

# INFORMATION “TRAVELLING TO BELGIUM” – valid as from 19.04.2021

## **Restrictions**

Ministerial Order of March 20, 2021 amending the Ministerial Order of October 28, 2020 on urgent measures to limit the spread of the coronavirus (Covid-19)

Article 21, of the ministerial order of October 28, 2020 on emergency measures to limit the spread of the coronavirus (Covid-19) provides that *non-essential travels to Belgium are prohibited*. However, this restriction does not apply to all travelers

## Travelling to Belgium from another Schengen State

There are no longer any specific travel restrictions from another Schengen State.

## **Which documents should a passenger have in his possession by boarding?**

1. PLF (Passenger Locator Form)
2. Negative PCR test result

### **1. PLF**

Every passenger, regardless of the nationality, who takes an Intra-Schengen flight to Belgium is obliged to fill in the “electronic version of the PLF” before departure and to present it to the carrier.

If it's not possible (only in exceptional cases) for the passenger to use the electronic version PLF, the passenger is obliged to complete and sign the paper version PLF.

I would like to point out that the electronic version of the PLF is demanded, because the competent Belgian health authorities has determined that there is an abuse with the paper version of the PLF.

Please underline the necessity the passengers to fill in the electronic version of the PLF.

If a passenger does not complete the PLF, the airline is demanded to deny boarding.

Nevertheless, the traveler must complete the PLF in all the situations described on the PLF and carry the proof of introduction of the completed PLF with him/her throughout the journey to the final destination in Belgium and for the next 48 hours. If it is not possible to obtain such proof, the traveler is required to carry a copy of the completed PLF with him/her throughout the journey to the final destination in Belgium and for the next 48 hours.

### **2. Negative PCR test result**

All non-residents in Belgium, from the age of 6 years, arriving on Belgian territory, coming from a red zone must have a negative PCR-test result based on a test carried out at the earliest 72 hours prior to departure. If necessary, the transporter is obliged to check that passengers present a negative PCR-test result before boarding. In absence of a negative test result, the transporter is obliged to refuse boarding.

#### **Remarque:**

A certificate of vaccination isn't valid. The traveler must be in possession of a negative PCR test result.

#### **Tests:**

- ✓ the document must be in paper or electronic format with immediate possibility to consult.
- ✓ The document must be produced in Dutch, French, German or English.

- ✓ The document produced by the traveler must contain the following information:
  - The result of this test must be negative.
  - The date of the sample must be clearly indicated: the document is valid for 48 hours from this date.
  - Only PCR tests for SARS CoV-2 with the PCR mention are accepted.
  - The analysis must have been carried out in an official laboratory in the country from which the traveler comes and certified by a doctor or pharmacist biologist (equivalent INAMI number).
- ✓ The following tests are not accepted:
  - RT-LAMP;
  - Rapid antigenic tests;
  - Serological tests.

### **Health measures in Belgium:**

The traveler has to respect the sanitary measures taken by Belgium. Therefore, he/she must keep updated on the evolution of the health situation in Belgium on the website <https://www.info-coronavirus.be/en/>

On arrival in Belgium from a **red zone**, a **quarantine and a test** on day 1 and on day 7 of this quarantine are mandatory for **residents in Belgium**. People will receive a text message on their arrival, allowing them to get a test at a test center.

The quarantine ends upon receipt of the negative result of the test on day 7. If the test shows positive, the person in question must undergo self-isolation for at least 10 days.

Visitors who are staying in Belgium for less than 48 hours or who have been in a red zone abroad for less than 48 hours will not be asked to have themselves tested or to go into quarantine.

On arrival in Belgium from a **red zone**, a **quarantine and a test** on day 7 of this quarantine are mandatory for **non-residents in Belgium**. People will receive a text message on their arrival, allowing them to get a test at a test center.

The quarantine ends upon receipt of the negative result of the test on day 7. If the test shows positive, the person in question must undergo self-isolation for at least 10 days.

Visitors who are staying in Belgium for less than 48 hours or who have been in a red zone abroad for less than 48 hours will not be asked to have themselves tested or to go into quarantine.

It goes without saying that if the stay in Belgium of a traveler subject to quarantine lasts less than the scheduled quarantine period, this traveler can leave the country on the scheduled date.

All persons, coming from a **green or orange zone** must not present a negative PCR test result dating back less than 72 hours before their departure to Belgium. On arrival in Belgium a quarantine and test is not mandatory.

