

Changes to UK entry rules 28 November 2021

Precautions in light of Omicron variant

The UK is introducing new, temporary measures to combat the Omicron COVID variant. These changes include:

- new rules for fully vaccinated travellers arriving in the UK
- compulsory face coverings in shops (excluding hospitality settings) and on public transport
- all contacts of suspected Omicron cases must self-isolate, regardless of their vaccination status.

Lateral flow tests no longer accepted

From 4am this Tuesday, 30 November, all fully vaccinated international travellers arriving in England from a non-red-list country must:

1. Book and pay for a **Day 2 PCR test** (NOT a lateral flow test).
2. Complete a **Passenger Locator Form** and include their PCR test booking reference on the Passenger Locator Form.
3. Take a PCR test within 2 days of their arrival in England AND self-isolate until they receive the results of their test.

Travellers may only leave self-isolation if their PCR test is negative. Those with positive test results must self-isolate for a further 10 days.

The above changes will be reviewed in 3 weeks. Please see **.GOV.UK** for more details.

Unvaccinated travellers

The rules for travellers who aren't fully vaccinated, or those who are vaccinated with unauthorised vaccines, remain unchanged. i.e. they must:

1. Provide proof of a negative COVID-19 test taken within 3 days of departure to the UK.
2. Book PCR tests for Day 2 and Day 8.
3. Complete a Passenger Locator Form.
4. Make plans to self-quarantine in private accommodation for 10 full days after arrival (or full duration of stay if less than 10 days).

Red list update

On 26 November, the UK's red list was expanded to include:

- South Africa
- Botswana
- Eswatini
- Lesotho
- Namibia
- Zimbabwe

An additional **four countries were added** at 4am today, 28 November:

- Angola
- Malawi
- Mozambique
- Zambia.

Reminder of red list rules

All travellers (including those who are fully vaccinated) arriving in England from a red-list country must:

1. Provide proof of a negative **COVID-19 test** taken within 3 days of departure to the UK.
2. Book a **managed quarantine package**, including two COVID-19 tests.
3. Complete a Passenger Locator Form.

Remember, only British or Irish Nationals, or those with UK residence rights will be granted entry to England from a red list country.

All travellers must enter through a designated port and quarantine in a government approved hotel for 10 days.

What's happening in the rest of the UK

Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland have announced they will align their border restrictions with the new rules in place in England, including expanding their respective red lists to include Angola, Malawi, Mozambique and Zambia. For more details, please see:

- **.GOV.SCOT**
- **.GOV.WALES**
- **NIDIRECT.GOV.UK**

Further information

The above is a summary of our understanding of imminent rule changes. However, it is the responsibility of all travellers to ensure that they are familiar with all COVID-19 related travel rules in place at their time of travel.

For further information or assistance, please contact a member of our friendly ISON Travel team.

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