

Kingdom of Belgium
Belgium Civil Aviation Authority

Communiqué

02/01/2021

Topic

Measures to prevent the spread of SARS-CoV-2

References

Ministerial Decree (Home Affairs) of 28 October 2020, last modified on 19, 20, 21 and 24 December 2020

General

The airlines must-before boarding for a flight to the Belgian territory- check whether all passengers meet the requirements set by the Belgian government to prevent the spread of SARS-CoV-2, the corona virus that COVID- 19 caused.

Passengers who do not comply with the rules of the Belgian government may be denied boarding.

Companies that allow non-compliant passengers on board and travel to Belgium can be held responsible for the consequences this could have

The director General

Annex

This communication is related on the Belgian national measures to prevent the spread of SARS-CoV-2, the coronavirus that causes COVID-19, and based on the Ministerial Decree (Internal Affairs) of 28 October 2020 containing urgent measures to limit the spread of SARS-CoV-2 last modified on 19, 20, 21 and 24 December 2020.

The information in this document is provided on an advice basis only, no rights can be derived from this document.

This text is revised and approved by the Belgian Health Authorities. Please always refer to the latest information published on the website: www.info-coronavirus.be, the last published versions of the Ministerial Decree containing urgent measures to limit the spread of SARS-CoV-2 and the NOTAM's.

In general

All non-essential travels to Belgium are forbidden.

Notwithstanding this prohibition, it is authorized to travel to Belgium:

1. From all countries in the European Union and the Schengen area.
2. From those countries on the published list on the website <https://diplomatie.belgium.be/en>

The Passenger Locator Form (PLF)

All passengers have to fill in the PLF before boarding a flight with destination to a Belgian Airport.

The airline has to check before boarding a flight to Belgium if all passengers has filled in the PLF.

PLF can be filled in electronically, which has the absolutely preference!!
see: <https://travel.info-coronavirus.be/public-health-passenger-locator-form>.

If an electronical PLF would not be possible a paper version has to be filled in **in duplicate** before boarding:

- One copy that has to be collected by the airline and hand over on the Belgian Health Authorities on arrival.
- One copy for the passenger who has to keep it at least 48h after arrival in Belgium.

The airline must provide paper versions of the PLF if necessary.

The PLF must be filled in within 48 hours before the flight.

A passenger who cannot prove that he/she has filled in the PLF (electronical or paper version) will not be allowed to board a flight to Belgium. **The airline must in that case refuse the passenger to take the flight.**

Upon arrival at a Belgian airport:

- The airline must hand over the filled in PLF Paper versions to the Belgian Health Authorities at the airport.

- The airline must check upon disembarkation on a Belgian airport if all passengers has filled in the Passenger Locator Form.
- The passenger can be asked by the security authorities to give prove that he has filled in the PLF and this till 48h after arrival in Belgium.

COVID-19 testing

From 25 December 2020 the following will be effective:

All non-Belgian residents travelers (so who don't have their main residence in Belgium) older than 12 years arriving in Belgium as final destination from a red zone must prove that they recently have tested negative for COVID-19. The red zones worldwide can be found on the website <https://diplomatie.belgium.be/en> which is updated on a regular basis.

Modalities of the COVID-19 test that must be mentioned on the document:

1. Name, surname as in passport/ on identity card.
2. Birthdate.
3. Date and time of sampling.
4. Date of test result.
5. Date of issuance of the certificate.
6. The result of the test must be negative.
7. The sampling must be carried out a maximum of 72 hours before boarding a flight to Belgium.
8. Only PCR test for SARS-CoV-2 with the mention PCR are accepted.
9. The analysis must have been carried out in an official laboratory in the country from which the traveler comes and certified by a registered doctor or pharmacist biologist (equivalent INAMI/RIZIV number).
10. The following tests are not accepted:
 - RT-Lamp
 - Rapid antigenic tests
 - Serological tests

Other modalities of the document:

11. The document can be in paper format or in electronic format but must be consultable immediately.
12. The document must be in English, German, French or Dutch.

The document must be verified before leaving the country of departure by the carrier/airline.

If the document is not available or does not meet the prescriptions as described above; the carrier/airline must forbid the boarding of the passenger.

Passengers described above who are not able to give proof they have tested negative for COVID-19 will not be allowed to enter the Belgian territory upon arrival.

Passengers in transit don't need to give a proof of a negative COVID-19 test for the Belgian authorities.

Travelling from the UK to Belgium

All passengers travel to Belgium as final destination or as transit to any member state of the European Union Norway, Iceland and Switzerland included, is forbidden until and including 31 December 2020.

Exempt are:

1. Passengers with a Belgian nationality and Belgian residents (= who have their main residence in Belgium).
2. Non Belgian residents can travel as far that their journey is strictly necessary and non-postponable

Only the following journeys are considered :

- With presentation of a certificate issued by their employer:
 - a. Professional travel of health workers, health researchers and elderly care professionals
 - b. Professional travel of transport personnel
 - c. Travel of diplomats, personnel of international organizations and persons invited by international organizations who require physical presence for the proper functioning of these organizations, professional travel of military and security personnel, civil defense personnel and humanitarian aid workers, in the performance of their duties
 - d. Professional travel of journalists
- Journeys for the following compelling family reasons, with acceptable prove:
 - a. Journeys justified by family reunification;
 - b. The visits to a legal spouse or partner, when both do not live together for professional or personal reasons;
 - c. Travel in the context of co-parenting;
 - d. Journeys in the context of funerals or cremations in the case of a relationship in the first and second degree;

For all passengers, as mentioned in 1. and 2. the Passenger Locator Form is mandatory as explained in "The Passenger Locator Form (PLF)".

For the passengers, as mentioned in 2. a negative COVID-19 test is mandatory as explained above in "COVID-19 testing" from 25/12/2020.

Passengers from the UK can transit via Belgian airports if their final destination is outside the European Union, Norway, Switzerland and Iceland included. These passengers may not leave the transit zone at the airport.

Passengers from the UK may transit Belgium to their country of their nationality or to their main residence, insofar as that country is located within the European Union or the Schengen Zone. These passengers may not leave the transit zone at the airport.