

Regulations for international travel from/to South Africa

As per 20 October 2020 – Subject to change

1. Who is allowed to enter South Africa?

From NON high-risk countries: Residents of low and medium risk countries for any kind of purpose are allowed to travel to South Africa. The normal visa regulations apply. See list of countries exempted from Visa [here](#).

From HIGH RISK countries (see point 7 for the list): Residents of high risk countries are allowed to travel **except** for short term leisure purpose (< 90 days period). This means that all South African passport holders, diplomats, travelers holding permanent or temporary residency permits or a long term or short term visa as well as people on international mission in sports, arts, culture and science are allowed to enter South Africa. Investors, business travelers & visitors for more than 90 days who do not have a visa yet can apply for one (see point 3) and be allowed to travel to South Africa. All travelers from high risk countries must have a visa/approval document upon departure.

2. Who is not allowed to enter South Africa?

Only residents of high risk countries traveling for short term leisure purpose (tourists staying less than 90 days) are not permitted to enter South Africa.

3. What must Business travelers / Investors / Visitors for a 90-days period or more from high risk countries do to enter South Africa?

Travelers who want to undertake a business travel or a stay longer than 90 days into South Africa, must, in writing, apply to the Minister of Home Affairs and demonstrate reasons for their request to enter South Africa. This also include visitors coming to stay for a 90 days period or more. It is advisable to contact the South African Embassy or consulate of their country of departure for further guidance.

Applications must be directed to email Covid19BusinessTravel@dha.gov.za and supported by:

- a copy of passport and/or temporary residence visa
- proof of business activities to be undertaken in South Africa
- proof of travel itinerary
- proof of address or accommodation in South Africa

An approval response should be received prior to departure into South Africa.

4. What do all travelers need to do in order to enter South Africa?

Prior to departure into South Africa, all travellers will need to present a negative COVID-19 PCR test result certificate not older than 72 hours before the date of the start of the travel. South African Nationals and South African residents failing to present a negative COVID19 test result **will be accepted to fly, tested and quarantined upon arrival at their own cost**.

Mandatory test result does not apply to children below 5 years old.

➔ Negative test result to be presented prior to departure is mandatory for Non South African Nationals and Non South African residents and strongly recommended for South African Nationals and South African residents.

Upon arrival in South Africa, all travellers will be subjected to screening by Port of Health Officials. All travellers detected with symptoms (which include elevated body temperatures and flu-like symptoms) or in contact with an infected person, will be expected to take a mandatory COVID-19 test in South Africa. **This test will be at the traveller's cost.** If the COVID-19 test comes back positive, the traveller will be subjected to a 10-day quarantine at a designated site at **his/her own cost.**

It is highly recommended that all travellers download the COVID-Alert APP (COVID Alert SA) so that they are able to monitor and minimise their risk of exposure to the COVID-19 virus.

5. Will citizens from a high risk countries living in a low/medium risk country be allowed to enter South Africa?

If a national or resident of a high-risk country can prove (proof of residency in a low/medium-risk country, hotel invoices or passport stamp etc) that he/she has spent 10 days or more in a low/medium risk country before departure, he/she will be considered to be arriving from a low/medium risk country.

6. What happens if travellers don't expect to have their test and results on time prior to departure?

All tickets are changeable to a later date without a fee, rebooking must be completed before initial departure date to avoid NO SHOW. However, a fare difference might still apply.

7. List of "high-risk" countries (as of 19 October 2020, updated every 14 days)

Short term tourists (stay < 90 days) are not allowed to enter South Africa if their country of residence is in the list below.

- Argentina
- Bangladesh
- Belgium
- Brazil
- Canada
- Chile
- Colombia
- France
- Germany
- India
- Indonesia
- Iran
- Iraq
- Italy
- Mexico
- Netherlands
- Peru
- Philippines
- Russia
- Spain
- United Kingdom
- USA

8. Is it allowed to travel from South Africa to high risk countries?

Yes, it is allowed to travel from South Africa to the high risk countries as long as travelers have the correct travel documentation and fulfill the health requirements.

Travelers are advised to prepare well for their journey by checking the travel and health restrictions of the countries to which they travel. This can be done via the Air France and KLM website Travel Doc or via the IATA Travel Centre website.

- Air France: <https://airfrance.traveldoc.aero/>
- KLM <https://klm.traveldoc.aero/>
- IATA Travel Center <https://www.iatatravelcentre.com/world.php>



All travellers departing from South Africa are required to complete the [South African exit health screening form](#).

If travelers are going to **France**, it is recommended that they bring a negative Covid-19 test result (PCR test) taken less than 72 hours before the flight, to present upon arrival in France. Otherwise, a free Covid-19 test can be done upon arrival. Passengers in transit to outside France are not concerned by this measure. All travelers to France must also complete a [travel certificate](#) and carry it at all times during their journey.

Travelers to **The Netherlands** are required by the Dutch government to do a health screening. Therefore, during check-in, customers will receive a health statement to read and acknowledge. Furthermore, travelers need to fill out a [health screening form](#) that they have to bring when traveling.

It is the responsibility of the traveller to check the local health requirements of the country being travelled to/transited via and to ensure that the correct travel and health documentation is in order while travelling.

Upon return into South Africa, points **1 to 7 apply to re-enter South Africa.**

9. Is transit in high risk countries allowed?

Yes, transit in high risk countries, including CDG and AMS, is allowed.

10. Will Air France – KLM flights from/to South Africa be operating?

All planned Air France – KLM flights from/to South Africa will be operating. Updated schedules could be found on [Air France](#) and [KLM](#) local websites.

11. Are all countries allowed to book flights from/to South Africa?

All AF/KL flights from/to South Africa are open for sale and bookable by all channels (direct/indirect, online/offline) by all Points of Sale. Travelers can book through their preferred channel as long as they comply with the regulations to travel from/to South Africa.

12. Where can travelers get a PCR Covid 19 test in France and Netherlands?

For travelers who need a health certificate confirming that they have tested negative for COVID-19 depending on their final destination, both Air France and KLM propose official test facilities.

- Air France has set up partnerships with the Synlab and BioGroup laboratories in Paris and in France. More info can be found [here](#). Travelers can also visit the [Doctolib website](#) to make appointments with other laboratories performing Covid-19 PCR tests.
- KLM Health Services provides COVID-19 PCR tests for travelers. They can be reached at: +31 (0)20 244 52 10 (during office hours). More info on test facilities could be found [here](#).