



An Roinn Iompair  
Department of Transport

## Covid-19 Travel Restrictions

### Marine Notice No. 16 of 2021

This Marine Notice is being issued on behalf of the Department of Health to inform industry of recent changes to travel restrictions in Ireland as set out in the [Health \(Amendment\) Act 2021](#)

#### Mandatory Hotel Quarantine

From Friday 26 March, 2021, all passengers that arrive from, or have transited through, any of the listed [high risk countries](#) in the 14 days prior to their arrival in Ireland are required to quarantine at a designated facility. In addition, any passenger that arrives from any location without evidence of a negative/not-detected result from a Covid-19 RT-PCR test taken 72 hours prior to their arrival will also be subject to mandatory quarantine in a designated facility. The cost of the stay at the facility must be borne by the passenger. The booking for the mandatory quarantine facility can be made here [www.gov.ie/quarantine](http://www.gov.ie/quarantine)

#### Other Travel Restrictions

As already communicated, any passenger arriving to Ireland must complete a passenger locator form ([www.gov.ie/locatorform](http://www.gov.ie/locatorform)). The Covid-19 Passenger Locator Form may be used by authorities to make follow up contact with a person arriving from overseas to verify their location in the country. The form will also help contact tracers get in touch with passengers should someone who may have travelled on the same vessel as them be confirmed as having Covid-19.

All passengers arriving to Ireland are also legally obliged to have evidence of a negative/not-detected result from a RT-PCR Covid-19 test taken up to 72 hours prior to their arrival. Antigen or other alternative tests are not acceptable. The requirement to complete a passenger locator form and have evidence of negative test result are legal obligations and any breach of these Regulations is an offence, which may lead to prosecution resulting in fines of up to €2,500, six months in prison, or both.

All passengers must also follow the latest public health advice. Currently any passenger arriving to Ireland from a country which is **not** included in the list of [high risk countries](#) is required to quarantine at the place specified on their passenger locator form for 14 days. A passenger may release themselves from quarantine if they receive, and can produce evidence of when requested, a negative/not-detected result from a Covid-19 RT-PCR test taken no less than 5 days after their arrival.

There are limited [exemptions](#) to this requirement which includes international transport workers who hold an Annex 3 Certificate, aviation and maritime crews and drivers of heavy goods vehicles. Maritime crew are considered to be in the course of their work until they reach their home, having completed their duties on board. It is recommended that seafarers arriving to Ireland to join a ship have in their possession, evidence such as joining instructions from their employer or crewing agency. In addition, it is recommended that seafarers leaving a ship abroad to return to Ireland, are in possession of their seafarer's discharge book that has been appropriately signed off by the ship as proof they have just completed their time aboard a vessel and are returning immediately home.

An international transport worker is a person who holds a valid Annex 3 Certificate in accordance with the Communication from the EU Commission on the implementation of the Green Lanes under the guidance for border management measures to protect health and ensure the availability of goods and ensure services. These Certificates may be issued by employers to their employees, who are necessary for the safe operation of their vessel. A copy of the Annex 3 certificate can be found on the final page of the document here – [Annex 3](#). For ease of reference, the link to the EU Practical Handbook for Border Guards is also included here: [Annex 3 for land borders](#)

While maritime crew are generally exempt from the travel restriction requirements, this does not extend to crew involved in the operation of pleasure craft not engaged in trade, as such journeys are considered non-essential. Any crew arriving in Ireland working aboard such a craft are required to adhere to all of the relevant travel restrictions as appropriate, including completion of a passenger locator form, pre-departure RT-PCR test taken 72 hours prior to arrival and mandatory hotel quarantine where applicable. Breach of these legal obligations is an offence. Further information in relation to travel restrictions in Ireland is available here: <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/b4020-travelling-to-ireland-during-the-covid-19-pandemic/>

Owners/Operators of international ferries serving Ireland, are legally required to inform passengers of their obligations in relation to travel restrictions currently in place in Ireland. They are also required to check each passenger has evidence of a negative/not-detected result from a RT-PCR test taken 72 hours prior to arrival in the State and to deny boarding to the passenger if such evidence is not produced. In addition, there is a now a requirement to ensure that any passenger subject to mandatory hotel quarantine has made the necessary booking in advance of travel and to deny boarding if a relevant passenger cannot produce such evidence. Masters are also requested to make on-board announcements detailing the legal requirement for passengers to complete the passenger locator form before disembarking and to ask passengers to have the form ready for collection by Immigration Officers.

Irish Maritime Administration on behalf of the Department of Health  
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Leeson Lane, Dublin 2, D02 TR60, Ireland.

25/03/2021