Instructions for operators flying to and from the Netherlands

COVID-19 measures for passengers flying to and from the Netherlands

Version 5

Introduction
In order to prevent the spread of coronavirus, the Dutch government has put rules in place for passengers flying to the Netherlands from countries or areas that are deemed COVID-19 high risk, very high-risk and very high-risk with a COVID-19 variant of concern. Passengers are required to meet certain requirements in order to minimize public health risks associated with COVID-19.

COVID-19 travel requirements for passengers
Passengers flying to the Netherlands are required to meet the following conditions:

NOTICE: Before boarding, airlines shall verify if passengers meet the below-mentioned requirements. If passengers fail to meet these conditions, they shall be refused on the flight and are not permitted to board the aircraft.

1. EU-entry ban
Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, a European entry ban is in effect for some people, barring them from travelling to the European Union (EU) or the Schengen area. EU or Schengen area residents are automatically exempted from the EU-entry ban. Non-EU or Schengen area residents are not exempted unless they fall into one of the exemption categories for the travel ban.

For more information on the EU-entry ban exemption categories, please check the latest NOTAM or visit: https://www.government.nl/topics/coronavirus-covid-19/visiting-the-netherlands-from-abroad/exemptions-to-the-entry-ban

2. European Digital COVID certificate (DCC)
As of July 1st 2021, the Digital COVID Certificate (DCC) has been implemented by the Netherlands and officially recognized by the Dutch government as a valid means of proving that a traveler is either fully vaccinated, has recovered from COVID-19 and/or is negatively tested. Airlines can accept the DCC if a passenger travelling to the Netherlands from a low- or high-risk country, shows this document. Passengers can also still show paper proof if they do not have access to the DCC. For more information about the DCC, please refer to: https://www.government.nl/topics/coronavirus-covid-19/covid-certificate
3. **Testing and quarantine requirements**

**a. Travelling from a COVID low risk country or area to the Netherlands**
   i. If passengers start their journey in a safe country or area from within the EU or Schengen and fly directly to the Netherlands, there are no travel restrictions.
   ii. Passengers aged 12 years and older need to show a negative test result (either PCR/NAAT test taken 48 hours before departure or a rapid antigen test 24 hours before departure), show proof of being fully vaccinated, or show a recovery certificate issued in an EU Member State/Caribbean Netherlands if they are travelling from a safe country or area outside the EU/Schengen.
   iii. All passengers are advised to do a self-test after arrival in the Netherlands.

**b. Travelling from a COVID high risk country or area to the Netherlands**
   i. Passengers aged 12 years and older from a high risk country or area from within the EU or Schengen to the Netherlands, need to show a negative test result (either PCR/NAAT test taken 48 hours before departure or a rapid antigen test 24 hours before departure), or show a proof of being fully vaccinated or show a recovery certificate issued in an EU Member State/Caribbean Netherlands.
   ii. Passengers aged 12 years and older travelling from a high risk country/region outside the EU/Schengen need to show a negative test result (either PCR/NAAT test taken 48 hours before departure or a rapid antigen test 24 hours before departure), or must show proof of being fully vaccinated, or must show a recovery certificate issued in an EU Member State/Caribbean Netherlands.
   iii. Passengers that are not vaccinated or recovered are urgently advised to do a self-test or go to a local health authority (GGD) to get tested on day 2 and day 5 after arrival in the Netherlands. All other passengers are advised to do a self-test after arrival in the Netherlands.

**c. Travelling from a COVID very high risk country or area to the Netherlands without a COVID variant of concern**
   i. All passengers aged 12 years and older from a very high-risk country or area must show a negative test result (either PCR/NAAT test taken 48 hours before departure or a rapid antigen test 24 hours before departure).
   ii. Also for non-fully vaccinated passengers and other passengers that are not exempted who are travelling from a very high-risk country/area outside the EU/Schengen to the Netherlands, a mandatory quarantine applies. Passengers must complete a quarantine declaration form before entering the country (can be found on quarantaineverklaring.rijksoverheid.nl). This declaration can be a digital confirmation stating that the traveler has completed the form or a paper version of the quarantine declaration. The quarantine period can be ended if a test that is taken by local health authorities (GGD), 5 days after arrival in the Netherlands, shows negative.

**d. Travelling from a very high-risk country or area with a COVID variant of concern to the Netherlands**
   i. All passengers aged 12 years and older from a very high-risk country or area with a COVID variant of concern to the Netherlands are required to meet the following, stricter, conditions. Passengers either:
      1. Show a negative NAAT/PCR-test result based on a sample that is collected 24 hours before departure
      2. Or show the following 2 test results:
         a. A negative NAAT/PCR-test result based on a sample collected no more than 48 hours before departure to the Netherlands.
         b. **And** a negative rapid antigen test result based on a sample collected no more than 24 hours before departure
   ii. Also for all passengers who are travelling from a very high-risk country or area with a COVID variant of concern to the Netherlands, a mandatory quarantine applies. Passengers must complete a
quarantine declaration form before entering the country (can be found on quarantaineneverklaring.rijksoverheid.nl). This declaration can be a digital confirmation stating that the traveler has completed the form or a paper version of the quarantine declaration. The quarantine period can be ended if a test that is taken by local health authorities (GGD), 5 days after arrival in the Netherlands, shows negative.

See page 6 and 7 for an overview of the requirements for each category.

For more information on the requirements the test result must meet and the exemption categories, please refer to:

- the latest NOTAM description at www.government.nl/covid19notam;

4. Health declaration for air travel

All passengers (departing from and arriving in a Dutch airport) aged 12 years and older or older, must carry a filled in health declaration. The form contains questions about the possible presence of symptoms which could be related to coronavirus disease (COVID-19). Before boarding, the crew must check passengers’ completed forms as well as perform the usual visual check. The Health Declaration Form is appended to these instructions. Travelers may also fill-out a digital PDF version of the health declaration. Depending on whether the airline has a process to complete this health declaration digitally during check-in, a printed or digital PDF copy is not necessary.