**Remarque:** If a person travels to another country via Belgium, the person must also respect the health measures of that country.

## Travelling to Belgium from Ireland, Romania, Bulgaria, Croatia and Cyprus (non-Schengen EU countries)

There are no longer any specific travel restrictions from these states.

Nevertheless, the [conditions for entry](#) into the Schengen area must be met. Regardless of whether or not he/she is subject to visa requirements, the traveler must be able to prove that he/she meets the Schengen entry requirements when arriving at the Schengen external borders, by means of the necessary documents.

### **Which documents should a passenger have in his possession by boarding?**

1. Travel Documents
2. PLF (Passenger Locator Form)
3. Negative PCR test result

#### **1. Travel Documents**

Valid passport, valid identity card, valid travel document, valid visa or valid residence permit

Remark: the nationality/the name/the date of birth on the passport must correspond to the nationality/the name/the date of birth on the residence permit

#### **2. PLF**

Every passenger, regardless of the nationality, who takes an Extra-Schengen flight to Belgium is obliged to fill in the “electronic version of the PLF” before departure and to present it to the carrier.

If it's not possible (only in exceptional cases) for the passenger to use the electronic version PLF, the passenger is obliged to complete and sign the paper version PLF.

I would like to point out that the electronic version of the PLF is demanded, because the competent Belgian health authorities has determined that there is an abuse with the paper version of the PLF.

Please underline the necessity the passengers to fill in the electronic version of the PLF.

If a passenger does not complete the PLF, the airline is demanded to deny boarding.

Nevertheless, the traveler must complete the PLF in all the situations described on the PLF and carry the proof of introduction of the completed PLF with him/her throughout the journey to the final destination in Belgium and for the next 48 hours. If it is not possible to obtain such proof, the traveler is required to carry a copy of the completed PLF with him/her throughout the journey to the final destination in Belgium and for the next 48 hours.

#### **3. Negative PCR test result**

All non-residents in Belgium, from the age of 6 years, arriving on Belgian territory, coming from a red zone must have a negative PCR-test result based on a test carried out at the earliest 72 hours prior to departure. If necessary, the transporter is obliged to check that passengers present a negative PCR-test result before boarding. In absence of a negative test result, the transporter is obliged to refuse boarding.

Exceptions: the following travelers are not required to have a negative test result:

Travelers who only transit by air and who remain exclusively in the transit zone without entering Belgian territory as far as the travelers are not required to have a negative PCR test result to continue their journey. The travelers must be in possession of a confirmed connecting flight ticket. If a negative PCR test result is required by the final destination, the travelers must already be in possession of the negative PCR test result before arriving in Belgium. It's not possible to have a PCR-test in Belgium because the entry conditions are not fulfilled.

Remarque:

A certificate of vaccination isn't valid. The traveler must be in possession of a negative PCR test result.

Tests:

- ✓ the document must be in paper or electronic format with immediate possibility to consult.
- ✓ The document must be produced in Dutch, French, German or English.
- ✓ The document produced by the traveler must contain the following information:
  - The result of this test must be negative.
  - The date of the sample must be clearly indicated: the document is valid for 48 hours from this date.
  - Only PCR tests for SARS CoV-2 with the PCR mention are accepted.
  - The analysis must have been carried out in an official laboratory in the country from which the traveler comes and certified by a doctor or pharmacist biologist (equivalent INAMI number).
- ✓ The following tests are not accepted:
  - RT-LAMP;
  - Rapid antigenic tests;
  - Serological tests.

I remind you that a passenger can still be refused to enter the territory, if he/she doesn't fulfill the entry conditions according to Article 3 of the law of 15 December 1980 on access to the territory, the sojourn, the establishment and the removal of foreigners.

The conditions for entry into the Schengen area must be met.

**Health measures in Belgium:**

The traveler has to respect the sanitary measures taken by Belgium. Therefore, he/she must keep updated on the evolution of the health situation in Belgium on the website <https://www.info-coronavirus.be/en/>

On arrival in Belgium from a **red zone**, a **quarantine and a test** on day 1 and on day 7 of this quarantine are mandatory for **residents in Belgium**. People will receive a text message on their arrival, allowing them to get a test at a test center.

The quarantine ends upon receipt of the negative result of the test on day 7. If the test shows positive, the person in question must undergo self-isolation for at least 10 days.

