

25 Oct 2021

COVID-19 update to guidance

The COVID-19 country risk categorisation guidance has been reviewed

The UK Health Security Agency and NaTHNaC regularly review new evidence and have updated the COVID-19 risk rating for each country. Countries are no longer categorised as high, moderate or low risk for COVID-19 infection.

Most countries worldwide now present a potential risk of exposure to COVID-19 for travellers. Each country has been categorised according to:

- the risk that travel presents to individual travellers
- the risk that travel presents to UK public health

The current category for each country/area can be found on our country information pages.

Countries have been categorised as either:

- a UK red list country; all travellers (even if fully vaccinated against COVID-19) are advised to avoid non-essential travel to these countries.
- a country considered to present a high risk of exposure to COVID-19 and where the additional burden of COVID-19 cases has had a considerable impact on healthcare capacity, which may affect the ability access to healthcare in emergencies. All travellers (even if fully vaccinated against COVID-19) are advised to avoid non-essential travel to these countries.
- rest of the world countries; all travellers should ensure they have access to up to date information on COVID-19 and be prepared for rapid changes in guidance both before and during travel.

Some country pages may also have special wording regarding outbreaks or clusters of cases which are being carefully monitored by our surveillance teams.

The [rationale for these changes is available here](#).

All travellers should also check the detailed COVID-19 specific entry requirements for the country to be visited at the [Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office](#) (FCDO) and understand and arrange any testing and quarantine requirements for their return journey and when entering the UK.

Resources

- [NaTHNaC: Country specific information: rationale](#)
- [NaTHNaC: COVID-19 travel risk assessment](#)
- [Foreign Commonwealth & Development Office: travel advice](#)
- [NaTHNaC: General advice for travellers](#)