Australian Government

Department of Home Affairs

Australia's Border arrangements: 7 March 2022

Travel restrictions to Australia change regularly and sometimes on short notice. The websites in this document are updated as soon as possible after any changes are announced, and therefore should remain your key reference point for any information about travel to Australia.

*This document is a point in time summary of the key webpages as they stand at **7 March 2022**. Please refer to the webpages for the most current information. Should further changes be announced, this static document will no longer be accurate.*

Travel exemptions

Travel to Australia is only available if an individual is automatically exempt from Australia's COVID-19 border restrictions or has been granted an individual travel exemption.

Some travellers are automatically exempt from Australia's border restrictions and do not need to apply for an individual travel exemption. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Australian citizens, Australian permanent residents and New Zealand citizens usually resident in Australia; and
- Visa holders who are fully vaccinated for international travel purposes (including visa holders who have proof they cannot be vaccinated for medical reasons).

A full list of travellers who are automatically exempt from border restrictions is available at: https://covid19.homeaffairs.gov.au/travel-restrictions.

Travellers who are not automatically exempt must apply for a travel exemption. More information about applying for a travel exemption is available at: https://covid19.homeaffairs.gov.au/travel-restrictions.

Vaccination Status

Vaccination status impacts whether or not a visa holder is automatically exempt from Australia's incoming travel restrictions. For example, unless they are in an exempt category, temporary visa holders who do not meet Australia's vaccination requirements are not automatically exempt from incoming travel restrictions.

Individuals are considered fully vaccinated for travel to Australia if they have completed a primary course of a COVID-19 vaccine approved or recognised by the Therapeutic Goods Administration. At least 7 days must have passed since the final dose. Booster vaccinations are not required to enter Australia, but are recommended.

Travellers to Australia must declare their vaccination status to enter Australia and must be able to provide appropriate supporting evidence. They will need to present this information at check-in for their flight to Australia.

The following groups can also access the same arrangements as fully vaccinated travellers, noting each state and territory may set their own entry and quarantine requirements:

- Children under the age of 12;
- Children aged 12-17 who are travelling with at least one adult who is fully vaccinated for international travel purposes; and
- People who have acceptable proof that they cannot be vaccinated for medical reasons (medical contraindication to COVID-19 vaccines).

For more information about Australia's border entry vaccination requirements see: Vaccinated travellers | COVID-19 and the border (homeaffairs.gov.au).

For information about the proof required for those who cannot be vaccinated for medical reasons, visit http://www.health.gov.au/health-alerts/covid-19/international-travel/proof-of-vaccination. Please note, the Australian Department of Health advises that previous infection with COVID-19 is not considered a medical contraindication for COVID-19 vaccination. **Previous infection does not qualify travellers as 'fully vaccinated for international travel purposes' under Australia's border entry requirements.**

Travellers who do not meet vaccination requirements are subject to incoming passenger caps and will be subject to entry, quarantine and post-arrival testing arrangements for the state or territory of their arrival.

Pre-departure COVID-19 tests

Acceptable evidence of a negative COVID-19 test result is required for travelling to Australia.
The Department of Health website has information about:

- COVID-19 test requirements, including the accepted tests and the specific evidence that is required;
- what travellers should do if their test result is positive when they have had and recovered from COVID-19; and
- exemptions from standard pre-departure testing requirements, including countries and jurisdictions exempt from pre-departure testing.

Travellers are responsible for checking the COVID-19 testing and proof of vaccination requirements for their airline and any countries they plan to transit.

For more information about Australia's pre-departure COVID-19 test requirements see:
https://www.health.gov.au/health-alerts/covid-19/international-travel/inbound#predeparture-testing.

Providing critical health information prior to travel

Travellers to Australia are also required to complete a Digital Passenger Declaration (DPD) within 72 hours of departure. The DPD requests critical health information that must be declared prior to entry to Australia. Travellers must be able to show evidence that their critical health information was declared prior to boarding the aircraft. For more information about the DPD see: Digital Passenger Declaration | COVID-19 and the border (homeaffairs.gov.au).

State and Territory requirements

State and territory governments determine quarantine requirements in Australia. All travellers must ensure they meet entry, quarantine and post-arrival testing arrangements for the state or territory of their arrival. If you wish to travel on to another state or territory you may not be allowed to enter, or may be subject to a quarantine period.

Some states and territories may require you to be up-to-date with your COVID-19 vaccinations to access some venues or work in certain occupations. Even if you meet the definition of 'fully vaccinated' for the purposes of international travel, if you have not had a booster vaccination, you may not be considered 'up to date' with your vaccinations in some states and territories.

International travellers are encouraged to access Australia's vaccination program to bring their vaccinations 'up to date'.

To check requirements, see State and Territory Information for travellers.

Further information

Travel restrictions are subject to change as the Australian Government responds to the circumstances surrounding COVID-19. Travellers should keep up to date with the current information on the Home Affairs' COVID-19 and the Border website at: https://covid19.homeaffairs.gov.au.