

COVID-19

(Coronavirus)

Phase

4

Bermuda Visitor FAQ

As of 6th August 2020 V.5.2

General Travel

1. **When will the Bermuda Airport resume commercial air service, allowing non-residents to enjoy Bermuda and residents to return?**

The Bermuda's L.F. Wade International Airport allowed commercial air service as of 1st July 2020.

2. **Are visitors from certain countries banned from Bermuda once the airport reopens?**

The Quarantine Authority (Minister of Health) of Bermuda, as per paragraph 6 of the [Quarantine \(COVID-19\) \(No.3\) Order](#) requires visitors to have a negative pre-departure test result to travel to Bermuda, taken no more than seven days before departure. As of 11th July 2020 visitors without a negative pre-departure test result cannot obtain Travel Authorisation. This applies to all visitors who have been in a country classified by the [WHO as having community transmission of COVID-19 \(this includes the US, UK and Canada\)](#).

3. **When will cruise lines be returning to Bermuda?**

This will be on a date determined in consultation with the cruise industry.

4. **Do work permit holders follow the rules for residents or visitors?**

Residents

Pre-Departure Testing

5. **I'm a Bermudian resident, can I get tested on the island before I go away and use that as my pre-departure test?**

No, PCR COVID-19 tests done in Bermuda do not count as pre-departure tests. Once you leave Bermuda and enter a jurisdiction with community transmission of COVID-19, you are at risk of being exposed. The pre-departure test needs to be taken in the place with community transmission or the overseas jurisdiction.

6. **Should I travel if I test positive with COVID-19?**

No, you must not travel if you test positive for COVID-19 whether a resident or visitor. The risk you will place the passengers and staff in the airport, on the plane and upon arrival is too high. We ask that you wait to visit or return to Bermuda until you receive two negative PCR COVID-19 tests that are 72 hours apart.

7. **Where can I get a test in my home country with guaranteed test results in less than 72 hours?**

The timing of test results will vary by city, state, province, county or even country. Check with the testing facility nearest to you – it could be a CVS or Walgreens, a public health clinic or a private lab. Bermuda will accept test results where the test is taken no more than seven days before you travel. In the UK citydoc.org.uk, or www.medexpress.co.uk/testing/covid19/coronavirus-covid19-home-testing-kit-pcr for example, provides fit to fly testing.

8. What if my results are delayed?

This may delay your travel plans. The Quarantine Authority (Minister of Health) of Bermuda, as per paragraph 6 of the [Quarantine \(COVID-19\) \(No.3\) Order](#) requires visitors to have a negative pre-departure test result to travel to Bermuda, taken no more than seven days before departure. As of 11 July 2020 visitors without a negative pre-departure test result cannot obtain Travel Authorisation. This applies to all visitors who have been in a country classified by the [WHO as having community transmission of COVID-19 \(this includes the US, UK and Canada\)](#).

9. Does the 72-hour time period mean between receiving the results and flying? Or the actual taking of the test and flying?

The 72 hours is between the actual taking of the test and flying. The test can be taken up to 7 days prior.

10. At what age is a visitor required to take a test?

Children 10 years and older must be tested. For children ages 10 to 17, a saliva test is permitted. Children 9-years-old and younger are exempt.

11. Does my child who is 7-years-old have to quarantine?

A child 9-years-old and younger must follow the same quarantine instructions as their parents. For children who can be tested must follow the quarantine instructions based on their testing results.

12. What specific types of COVID-19 tests are acceptable?

A PCR COVID-19 test is the acceptable test at this time. Antibody tests are not accepted.

13. Can a negative rapid test be considered as the pre-departure requirement? Then the more reliable, higher quality test on arrival?

The pre-departure test must be a PCR COVID-19 test as this is the most reliable test currently.

Insurance

14. What does the Bermuda Government deem “appropriate insurance?”

Please ensure that your health insurance covers illness and injury outside of your home jurisdictions, including related to being positive for COVID-19. If you are unable to secure this kind of insurance, you will be responsible for all health and accommodation costs should you contract COVID-19 or become ill.

15. How will the Bermuda Government verify that visitors arriving have appropriate insurance?

At present the Bermuda Government will not be able to verify this information, it will be up to the individual visitor to know whether they are covered or not. In Bermuda, a doctor’s visit can cost upwards of \$150, an emergency room visit can cost upwards of \$1,000 and an ambulance will cost over \$1,000. You should not travel without health insurance.

Testing Upon Arrival

16. Does Bermuda Government pay for the COVID-19 test upon arrival? If not, how much will Bermuda Government charge each traveller (resident and visitor) per test?

The Travel Authorisation fee of \$75 includes all COVID-19 tests required within a 14 day period. A traveller (visitor or resident) coming to Bermuda will be required to be tested when they arrive, on



day four (4), day eight (8) and day 14 of their stay. The number of tests required depends on the length of stay. **The location and time of each of your tests will automatically be booked for you, so please do not book separate appointments.** You will receive email reminders 24 hours before each test. Should the time or location of a test not suit you, please call the COVID hotline to reschedule on (441) 444 – 2498. **NOTE:** Children 9-years-old and younger do not have to be tested at any point, so will be charged a reduced fee of \$30 for their Travel Authorisation. Children 10-17 must receive parental consent to be tested. If consent is denied, the young traveller must quarantine for 14 days on arrival. Children who are 9-years-old and younger, must quarantine as per the adults they travelled with.

