

Evidence check

30 March 2021

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Quarantine measures

Rapid review question

What are the latest quarantine measures for different settings, such as point-of-entry at border settings, transportation or quarantine facilities, within different jurisdictions in Australia and around the world?

In brief

- All countries allowed their citizens and permanent residents to enter.
- Most countries require people to have a COVID-19 test in the 72 hours before departure and on arrival. The exceptions are Australia which requires new arrivals to be tested within 48 hours and Taiwan which requires testing for symptomatic travellers only.
- While Australia and New Zealand impose hotel quarantine, most other countries allow quarantine at home.
- Apart from Australia, New Zealand and Taiwan which impose a minimum of 14 days of mandatory quarantine, other jurisdictions allow for various quarantine periods depending on the person's travel history and certain conditions.
- Transportation to quarantine facilities is arranged by the government in Australia and New Zealand. Government-appointed taxi providers or 'epidemic prevention taxis' are used for transportation in Singapore and Taiwan respectively. In some countries, use of private vehicles (Singapore and Iceland) or other public transport methods (Norway) are allowed under certain conditions.
- Most countries require COVID-19 testing at the beginning and/or towards the end of the quarantine period.
- Movement outside the quarantine room is allowed in some countries under specific conditions such as travelling to a COVID-19 test appointment (Singapore), seeking essential healthcare services (Iceland) or conducting necessary errands (Norway).
- COVID-19 leaks from hotel quarantine programs were reported in Australia, New Zealand and Singapore.
- Most countries imposed additional measures in response to new variants.

Limitations

The policies around quarantine measures in different jurisdictions are subject to rapid changes due to the unfolding COVID-19 pandemic both locally and globally. The information contained in this evidence check may only be current at the time of conducting the search.

Methods

The selection of countries and jurisdictions for inclusion in this evidence check is based on top-ranking countries in Lowy Institute's COVID Performance Index, low total case numbers, well developed healthcare systems and availability of English-language policy information. (1, 2, 3)

Keyword searches on Google (country name, COVID-19/coronavirus and quarantine) and manual searches of key organisation websites in each country were conducted from 17 February 2021 to 25 February 2021. Information sources are hyperlinked (underlined) to the text.

Results

Results by countries are presented in Table 1 below. Information sources are hyperlinked (underlined) to the selected text.

	Australia	New Zealand	Singapore	Cyprus	Iceland	Taiwan	Norway
Who can enter the country?							
Citizens	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>
Permanent residents	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>	N/A	N/A	<u>Alien Resident Certificate holders</u>	Those who are <u>already residing in Norway</u>
Special residents	<u>Immediate family members</u> of the above, a <u>New Zealand citizen</u> usually resident in Australia	The <u>partner or dependent child</u> of a New Zealand citizen or permanent resident, <u>Australian citizens and permanent residents</u> who ordinarily reside in New Zealand	Singapore <u>Long Term Pass</u> holder, family members	<u>Foreign spouses</u> and their minor children of citizens Persons legally residing in the country, or allowed to enter under Vienna Convention	<u>European Economic Area/ European Free Trade Association (EEA/EFTA) citizens</u> as well as citizens of Andorra, Monaco, San Marino and the Vatican	<u>Spouses or children</u> of the above	N/A

	Australia	New Zealand	Singapore	Cyprus	Iceland	Taiwan	Norway
Others	Travellers who have been to NZ in the past 14 days (excluding Auckland), other exempt categories	Small numbers of limited exemptions	Short term visitors from countries listed as Safe Travel Lanes	Travellers are subject to different conditions depending on the departing country risk category	Relatives of Icelandic or other EEA/EFTA citizens or citizens of Andorra, Monaco, San Marino or the Vatican	Other persons requiring special permission	Some exceptions may apply to foreigners
What is required prior to arrival?							
Declaration	Australian Travel Declaration	Need to book a quarantine place	Air Travel Pass or SafeTravel Pass-RGL (Reciprocal Green Lane) depending on departing country Mandatory COVID-19 travel insurance for short-term visitors	Cyprus Flight Pass	Pre-registration form Encouraged to install the Raking C-19 app for sending test results and tracking infections	Health declaration form on the Quarantine System for entry Must provide proof of place of quarantine	Must complete a digital travel registration

