

Information on current travel  
procedures for passengers  
intending to visit Cyprus

May 2021



## Information on current travel procedures for passengers intending to visit Cyprus

Cyprus has updated the procedures regulating the repatriation or travelling in Cyprus. Passengers intending to arrive/return to Cyprus will be required to comply with the applicable process, register and meet the requirements for entry to Cyprus promulgated by relevant regulations adopted by the Council of Ministers.

### Regulations for each country category

Countries are categorised on the basis of their epidemiological data in respect of the COVID-19 disease. The classification of countries, based on the epidemiological risk assessment, is extremely dynamic and may change at any moment. As of May 6, the categorisation of countries adheres to the following structure:

#### **A. Green Category countries** (Low risk countries at current stage)

People arriving from Green Category countries, as this is published by the Ministry of Health, are not required to present a laboratory COVID-19 test certificate or go into self-isolation.

#### **B. Orange Category countries** (Countries with possibly low risk but greater uncertainty)

People arriving from Orange Category countries, as this is published by the Ministry of Health, are allowed to enter Cyprus, provided that they submit a negative PCR test for COVID-19 carried out no more than 72 hours before their arrival.

It is also clarified that passengers from Orange Category countries, falling into the following categories, may undergo the molecular examination upon arrival in the Republic:

- ▶ Cypriot citizens and their family members (their alien spouses, underage children and parents);
- ▶ All those legally residing in the Republic;
- ▶ Persons entitled to enter the Republic under the Vienna Convention; and
- ▶ Persons, irrespective of nationality, whose countries of residence (Orange category) do not provide a laboratory testing service (public or private) to those wishing to travel to the Republic of Cyprus according to a relevant announcement.

It should be noted that the examination cost is borne by those persons themselves and, in addition, such persons should remain in self-isolation at home until the examination result is issued.

### **C. Red Category countries** (Increased risk countries compared to the Green and Orange Categories)

People arriving from Red Category countries, as this is published by the Ministry of Health, shall be required to: a) undergo a PCR laboratory test within 72 hours prior to departure proving a negative PCR result and b) undergo a laboratory test upon their arrival in the Republic of Cyprus.

It should be noted that the examination cost is borne by those persons themselves and, in addition, such persons should remain in self-isolation at home until the examination result is issued.

The following categories of passengers may enter the Republic of Cyprus from Red Category countries, after having undergone, at their own expense, a laboratory test only upon their arrival in the Republic of Cyprus:

- ▶ Cypriot citizens and their family members (their alien spouses, underage children);
- ▶ All those legally residing in the Republic; and
- ▶ Persons entitled to enter the Republic under the Vienna Convention;

In such case, persons falling within the categories 1 - 3 above must remain in mandatory self-isolation for 72 hours upon arrival and after the end of the 72-hour period they must undergo another PCR test, at their own expense. If the repeat test is negative, they can then terminate their isolation. The test result must be sent to the following email address: monada@mphs.moh.gov.cy.

### **D. Grey Category countries** (Special Permission)

Countries that are not mentioned in the aforementioned categories (green, orange and red) are considered to belong in the Grey Category (Special Permission). For the Grey Category countries, entry into the Republic of Cyprus is only allowed for the following categories of passengers:

- ▶ Cypriot citizens and their family members (their alien spouses, underage children);
- ▶ European citizens and citizens of European Economic Area countries (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway) and Switzerland;
- ▶ All those legally residing in the Republic;
- ▶ Persons entitled to enter the Republic under the Vienna Convention;
- ▶ Third country nationals who are allowed to enter the Republic of Cyprus following a special permission from the Republic, as this is defined in the Quarantine Decree (N.9) of 2021, as this is modified each time.

It should be noted that passengers arriving from countries of this Category shall be required to undergo a laboratory test at a certified lab within 72 hours prior to departure for Cyprus and to possess a certificate showing a negative PCR result. Excluding category number 2 above, the rest of the passengers may undergo the laboratory test upon their arrival in the Republic of Cyprus, at their own expense.

Passengers arriving in the Republic of Cyprus from the Grey Category countries (Special Permission) shall remain in mandatory self-isolation or mandatory quarantine for a period of fourteen (14) days or alternatively, in mandatory self-isolation or mandatory quarantine for a period of seven (7) days provided that they undergo another Covid-19 test (at their own expense) on the 7th day and the result comes back negative. The test result must be sent to the following email address: monada@mphs.moh.gov.cy.

In addition to the above, it is noted that all passengers, regardless of country category, shall be obliged to submit an application for the CyprusFlightPass within 24 hours prior to their departure flight. Moreover, in order to ensure public health and the monitoring of the epidemiological situation, a sample molecular laboratory testing of passengers on selected arriving flights will be carried out.

*For more information please visit our website on COVID 19 Cyprus Law Resource Center or contact Ms. Evanthia Hadjimatheou at e.hadjimatheou@harriskyriakides.law.*