

Brussels will not apply all the measures and will re-evaluate at the beginning of October.