	Australia	New Zealand	Singapore	Cyprus	Iceland	Taiwan	Norway
<p>Is a COVID-19 test required?</p> <p>If so, what is the timeframe in which it required before departure?</p>	<p>Yes. 72 hours</p>	<p>Yes, except from Australia, Antarctica and most Pacific Islands. 72 hours</p>	<p>Depends on travel history. 72 hours</p>	<p>Category A (low risk country): not required</p> <p>Category B (possible low risk greater uncertainty): within 72 hours</p> <p>Category C (increased risk): strict entry conditions and may choose to have predeparture test within 72 hours</p>	<p>Yes, 72 hours</p> <p>Those who provide valid proof of having been vaccinated against COVID-19 or prior infection are not required to provide a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test prior to boarding. They are also exempt from screening and quarantine measures at the border</p>	<p>Yes, all travellers, within 3 working days</p>	<p>For foreign travellers, taken within 24 hours.</p> <p>Not required for Norwegian citizens, persons who are resident in Norway, children under 12 and persons with a prior COVID-19 infection history within the last six months</p>
<p>Vaccine passport or documentation</p>	<p>Qantas has been trialling digital apps that documents travellers' vaccination history</p>	<p>Air New Zealand to trial digital COVID vaccine passport, Travel Pass, on Auckland-Sydney flights in April</p>	<p>Singapore Airlines starts trials on digital verification of covid-19 test results and vaccination information</p>	<p>Cyprus and Israel signed an accord allowing citizens with COVID-19 vaccination certificates to travel unimpeded</p>	<p>Certificate of vaccination against COVID-19 accepted at the border.</p>	<p>In December 2020, the Health Minister said COVID-19 passports would be hard to put into practice but were a good idea</p>	<p>Vaccination does not give exemption from quarantine duty.</p> <p>The government will consider whether it will be introduced in Norway.</p>

	Australia	New Zealand	Singapore	Cyprus	Iceland	Taiwan	Norway
				between the countries			
What is required upon arrival?							
COVID-19 test	Test is not required but a health screening is	Day 0/1 testing (exceptions for people from Australia, Antarctica and most Pacific Islands)	Yes	Category A and B: 72 hours after arrival and category B may carry out a test upon arrival Category C: may choose to the test take either prior or upon arrival	Yes	No, unless displaying symptoms	No, unless the person had visited an area that triggers quarantine during the last 10 days
Where to be quarantined?							
Quarantine hotels?	Yes	Yes	Stay-Home Notice Dedicated Facility for travellers issued with a 14-day stay home notice	For travellers from UK	For travellers who do not have appropriate quarantine arrangements themselves	In principle, travellers should quarantine at a quarantine hotel or group quarantine facility	All travellers who are not resident or have a permanent residency must stay at a quarantine hotel as a general rule

	Australia	New Zealand	Singapore	Cyprus	Iceland	Taiwan	Norway
Private residence/homes (any specific requirements)	No	No	Yes. Travellers aged above 12 years are issued with Electronic Monitoring Device	Yes, travellers from category A and B countries	Yes	Must make an affidavit to declare they have met the requirement of one person per residence	Yes, if suitable for maintaining a safe distance from others
Quarantine for how long?							
Quarantine duration	14 days	14 days	7 or 14 days	72 hours, 10 days or 14 days	14 days , can be shortened subject to certain conditions	14 days (not including day of arrival) and must monitor self-health for a further 7 days	10 days , may be released from quarantine if tested negative no earlier than 7 days after arrival
Differential quarantine requirement/duration based on specific risk stratification	Travellers from Green Safe Travel Zone (New Zealand except Auckland) flights may exempt	Travellers from Cook Islands are exempt	Depending on the travellers' travel history and safe travel lane used to enter Singapore, travellers may be issued with either a 7-day or 14-day notice	Travellers are subject to different quarantine measures depending on their country of departure	Subject to certain travel and contact related conditions , quarantine durations may vary	N/A	People arriving from yellow and green areas (low transmission) within Europe are not required to quarantine
How to travel to the quarantine facility?							

	Australia	New Zealand	Singapore	Cyprus	Iceland	Taiwan	Norway
Government/state arranged	Yes	Yes	If travelling to dedicated facility	Travellers from UK are transported to quarantine hotels at the expense of the state	N/A	A designated transport vehicle if quarantining at a group quarantine facility	N/A
Public transport allowed	No	No	A specified transportation provider if self-isolating at home for 14 days, or specified service providers of taxi or private car if serving 7-days	N/A	Only taxi is allowed	Travellers are banned from taking public transportation and must take epidemic-prevention taxis for travelling to their place of quarantine	Should normally avoid but may still use public transport to reach quarantine destination
Private vehicle allowed	No	No	If issued with 7-day stay at home notice	N/A	Rental car or a private car that has been dropped off at the airport	No	N/A
Quarantine measures at the facility/place?							
COVID-testing (time interval for testing)	First 48 hours, between days 10 and 12	Day 3 and 12	Towards the end of quarantine	Within 72 hours and day 10	Day 5	N/A	Day 3 and 7



