



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FROM INTERNATIONAL VISITORS

## WHAT ARE THE CURRENT REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER THE UNITED STATES?

**Per U.S. Travel:** As of December 2, all adult foreign nationals and U.S. citizens traveling to the U.S. are required to provide proof that they are [fully vaccinated](#) before boarding their flight, with only limited exceptions. In addition, all foreign nationals and U.S. citizens must provide proof of a negative COVID-19 test (either antigen or PCR) taken within one calendar day of departure to the U.S.

Foreign nationals who have been in South Africa, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Namibia, Lesotho, Eswatini, Mozambique or Malawi within the prior 14 days will be prohibited from entering the U.S.—regardless of their vaccination status.

Per the United States Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC), international air passengers traveling to the United States can use a supervised self-test that meets certain criteria found [here](#).

Travelers can find full details regarding the latest air travel announcement on the [CDC](#) and [Department of State](#) websites.

## COULD THE CURRENT REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER THE U.S. CHANGE?

The COVID-19 pandemic is a rapidly evolving situation, in every country across the globe. For the latest United States entry requirements please visit the [newsroom of the U.S. Department of State](#). It is recommended that all visitors check the current U.S. entry requirements prior to travel.

## ***ARE THERE DIFFERENT TRAVEL PROCEDURES TO BE FOLLOWED COMPARED TO PAST VISITS TO THE U.S.?***

The United States Transportation Security Administration (TSA) has extended the COVID-19 public transportation mask mandate through March 18, 2022. All customers must continue to wear a face mask on public transit. Social distancing at all times is also recommended. Click [here](#) for additional information and guidance from the U.S. Department of Transportation.

### **Additional information:**

- [Information from U.S. Travel on entry requirements as of 2 December](#)
- [Washington Dulles International Airport protocols](#)
- [State of Virginia protocols](#)
- [Washington Area Metrorail protocols](#)

## ***SHOULD VISITORS EXPECT LONGER WAIT TIMES FOR CUSTOMS PROCESSING UPON ENTERING THE UNITED STATES?***

Processing times for entering the United States can vary based on day and time of travel.

- The U.S. Department of Homeland Security provides information on expected wait times at airports and borders [here](#).
- Washington Dulles International Airport, in Virginia, the primary entry point to the region for overseas visitors, provides information on customs processing [here](#).

## ***WHAT ARE VIRGINIA'S POLICIES REGARDING MASK-WEARING, SOCIAL DISTANCING, OR OTHER SAFETY PROTOCOLS?***

In accordance with guidance from the United States Centers for Disease Control & Prevention, Virginia no longer requires masks for fully vaccinated individuals in most settings, though individual businesses and attractions may continue to require masks. Capacity restrictions for tourism and entertainment venues in Virginia have also been lifted. Complete state of Virginia COVID-19 protocols can be accessed [here](#).

## ***WILL PROOF OF VACCINATION BE REQUIRED TO ENTER AN ATTRACTION OR EVENT AND IF SO, IS A PRINT-OUT ACCEPTABLE?***

The state of Virginia has no state-wide mandate requiring visitors to show proof of vaccination. However, individual businesses, attractions and events may do so. It is recommended that all visitors check the requirements for each venue they plan to visit, prior to arrival, and travel prepared to show proof of vaccination upon request.

- [Access a list of major Virginia attractions](#) with links to their COVID-19 safety requirements.

## ***ARE ANY MAJOR ATTRACTIONS CLOSED, EITHER TEMPORARILY OR PERMANENTLY?***

Very few Virginia attractions closed permanently due to COVID-19, though some have adjusted hours at this time. It is recommended that all visitors check the operating hours for each venue they plan to visit, prior to arrival.

- [Access a list of major Virginia attractions](#) with links to their websites.

## ***WHICH MAJOR ATTRACTIONS NEED TO BE BOOKED IN ADVANCE?***

Only a limited number of major Virginia attractions must be booked in advance. But it is recommended that all visitors check the access procedures for each venue they plan to visit, prior to arrival.

- [Access a list of major Virginia attractions](#) with links to their websites.

## ***WHAT ARE VIRGINIA'S HOTEL CLEANING AND SAFETY PROTOCOLS?***

Hotels and other traveler accommodations, similar to other businesses and attractions, have individualized COVID-19 policies and safety protocols. It is recommended that all visitors check the procedures in place at each location they plan to visit, prior to arrival and travel with a mask. Some major hotel chains in the United States have companywide COVID safety protocols reviewable on their websites:

- [Hilton CleanStay](#)
- [Marriott International](#)

***IF VISITORS MUST ISOLATE WHILE IN THE U.S., WILL HOTELS HAVE A FLAT RATE, OR WILL THE COST BE DETERMINED BY EACH INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY?***

Hotels and accommodations set their own rates. There is no United States federal government or state of Virginia mandate requiring hotels to charge a flat rate for COVID-19 quarantines.

***WHAT HAPPENS IF I GET COVID-19 WHILE ON HOLIDAY?***

It is recommended that all travelers, even fully vaccinated travelers, have a financial safeguard for pandemic-related problems when they travel, such as travel insurance. Look for a plan that specifically covers COVID-related trip cancellation and medical expenses.

***WHAT IF COVID RATES INCREASE AGAIN, IS OUR BOOKING PROTECTED?***

For all booking questions it is recommended that travelers consult directly with the travel professional or company with whom they booked as policies vary.

***GENERAL INFORMATION***

Before any international trip, consult the [U.S. State Department's COVID-related page](#) for your destination. These pages are updated often and will cover entry and exit requirements in that country, as well as testing and local resources. Be sure to bookmark the page or take a screenshot of these resource lists, which include the addresses and phone numbers of testing labs in your destination.

Some airlines have become one-stop shops for travelers, offering resources on where and how to get tested before flying and advice for what to do on the ground in your destination.

- [United Airlines Covid Testing](#)
- [American Airlines Covid Testing](#)
- [Delta Air Lines Covid Testing](#)