NOTICE: Any passengers presenting one or more of the symptoms listed in the Health Declaration Form are not allowed to board the aircraft. This also applies to transit passengers. In these cases, please contact the local health authorities in the country/area of departure and request further instructions.


Rapid testing requirement for aircrew travelling from very high-risk countries or areas with a COVID variant of concern

Aircrew (crew members, personnel operating passenger/cargo flights and travelling as passengers to/from their departure base) are exempt from all testing and quarantine requirements as long as they are not travelling from a very high-risk country or area with a COVID variant of concern to the Netherlands. If they are indeed travelling from a COVID variant of concern country, they need to show a negative rapid antigen test result based on a sample collected no more than 24 hours before boarding the airplane abroad.

A negative NAAT/PCR-test that is taken 48 hours before departure to the Netherlands, will also serve as a substitute for the rapid antigen test (taken 24 hours before boarding the aircraft). A negative NAAT/PCR-test is valid for a maximum of 48 hours and can be used on multiple flights, as long as the 48 hours have not been exceeded.

If it is not possible for aircrew to meet the rapid testing requirement, they are eligible to submit a request for dispensation accompanied by an alternative testing regime. For more details on requirements that the alternative testing protocol must meet, please refer to the latest NOTAM description at www.government.nl/covid19notam.
For a list of low-/high-/very-high-risk countries (updated weekly, every Thursday), please refer to: https://www.government.nl/topics/coronavirus-covid-19/visiting-the-netherlands-from-abroad/checklist-entry/from-outside-the-eu.

Instructions for passengers
Passengers travelling from high-risk countries or areas to the Netherlands, shall receive the ‘letter for passengers’ from operators, which is appended to these instructions. This letter provides them more information about the basic COVID-19 rules that apply in the Netherlands, how to self-quarantine and which actions they should take, if they develop COVID-19 symptoms.


During the flight
If a passenger develops symptoms of COVID-19 during the flight, operators should use the special safety kits and follow the standard procedure, including informing air traffic control.

Informing passengers
Operators are instructed to inform passengers as follows, prior to disembarking in the Netherlands:

- Welcome to the Netherlands. To minimize the spread of coronavirus, passengers are strongly advised to maintain a 1.5 meter distance from other passengers when disembarking the aircraft and in the terminal buildings.

- All passengers are advised to do a self-test after arrival in the Netherlands.

- Please keep your face mask on. You will be informed about this in the terminal.

- When disembarking, your Health Declaration Form, as well as your negative test result, proof of vaccination and/or quarantine declaration (if needed) may be checked again. Please keep the documents with you until you have passed through passport control. Dutch border control officers could ask you to provide proof.

- Please abide by hygiene rules. If you develop symptoms, get tested and self-quarantine in your accommodation.

- When using public transport, you must wear a non-medical face mask.

- (Additional message on flights from countries/regions for which mandatory quarantine is required: If the Netherlands is your final destination, you must mandatory self-quarantine for 10 days or 5, if you have a negative test result 5 days after arriving to the Netherlands. For more information about coronavirus measures in the Netherlands, please read the flyer and the letter for passengers.

- Thank you for your cooperation.

Please refer to the following website for a list of countries for which the mandatory quarantine applies: https://www.government.nl/topics/coronavirus-covid-19/visiting-the-netherlands-from-abroad/self-quarantine/mandatory-quarantine.

Phone number for coronavirus testing
If a passenger develops COVID-19 symptoms within 10 days of arriving in the Netherlands from another country, they can make an appointment to get tested by calling 0800 1202.
Contact tracing
If a passenger tests positive for COVID-19, the local health authorities may request operators for passenger locator data in a very short time (including seat number) for contact tracing. Operators should therefore keep this information for at least 2 weeks after each flight. A passenger locator form drafted in accordance with international standards can be used for this purpose.

Questions
If you have any questions about passengers presenting symptoms before boarding, please contact the local health authority at the airport of departure in accordance with the standard procedures.

For general questions in the Netherlands you can contact the local health authority at the airport of arrival.

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<tr>
<th>Airport</th>
<th>Local health authority</th>
<th>Phone number</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amsterdam Schiphol</td>
<td>GGD Kennemerland</td>
<td>+31 (0)23 789 1612</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maastricht Aachen</td>
<td>GGD Zuid Limburg</td>
<td>+31 (0)88 880 5005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rotterdam The Hague</td>
<td>GGD Rotterdam Rijnmond</td>
<td>+31 (0)10 443 8031</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eindhoven</td>
<td>GGD Brabant Zuid-Oost</td>
<td>+31 (0)88 003 1100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Groningen Eelde</td>
<td>GGD Drenthe</td>
<td>+31 (0)59 230 6300</td>
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Closing remarks
Your cooperation is extremely important and is very much appreciated by the Dutch Government.

See below for an overview of COVID-requirements
Travelling from outside EU/Schengen to the Netherlands

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REQUIREMENTS (12 YRS AND OLDER)</th>
<th>LOW RISK</th>
<th>HIGH RISK</th>
<th>VERY HIGH RISK</th>
<th>VERY HIGH RISK WITH VOC</th>
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<td>NEGATIVE NAAT-TEST (24 HRS)</td>
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<td>NEGATIVE RAPID TEST (24 HRS)</td>
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- ✗: one of the following
- ✧: optional (but strongly advised)
- ✓: mandatory
**Travelling from within EU/Schengen to the Netherlands**

**REQUIREMENTS (12 YRS AND OLDER)**

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