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Allowed to leave the room/place	No	Movement outside rooms and in exercise areas is allowed only in a strictly controlled manner	Can travel to scheduled COVID-19 test appointments or approved ad-hoc trips	Must remain inside the place of accommodation unless authorised by a physician or public health officer	May leave quarantine place to seek essential healthcare services , after consulting with a clinic over the phone	Stay at home or at an accommodation location. Not allowed to travel abroad or take any public transportation. Receive follow up phone calls every day from health authorities	Can conduct necessary errands in a store or pharmacy but must maintain a safe distance Can go for a walk but must keep a distance from others
Reports of outbreak/leaking from a quarantine facility/place?							
Reports	Leak from quarantine hotel in Victoria , South Australia and NSW	Transmission and subsequent leak at the quarantine facility	Singapore hotel used for quarantine may have spread virus	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Leak source/breaches (including probable sources)	Security personnel hired through private companies and members of staff that were not adequately trained; hotel quarantine ventilation	Transmission between guests at the hotel	Infection of staff members from returned travellers in a hotel	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A



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Extra measures for new variants?							
	From 7 January 2021, additional precautions were put in place to manage people with any of the more transmissible variants. These include a longer minimum period of isolation and assessment of infectiousness by experts before release from isolation	Pre-departure testing and testing on day 0/1 after arrival which were later extended to all travellers	Travellers arriving from the UK or South Africa to quarantine 14 days at a facility and a further 7 days at their place of residence	Travellers from the UK must undertake COVID testing upon arrival, self-isolate in hotels at state's expense for 7-days, undergo testing on day 7, and if negative, remain in self-isolation for a further 3 days	N/A	Travellers who had been to South Africa or Eswatini, or the UK in the past 14 days will be required to quarantine at group quarantine facilities	Travellers who arrive in Norway from Great Britain, South Africa, Ireland, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal or Brazil must undertake COVID-19 test upon arrival

Notes:

Australian States and territories

All Australian states and territories impose a 14-day mandatory hotel quarantine for overseas travellers (with some exceptions for travellers from New Zealand). For domestic travellers, temporary travel restrictions and quarantine measures may be implemented depending on a travellers' travel history to the COVID-19 affected areas (hotspots) as declared by local health authorities.

In QLD and NT, anyone with a history of visiting a declared COVID-19 hotspot in the past 14 days is mandated to quarantine at a government-arranged accommodation or facility. In WA, arrivals from low-risk areas (less than five community cases per day on a 14-day rolling average) are required to self-quarantine at a suitable place or government-approved facility for 14 days. Travellers to WA from medium-risk areas are not permitted to enter without an exemption. In TAS, travellers from medium-risk areas are required to quarantine at a suitable place or a government facility for 14 days. Travellers from high-risk areas are not permitted entry.

Close contacts of confirmed COVID-19 cases are usually subject to quarantine measures (usually at a place of residence) as directed by the local health authorities.

In VIC, a permit system had been established for all domestic travel and travel from New Zealand. The system is based on a risk stratification (red, green and orange zones) of areas across Australia and New Zealand. In SA, interstate travellers must complete a cross border pre-approval form at least 14 days prior to arrival. In WA, all arrivals must complete a G2G Pass before they travel. In TAS, all travellers who only spent time in low-risk areas in the past 14 days must complete Tas e-Travel system no more than three days before arrival and all travellers who spent time in medium-risk areas must complete a G2G Pass at least three business days before arrival. In NT, everyone is required to complete an online Border Entry Form no more than seven days before entering the NT.

Overseas travellers quarantining in hotels across all states/territories are required to undergo COVID-19 testing during their stay. The timing of the testing varies across states and territories. In ACT, a COVID-19 test is done on day 0-1 and day 12-13; in NSW testing is done throughout the travellers' stay; in VIC on day three and day 11 or later; in QLD unspecified days; in SA during the first 24 hours and on day five and day 12; in WA within 48 hours and on day 12; in TAS after arrival and at regular intervals; in NT on unspecified days.

In NSW, ACT, QLD, SA, NT, TAS, and VIC, if a person refuses COVID-19 testing during their stay, the length of their quarantine is extended to 24 days. In WA, COVID-19 testing during quarantine is mandatory and individuals who breach the restrictions may face fines of up to \$50,000.

United Kingdom

In the [United Kingdom](#), travellers who are not British or Irish National, or do not have residence rights in the UK, are not allowed entry into the UK if they've been in, or through, any of the red list travel ban countries in the past 10 days. Travellers who are a British or Irish National or have residence rights in the UK and who are from countries included in the red list are mandated to quarantine in a government-approved hotel for 10 days. [Travellers](#) are escorted to the quarantine hotel and only allowed to leave the quarantine room under very limited circumstances.

In **England and Wales**, [travellers](#) from countries not on the red list are required to quarantine at place of residence for 10 days. They must provide a negative COVID-19 test result during the three days

before travel, book and pay for a travel test package, which will include COVID-19 tests to be taken on, or before, day two and on, or after, day eight of quarantine, and complete a passenger locator form. They must travel directly to the place they are staying at and only use public transport if have no other options.

