

BARBADOS MINISTRYOF TOURISM

# Health Safety

Protocols For The Tourism Sector,

In light of the fluidity of the COVID-19 pandemic, these protocols are likely to change. Travellers are encouraged to check barbadostravelprotocols.com for updates.

# Commercial Travel and Visitor Arrivals



# **Assessing Country Risk for** Importation of COVID-19

Country risk assessments are done using a transparent, reproducible methodology. The assessment takes into consideration factors including the number of cases, country population, deaths, and testing levels. We are utilising a modified version of the WHO global surveillance monitoring system which looks at 7 day totals of new cases and is updated daily. This will be used in conjunction with WHO transmission classification system, as outlined below.

Additionally, the assessment takes into consideration other factors that may influence the accuracy of the risk classification such as the adequacy of testing in the source country.

- No cases: with no confirmed cases.
- **Sporadic cases:** with one or more cases, imported or locally detected.
- Clusters of cases: experiencing cases, clustered in time, geographic location and/or by common exposures.
- Community transmission: experiencing larger outbreaks of local transmission defined through an assessment of factors including, but not limited to large numbers of cases not linkable to transmission chains; large numbers of cases from sentinel lab surveillance; and/or multiple unrelated clusters in several areas of the country.

Travellers from each country or region will be designated in various risk categories for possible disease export which will determine the public health measures to be implemented before arrival and while in Barbados. It should be appreciated that these criteria may change as the situation evolves.

# COVID-19 Public Health Protocols for Air Travel to Barbados

Barbados is monitoring our risk assessment and immigration policies according to the following categories; High Risk, Medium Risk, Low Risk and Countries with which we share a reciprocal "Bubble".

#### Risk Categories of Selected Countries as at Aug 3, 2020<sup>1</sup>

Determination of risk is achieved by using World Health Organisation 7-day totals. A traveller's risk category will be determined by the highest risk level associated with any country that they have travelled to or transited through within 21 days prior to travel to Barbados. Additionally, the assessment takes into consideration other factors that may influence the accuracy of the risk classification such as the adequacy of testing in the source country.

#### **High-risk:**

Includes **USA**, **Brazil**, **India**, **Mexico**, **Argentina**, **Peru**, **Colombia**, **South Africa**, **Indonesia**, **Philippines and Russia** 

#### **Medium-Risk:**

Includes Canada, UK, Spain, Italy, Germany, France, Portugal, Sweden, Australia, Egypt, Ghana, China, Japan, Sri Lanka. Suriname, Haiti, Dominican Republic and Jamaica

#### Low-Risk:

Includes **Uruguay**, **Cuba**, **New Zealand**, **Finland**, **Norway**, **Iceland**, **Greenland**, **Guyana and CARICOM States** except those indicated in the Medium-Risk category and countries within the "Bubble".

#### Countries within the "Bubble":

Include Saint Lucia, St. Kitts & Nevis, Grenada, Dominica and St. Vincent & The Grenadines

In light of the fluidity of the COVID-19 pandemic, these protocols are likely to change. Travellers are encouraged to check **barbadostravelprotocols.com** for updates.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> For review within 2 weeks

# Requirements For **Entry Into Barbados**

All travellers to Barbados must complete a pre-arrival Online Immigration/Customs form at least 24 hrs before arrival. This online form will include personal health information related to COVID-19.

The Online Immigration/Customs form is available at www.travelform.gov.bb

Travellers who fall into the following categories:

- i. Diplomats
- ii. Persons with a medical condition warranting special consideration (to be certified by the Chief Medical Officer (CMO));
- iii. Persons with a disability or travelling with persons with disabilities:

and require special arrangements or considerations must send an email to **cmo@health.gov.bb** containing such particulars to allow for the consideration and justification of the request for special arrangements or considerations. This email should be submitted no less than 72 hours prior to arrival.

Any special considerations given under this section shall be specific and shall not exempt the person from any other requirement, obligation or condition associated with their risk category.



To expedite processing at the port of entry, persons travelling to Barbados from High, Medium and Low Risk countries are strongly advised to take a COVID-19 PCR test from an accredited or certified facility/laboratory within 72 hours prior to arrival. Persons travelling from Low-Risk countries will be allowed to present results of tests taken up to 5 days prior to arrival. Relevant accrediting bodies and standards include: ISO:15189, CAP, UKAS or the equivalent.

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Test results must be submitted electronically at **www.travelform.gov.bb** and travellers are required to present a copy of test results bearing their name on arrival. Test results must be validated by the Ministry of Health and Wellness in Barbados. Test results should be presented in English to facilitate validation.

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Persons travelling from countries within the "Bubble", who have not travelled to or transited through any country designated as High, Medium or Low-Risk withing 21 days prior to travel to Barbados, are not required to take a COVID-19 PCR test prior to or on arrival. These travellers will be permitted to leave the airport after clearance by Immigration, Customs and Port Health Officials.