17. What kind of test is it? (i.e., Nasal swab, saliva, etc.)

A PCR COVID-19 Nasal swab. If saliva tests become available they may be used as appropriate.

18. Can visitors await their test results by isolating at their hotel/resort/on the beach as opposed to quarantining in their room?

If you (whether a visitor or resident) have received a pre-departure negative PCR COVID-19 test between 72 hours or up to seven days before, you will be able to quarantine at your home or accommodation. The turnaround time is approximately 24 hours for most results, though results may take longer depending on arrival time, so should result in very little delay to your holiday to make sure we are all safe.

19. How can I get to my accommodation from the airport?

All travellers (residents and visitors) are considered quarantined between the airport and their accommodation and therefore should:

- a. **Use taxis** - all persons must wear a mask*, hand sanitize before entering the vehicle and sit in the back seat. Taxi drivers must also record contact details for the travellers (residents and visitors) in case contact tracing is required.
- b. **Organize for a local contact/household member to pick-up the traveller at the airport.** This may be predominately residents and masks must be worn, hands sanitized and keep as much of a distance as possible.

Public transport must not be used by travellers (residents and visitors) leaving the airport as they will not be able to provide contact tracing upon their departure.

*Children under the age of 2 must not wear a mask.

Quarantine

20. Do I have to quarantine while I'm in Bermuda?

- a) With the pre-departure test you will only quarantine at your accommodation while awaiting results of your arrival test. Turnaround time is generally less than 24 hours for most results, though results may take longer depending on arrival time.
- b) Residents who decline pre-departure and arrival testing will quarantine for 14 days and test on day 14 OR quarantine a further 14 days.

Testing on Island

21. As a resident, how often do I have to have a PCR COVID-19 test?

You will test upon arrival in Bermuda, on day four (4), day eight (8) and day 14. **The location and time of each of your tests will automatically be booked for you, so please do not book separate**

appointments. You will receive email reminders 24 hours before each test. Should the time or location of a test not suit you, please call the COVID hotline to reschedule on (441) 444 – 2498. You may also choose not to participate in any of these tests and then you will be required to quarantine for 14 days. You may test on day 14 and if the test result is negative, you may move around Bermuda following the public health guidance. If on day 14 you refuse a test again, you will be required to quarantine for an additional 14 days – a total of 28 days.

22. What if someone on the plane I arrived on is diagnosed with COVID-19?

Everyone on a plane must wear their masks, wash their hands regularly and maintain physical distancing as much as possible. However, if a passenger becomes ill, the individual will be contacted by a Ministry of Health contact tracer who will review the person's close contacts, the flight they arrived on and when the symptoms occurred. Depending on the information provided by the passenger, it may be necessary to contact the other passengers with quarantine or isolation procedures.

23. Does Bermuda Government pay for the additional COVID-19 tests required post-arrival? If not, how much will Bermuda Government charge each visitor per test?

The one-time fee charged for the Travel Authorisation covers all PCR COVID-19 testing carried-out on island.

24. Do I have to arrange for my follow-up testing?

No, the location and time of each of your tests will automatically be booked for you, **so please do not book separate appointments.** You will receive email reminders 24 hours before each test. Should the time or location of a test not suit you, please call the COVID hotline to reschedule on (441) 444 – 2498.

25. If I am leaving on day 4, 8 or 14 do I have to take a test in Bermuda?

If you leave on day four or day eight or day 14 of your visit you will not have to test on that day.

26. Where does the testing take place?

The location and time of each of your tests will automatically be booked for you, so please do not book separate appointments. You will receive email reminders 24 hours before each test. Should the time or location of a test not suit you, please call the COVID hotline to reschedule on (441) 444 – 2498.

27. What kind of test is it? (i.e., Nasal swab, saliva, etc.)

A PCR COVID-19 nasal swab. If saliva tests become available they may be used as appropriate.

28. How long will it take to receive results?

The PCR COVID-19 test result turnaround time is generally less than 24 hours, though results may take longer depending on arrival time.

29. How will I be informed of my test results?

The results will be emailed to you on the same email you provided when applying for the Travel Authorisation.



30. Is there a waiting period where visitors need to self-isolate for results every three days? If so, where should this waiting period take place?

Travellers (residents and visitors) with a pre-departure test will only quarantine while awaiting results of arrival test; they do not need to quarantine after their tests on day four (4), eight (8) or 14.

31. What happens if a visitor tests positive while on-island?

Before you travel, prepare your travel plans. To do this think through, and have answers for, the following questions:

- a) Check with your hotel or your local accommodation for quarantining options. Will the hotel give you a room to isolate? If you are staying with a resident, are they a high risk population? Is there enough space to quarantine? If not, what are your options?
- b) Do you have health insurance that will cover hospital stays and private visits with physicians while on the island?
- c) If you are traveling with family, what will they do? Will they return home? Will they be able to quarantine?

While on Island

32. Do I have to wear a mask while I'm in Bermuda?

You must wear a mask in settings where a physical distance of 6ft cannot be maintained. Examples of this are: taxis, buses, grocery and retail stores, pharmacies, and restaurants when not seated at a table. The information on mask wearing is available here: www.gov.bm/mask-guidance. You do not have to wear the masks on a scooter.

Departures

33. How do I know the requirements for a Bermudian traveling overseas?

Persons travelling outbound to other countries should check with the relevant destination for any requirements they may have for entering the country.