During home quarantine, people are permitted to leave their accommodation but only in exceptional circumstances. A test to release from quarantine early is available if travellers arrange for a private COVID-19 test after five full days of quarantine and their test results are negative. A test on day eight is still mandatory, even when the travellers are released early in the test-to-release scheme. Travellers from the Common Travel Area (Ireland, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man) and who had not been in, or through, red list countries during the past 10 days can be exempt from the quarantine.

In **Scotland**, all [travellers](#) arriving from any country outside the Common Travel Area, or who have been in or through an acute risk country in the past 10 days, must quarantine for 10 days at a pre-booked Managed Quarantine Facility. The Managed Quarantine Facility must be booked at least 10 days from the traveller's arrival date. Travellers from Common Travel Area who have been in, or through, non-acute risk countries in the past 10 days must self-isolate at home for 10 days and must declare accommodation on a Passenger Locator Form. They must also pre-book COVID-19 testing for day two and day eight.

In **Northern Ireland**, managed quarantine and mandatory COVID-19 testing has not yet been introduced for [passengers](#) arriving directly from an international destination. All travellers from outside the Common Travel Area must provide a negative COVID-19 test result taken up to three days before departure, complete a Passenger Locator Form and self-isolate at one place for 10 days.

Canada

In [Canada](#), all international travellers must demonstrate that they have an adequate plan for quarantine and must submit travel and quarantine plans using ArriveCAN before arrival. They must also provide proof of a negative COVID-19 test taken within 72 hours of departure.

From 21 February 2021, all travellers are required to reserve a government-authorized hotel for three nights prior to departure and take a COVID-19 test on arrival. Travellers will still be required to complete the remainder of the mandatory 14-day quarantine after their mandatory hotel stopover if they tested negative at arrival. Travellers without symptoms can quarantine at home or at their Canadian destination that is suitable and meets certain requirements. Travellers will also be required to take another COVID-19 molecular test on day 10 of their 14-day quarantine. Travellers will be provided with a COVID-19 test kit and instructions before leaving the airport.

Federal level travel restrictions and quarantine requirements for international arrivals apply across all provinces and territories. In [Manitoba](#), [Nova Scotia](#), and [Yukon](#) any arrivals, regardless of whether it was from another country or another province, must self-isolate for 14 days at a suitable location, although some exceptions apply. In [Ontario](#), self-isolation is strongly advised for inter-provincial travellers. In [New Brunswick](#), [Newfoundland Labrador](#), [Northwest Territories](#) and [Prince Edward Island](#), travel restrictions apply to both the international and inter-provincial travellers. Only people who meet specific conditions or exemptions, or who are pre-approved, are permitted to enter and all travellers are required to self-isolate for 14 days.

In [Nunavut](#), prior to boarding a plane into the territory, residents will undergo a mandatory 14-day isolation period in either Ottawa, Winnipeg, Edmonton or Yellowknife. At the end of the 14 days, asymptomatic residents will be cleared and provided with a letter signed by the Chief Public Health

Officer allowing them to return to their home community. In [Quebec](#), [Alberta](#), [British Columbia](#), there are no specific preventive isolation measures for people arriving from other Canadian provinces. In [Saskatchewan](#), interprovincial travellers should self-monitor for 14 days and self-isolate at the first sign of even mild symptoms. They should also get tested as soon as arrival and seven days later.

Sources of information for quarantine requirements in each Australian state/territory:

State/Territory	Organisation	Website
Australian Capital Territory (ACT)	ACT Government	https://www.covid19.act.gov.au/stay-safe-and-healthy/quarantine-and-isolation
New South Wales (NSW)	NSW Government	https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/what-you-can-and-cant-do-under-rules/quarantine
Victoria (VIC)	Department of Health and Human Services Victoria State Government	https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/victorias-restriction-levels-covid-19; https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/mandatory-quarantine-returned-overseas-travellers
Queensland (QLD)	Queensland Government	https://www.qld.gov.au/health/conditions/health-alerts/coronavirus-covid-19/protect-yourself-others/quarantine
South Australia (SA)	SA Health Government of South Australia	https://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/public+content/sa+health+internet/conditions/infectious+diseases/covid-19/about+covid-19/self-isolation+and+quarantine+advice+for+covid-19+%28coronavirus%29
Western Australia (WA)	WA Government	https://www.wa.gov.au/organisation/covid-communications/covid-19-coronavirus-controlled-interstate-border
Tasmania (TAS)	Tasmanian Government	https://coronavirus.tas.gov.au/travellers-and-visitors/coming-to-tasmania
Northern Territory (NT)	Northern Territory Government	https://coronavirus.nt.gov.au/travel

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*All other references have been directly hyperlinked from the above content.

SHPN: (ACI) 210187 ISBN: 978-1-76081-651-3 TRIM: ACI/D21/694-01