#### VII

Persons arriving in Barbados from High, Medium and Low-Risk countries without a valid negative COVID-19 PCR test result from an accredited or recognised laboratory will be required to take a test upon arrival and the following will apply:

- i. Persons travelling from High-Risk countries or who have visited or transited through a High-Risk country in the past 21 days will be tested at the airport free of charge. These travellers shall be required to remain at the airport or a government approved facility until the results are available.
- ii. Persons travelling from Medium-Risk and Low-Risk countries can either:
  - a. be tested at the airport free of charge and can await their results at the airport or other government approved facility or at a designated holding hotel or Approved Villa<sup>2</sup> at their own expense.
  - b. be tested at one of the approved satellite sites/hotels for a fee of USD \$150 plus the cost of the hotel stay.

All persons must remain in their chosen accommodation until they receive their results. Test results are generally available within 24 hours.

The Ministry of Health and Wellness reserves the right to require testing of any person regardless of documentation presented or any other requirement, obligation or condition associated with their assigned risk category.

<sup>2</sup>A villa is defined as a stand-alone, entirely self-contained property with a physical separation from any adjoining properties. There must be no common areas or shared areas accessible by the occupants and any shared services must be facilitated through designated personnel from a property manager or external agency. Any villa to be used for the purpose for quarantine must first be approved by the Ministry of Health and Wellness.

Requests for villa approval must be submitted to the Ministry of Health at least 72 hours in advance of arrival.

# Procedures at the Grantley Adams International Airport

Masks must be worn at all times while at the airport.

All incoming travellers must undergo a health assessment which may include a temperature check and a brief interview by Port Health Officials.

> Subject to item 6 under Section: Requirements for Entry into Barbados noted above, all incoming travellers who have taken a COVID-19 PCR test prior to arrival, will be required to present the results for review by the Ministry of Health and Wellness in Barbados. This test must have been conducted within the period specified in item 4 under Section: Requirements for Entry into Barbados to be deemed valid. Any person who fails to satisfy these requirements must undergo a COVID-19 PCR test upon arrival in Barbados.

IV A visitor from High, Medium and Low-Risk countries who does not present a valid negative COVID-19 PCR test result and who declines testing on arrival will be denied entry into Barbados.



Citizens, Permanent Residents and persons with permanent status who do not present a valid negative COVID-19 PCR test result and who decline testing on arrival will be quarantined in a government facility.

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Persons travelling from Medium and Low-Risk countries who arrive with a valid negative COVID-19 PCR test result will be permitted to leave the airport after clearance by Immigration, Customs and Port Health Officials.

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Those persons travelling from Medium-Risk countries will be monitored daily for the onset of symptoms for a period of 14 days. In the event that such a person takes a second COVID-19 PCR test between 5 to 7 days after arrival in Barbados, and obtains a negative result, that person will not be subject to further monitoring.

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Persons travelling from High-Risk countries with a valid negative COVID-19 PCR test result will be quarantined at a designated holding hotel or Approved Villa at their own expense, or free of charge at a government facility. These persons will be quarantined for a period of 14 days with an option to take a second COVID-19 PCR test between 5-7 days after arrival in Barbados. If the result of that second test is negative, that person will not be subject to further quarantine.

# In-transit Passengers

Masks must be worn at all times while at the airport in Barbados.

All in-transit passengers must undergo a health assessment which may include a temperature check and a brief interview by Port Health Officials.

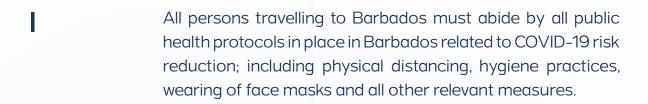
All in-transit passengers from High, Medium and Low-Risk countries must have proof of a valid negative COVID-19 PCR test result prior to arrival in Barbados.

In-transit passengers from High, Medium and Low-Risk countries without evidence of a valid negative COVID-19 PCR test may be denied entry into Barbados.

The Government of Barbados reserves the right to refuse entry to any person who does not have a valid test result.

Travellers are required to observe the public health regulations of the Government of Barbados including requirements for physical distancing while in transit in the airport.

### **During Stay in Barbados**



- All persons will be required to immediately report any COVID-19 symptoms to Public Health Officials or relevant hotel/accommodation management.
- Persons may be requested to undergo an additional COVID-19 PCR test if circumstances warrant.
- Persons who test positive will be transferred to alternate accommodations for isolation and treatment until they have been cleared by the Ministry of Health and Wellness. After clearance, persons may resume their planned activities.
- Those persons identified to have been in close contact with a positive COVID-19 case will be quarantined at facilities approved by the Ministry of Health and Wellness.

### **Departure from Barbados**

All departing persons must wear a mask while at the airport.

All departing persons must comply with instructions given by Public Health Officials.