Visitors who are staying in Belgium for less than 48 hours or who have been in a red zone abroad for less than 48 hours will not be asked to have themselves tested or to go into quarantine.

On arrival in Belgium from a **red zone**, a **quarantine and a test** on day 7 of this quarantine are mandatory for **non-residents in Belgium**. People will receive a text message on their arrival, allowing them to get a test at a test center.

The quarantine ends upon receipt of the negative result of the test on day 7. If the test shows positive, the person in question must undergo self-isolation for at least 10 days.

Visitors who are staying in Belgium for less than 48 hours or who have been in a red zone abroad for less than 48 hours will not be asked to have themselves tested or to go into quarantine.

It goes without saying that if the stay in Belgium of a traveler subject to quarantine lasts less than the scheduled quarantine period, this traveler can leave the country on the scheduled date.

All persons, coming from a **green or orange zone** must not present a negative PCR test result dating back less than 72 hours before their departure to Belgium. On arrival in Belgium a quarantine and test is not mandatory.

**Remarque:** If a person travels to another country via Belgium, the person must also respect the health measures of that country.

## **Travelling to Belgium from a third country (a country that is not a member of the EU nor of the Schengen area)**

Non-essential travels to Belgium are prohibited. However, these restrictions are not applicable to nationals of EU and Schengen Member States and to third country nationals in possession of a valid residence permit issued by a Schengen State or a valid D visa.

Exceptions are also made for people with an essential function or need. These categories of exception, recommended by the European Commission, have been further specified at the Belgian level.

1. Professional travels of health professionals, health researchers and elderly care professionals;
2. Professional travels of frontier workers;
3. Professional travels of seasonal workers in agriculture;
4. Professional travels of transport personnel;
5. Travels of diplomats, staff of international organizations, persons invited by international organization whose physical presence is required for the well-functioning of these organizations, professional travels of military personnel, federal police personnel, civil protection personnel, law enforcement personnel, customs personnel and humanitarian aid workers and civil protection personnel, in the exercise of their functions;
6. Passengers in transit: outside the Schengen zone and the European Union;
7. A travel for compelling family reasons, i.e.
  - A travel justified by family reunification, as defined in the Law of 15 December 1980 on access to the territory, residence, establishment and removal of aliens;
  - A visit to a spouse or partner who does not live under the same roof, insofar as the stable and long-term character of the relationship can be proven;
  - A travel in the context of co-parenting (including medical treatment within the framework of medically assisted procreation);
  - A travel in the context of a funeral or cremation of first-and second degree relatives;
  - A travel in the context of a civil or religious marriage of first-and second degree relatives;
8. Professional travels of seafarers;
9. A travel for humanitarian reasons, in particular:
  - A travel for compelling medical reasons or to pursue urgent medical care;
  - A travel to provide assistance or care to an elderly, minor, disabled or vulnerable person;
10. A study-related travel, in particular a travel by pupils, students and trainees who are undergoing training as part of their studies and researches with a hosting agreement;
11. A travel of skilled third-country workers if their employment is necessary from an economic perspective and the work cannot be postponed, including a travel by professional sportsmen and sportswomen with elite sport status, cultural sector professionals and journalist travelling for work;
  - A travel of persons who come to work as an employee in Belgium, including au pairs, whatever the duration of this activity, provided that they are authorized by the competent Region (work permit or proof that the conditions of an exemption are met) ;
  - A travel of persons who come to work as a self-employed in Belgium, whatever the duration of this activity, provided that they are authorized by the competent Region (valid profession card or proof that the conditions of an exemption are met) ;

## **Which documents should a passenger have in his possession by boarding?**

1. Travel Documents
2. Visa: nationalities subjected to visa requirements
3. Essential Travel Certificate
4. PLF (Passenger Locator Form)
5. Negative PCR test result

### 1. Travel Documents

Valid passport, valid identity card, valid travel document, valid visa or valid residence permit

Remarque: the nationality/the name/the date of birth on the passport must correspond to the nationality/the name/the date of birth on the residence permit

