



GOVERNMENT OF THE COOK ISLANDS
TE KAUNONO TUTARA E TE MANA TIAKI - MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION

28 January 2022

Notice of Amended travel Advisory as at 31 January 2022

The Cook Islands current Section 9A Notice for refusal of Entry under the Entry, Residence and Departure Act 1971-72, signed into effect from 12 May 2020 and still active is as follows:

All persons are denied entry into the Cook Islands unless there is an exemption provided (in writing) by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Immigration (MFAI).

Effective from 11.59pm Monday 31 January 2022 (CKT) to 11.59pm Monday 28 February 2022, the following groups of persons are exempted for entry into the Cook Islands, provided they meet the entry criteria specified in the COVID-19 (Air Border Requirements) Regulations 2021, summarised below

- 1. Group 1 - Any person who is visiting the Cook Islands under a visitor's permit (tourist) must**
 - (i) have been in New Zealand or the Cook Islands for a continuous period of at least 10 days before the scheduled departure date of their flight to the Cook Islands; and
 - (ii) be vaccinated and provide evidence of vaccination; and
 - (iii) have completed the online COVID-19 information form no earlier than 96 hours before the scheduled departure time of their flight to the Cook Islands; and
 - (iv) provide a negative result from an RT-PCR test administered no earlier than 48 hours before the scheduled departure time of their flight to the Cook Islands.

- 2. Group 2 - Any person who holds a valid Cook Islands issued Immigration permit, other than a visitor permit, must:**
 - (i) provide evidence of Immigration permit
 - (ii) have been in New Zealand or the Cook Islands for a continuous period of at least 10 full days before the scheduled departure date of their journey to the Cook Islands; and
 - (iii) be vaccinated and provide evidence of vaccination; and
 - (iv) have completed the online COVID-19 information form no earlier than 96 hours before the scheduled departure time of their journey to the Cook Islands; and
 - (v) provide a negative result from an RT-PCR test administered no earlier than 48 hours before the scheduled departure time of their journey to the Cook Islands; and
 - (vi) Only those under 5 years old are exempt from (iii) above.

Exemptions from Vaccination requirements – a person from group 2 is exempted from the vaccination requirements if they have a medical exemption from vaccination which meets the requirements of the regulations, or if they are under the age of 5 years. Home quarantine and mandatory testing requirements will apply to these persons on arrival into the Cook Islands.

For the purposes of these entry requirements the definition of under 5 years old is a child who is 4 years and 364 days old.

3. Group 3- A person who is a Cook Islander or Permanent resident and child of Permanent Resident must

- (i) If a Cook Islander –provide evidence of their Cook Islands status; if Permanent resident - must provide evidence of their Permanent Resident status
- (ii) have been in New Zealand or the Cook Islands for a continuous period of at least 10 full days before the scheduled departure date of their journey to the Cook Islands;
- (iii) have completed the online COVID-19 information form no earlier than 96 hours before the scheduled departure time of their journey to the Cook Islands
- (iv) Provide a negative result from an RT-PCR test administered no earlier than 48 hours before the scheduled departure time of their journey to the Cook Islands
- (v) Be vaccinated and provide evidence of vaccination
- (vi) Only those under 5 years old are exempt from (v) above.

Exemptions from Vaccination requirements – a person from group 3 is exempted from the vaccination requirements if they have a medical exemption vaccination certificate which meets the requirements of the regulations, or if they are under the age of 5 years. Home quarantine and mandatory testing requirements will apply to these persons on arrival into the Cook Islands.

For the purposes of these entry requirements the definition of under 5 years old is a child who is 4 years and 364 days old.

B) Applies to all travellers - Delayed or Rebooked flights

If the person's flight is delayed or rebooked by more than 12 hours but less than 24 hours from the original scheduled departure time, the person must also provide a negative result from a supervised rapid antigen test administered no earlier than 12 hours before the new scheduled departure time of their flight to the Cook Islands.

However, if the person does not leave New Zealand on a flight to the Cook Islands within 24 hours after their original scheduled departure time, they must comply with the usual testing entry requirements.

Travellers in Group 2 and 3 and aged 5 years and older who have medical exemptions from vaccination are required to enter Managed Quarantine as per the entry requirements, must provide evidence of their managed Quarantine placement and confirmation from the Ministry of Finance and Economic Management to MFAI 48 hours prior to their scheduled departure.

Travellers will be refused entry without this confirmation.

All travellers must meet Cook Islands Immigration Entry requirements

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All queries regarding this travel advisory can be directed to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Immigration (Te Kauono Tutara e te Mana Tiaki on email: immigration2@cookislands.gov.ck).

Meitaki maata



Kairangi J. Samuela
Principal Immigration Officer