Persons requiring a COVID-19 PCR test prior to travel from Barbados must submit the request at least 72 hours prior to travel via pcrtest@visitbarbados.org.

## **Special Considerations**

Travellers under 5 years of age will not be required to have a COVID-19 PCR test unless they are symptomatic or any member of the travel party has a positive test result.

Unaccompanied minors will be required to have a valid Ш negative COIVID-19 test result to enter Barbados.

> Travellers who have non-standard circumstances that need to be addressed, are advised to contact The Ministry of Health and Wellness via cmo@health.gov.bb at least 72 hours prior to travel to Barbados. This allows for requests to be reviewed and processed.

The CMO reserves the right to alter or vary the application of these protocols as circumstances warrant.

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# Barbados Covid-19 Traveller Entry Matrix

A traveller's risk category will be determined by the highest risk level associated with any country that they have travelled to or transited through within 21 days prior to travel to Barbados.

	HIGH RISK	MEDIUM RISK	LOW RISK	THE "BUBBLE"	
All passengers must complete the Online Immigration/Customs Form at www.travelform.gov.bb at least 24 hours prior to arrival in Barbados	<b>✓</b>	•	<b>V</b>	<b>✓</b>	
Persons travelling with a valid negative COVID-19 PCR test result are eligible for expedited processing		3		N/A	
Test must be taken within:	72 HRS	72 HRS	5 DAYS		
Test result uploaded via www.travelform.gov.bb	<b>V</b>	~	<b>V</b>		
Travel with negative test result	<b>V</b>	<b>V</b>	<b>V</b>		
In-transit Passengers must travel with a valid negative COVID-19 PCR test result				N/A	
Test must be taken within	72 HRS	72 HRS	5 DAYS		
Test result uploaded via www.travelform.gov.bb	<b>V</b>	<b>~</b>	<b>V</b>		
Travel with negative test result	<b>V</b>	<b>V</b>	<b>V</b>		

#### UPDATED | AUGUST 3, 2020

	HIGH RISK	MEDIUM RISK	LOW RISK	THE "BUBBLE"
Persons travelling without a valid negative COVID-19 PCR test result will be tested in Barbados				N/A
Testing Options (Test results can take up to 24 hrs)				N/A
Test at Airport (no charge)	<b>V</b>	<b>V</b>	<b>V</b>	
Test at Government Facility (no charge)	<b>V</b>	<b>V</b>	V	
Test at Designated Satellite Hotel (US \$150+ Hotel daily rate)		<b>~</b>	V	
Citizens, Permanent Residents and persons with permanent status who decline testing on arrival will be quarantined in a government facility	<b>*</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>~</b>	
Options for Awaiting Test Results				N/A
Designated Holding Hotel or Approved Villa (Daily Rates apply)		<b>*</b>	<b>V</b>	
Airport or Government Facility (No cost)	V		<b>V</b>	

#### UPDATED | AUGUST 3, 2020

	HIGH RISK	MEDIUM RISK	LOW RISK	THE "BUBBLE"
Options if your COVID-19 PCR test is negative:				N/A
No quarantine or monitoring required  Monitored for 14 days at your intended address		<b>V</b>	<b>V</b>	
OR				
Monitored for 7 days at your intended address with a mandatory 2nd test 5-7 days after arrival, producing a 2nd negative test result		<b>~</b>		
14-Day Quarantine at Designated Hotel, Approved Villa or Government Facility	<b>V</b>	7		
OR				
7-Day Quaratine at Designated Hotel, Approved Villa or Government Facility with a mandatory 2nd test 5-7 days after arrival, producing a 2nd negative test result	<b>V</b>			
If your COVID-19 PCR test is positive you will be transferred to alternate accommodations for isolation and treatment.	<b>V</b>		<b>V</b>	N/A

#### UPDATED | AUGUST 3, 2020

	HIGH RISK	MEDIUM RISK	LOW RISK	THE "BUBBLE"
Special Considerations				
Travellers under the age of 5 will not be required to have a test unless symptomatic or if guardian or any other member of the travel party tests positive	<b>V</b>	<b>✓</b>	<b>V</b>	<b>V</b>
Unaccompanied minors are required to have a valid negative COVID-19 PCR test for entry into Barbados	<b>V</b>	<b>V</b>	V	N/A
Diplomats; Persons with a medical condition warranting special consideration (to be certified by the Chief Medical Officer (CMO)); Persons with a disability or travelling with persons with disabilities, are eligible for special arrangements under the following conditions:	,///			
1. Email cmo@health.gov.bb with particulars of request no less than 72 hours prior to arrival	V		V	
2. Travel with their COVID-19 negative test result	<b>V</b>		<b>V</b>	
The Ministry of Health and Wellness reserves the right to require testing of any person regardless of documentation presented or any other requirement, obligation or condition associated with their assigned risk category	<b>V</b>			