### 2. Visa: nationalities subjected to visa requirements

- Visa issued before March 18, 2020 by the Belgian embassy/consulate  
If a passenger is in possession of a visa type C – issued before 18 March 2020 by the Belgian embassy or consulate, the person must also be in possession of an *essential travel certificate* (original). This certificate is issued by the Belgian embassy or consulate. On the basis of the “essential travel certificate” , the person can travel to Belgium.
- Visa issued after March 18, 2020 by the Belgian embassy/consulate  
If a passenger is in possession of a visa type C – issued after 18 March 2020 by the Belgian embassy/consulate – the person can travel to Belgium.
- Valid visa C issued by another Schengen State – stay in Belgium  
If a person is in possession of a valid "C" visa issued by another Schengen State and wishes to travel to Belgium, the person must travel with the necessary documents. The person must travel with an “essential travel certificate – issued by the Belgian embassy/consulate” to avoid problems during boarding.
- Valid visa C issued by another Schengen State – transit via Belgium  
If a person travels to another Schengen State via Belgium, the person must be authorized to enter that Member State. The person can do this with a verbal note from the embassy of that Member State or with individualized proof from those authorities confirming that the person can travel there. If the person doesn't have such a document, it will be up to the Belgian immigration authorities to determine whether the person can travel via Belgium.

### 3. Essential Travel Certificate

Persons who are not subjected to the visa requirements (visa type C) must be in possession of an “Essential Travel Certificate – issued by the Belgian embassy/consulate”. On the basis of the “essential travel certificate” , the person can travel to Belgium.

### 4. PLF

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5. Negative PCR test result

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I remind you that a passenger can still be refused to enter the territory, if he/she doesn't fulfill the entry conditions according to Article 3 of the law of 15 December 1980 on access to the territory, the sojourn, the establishment and the removal of foreigners.

The conditions for entry into the Schengen area must be met.



### **Health measures in Belgium:**

The traveler has to respect the sanitary measures taken by Belgium. Therefore, he/she must keep updated on the evolution of the health situation in Belgium on the website <https://www.info-coronavirus.be/en/>

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It goes without saying that if the stay in Belgium of a traveler subject to quarantine lasts less than the scheduled quarantine period, this traveler can leave the country on the scheduled date.

All persons, coming from a **green or orange zone** must not present a negative PCR test result dating back less than 72 hours before their departure to Belgium. On arrival in Belgium a quarantine and test is not mandatory.

**Remarque:** All travelers who are coming from the UK, South Africa and South America (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay, Venezuela, Falkland Islands, French Guyana, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands) travel to Belgium are subject to a quarantine measure of 10 days, as well as a test on day 1 and day 7.

**Remarque:** If a person travels to another country via Belgium, the person must also respect the health measures of that country.

## **Travelling to Belgium from a country considered safe by Belgium (Australia, South Korea, Rwanda, New Zealand, Singapore and Thailand. )**

There are no longer any specific travel restrictions for people residing in Australia, South Korea, Japan, Rwanda, New Zealand, Singapore and Thailand.

Nevertheless, the [conditions for entry](#) into the Schengen area must be met. Regardless of whether or not he/she is subject to visa requirements, the traveler must be able to prove that he/she meets the Schengen entry requirements when arriving at the Schengen external borders, by means of the necessary documents.

### **Which documents should a passenger have in his possession by boarding?**

1. Travel Documents
2. PLF (Passenger Locator Form)

#### *1. Travel Documents*

Valid passport, valid identity card, valid travel document, valid visa or valid residence permit

Remarque: the nationality/the name/the date of birth on the passport must correspond to the nationality/the name/the date of birth on the residence permit

#### *2. PLF*

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Nevertheless, the traveler must complete the PLF in all the situations described on the PLF and carry the proof of introduction of the completed PLF with him/her throughout the journey to the final destination in Belgium and for the next 48 hours. If it is not possible to obtain such proof, the traveler is required to carry a copy of the completed PLF with him/her throughout the journey to the final destination in Belgium and for the next 48 hours.

I remind you that a passenger can still be refused to enter the territory, if he/she doesn't fulfill the entry conditions according to Article 3 of the law of 15 December 1980 on access to the territory, the sojourn, the establishment and the removal of foreigners.

The [conditions for entry](#) into the Schengen area must be met.

**Health measures in Belgium:**

The traveler has to respect the sanitary measures taken by Belgium. Therefore, he/she must keep updated on the evolution of the health situation in Belgium on the website <https://www.info-coronavirus.be/en/>

All persons, coming from a **green or orange zone** must not present a negative PCR test result dating back less than 72 hours before their departure to Belgium. On arrival in Belgium a quarantine and test is not mandatory.

**Remarque:** If a person travels to another country via Belgium, the person must also respect the health measures of that country.