



FAQs

Date: 3.12.2021

Coronavirus: New rules for entry into Switzerland

New entry rules

1. We have visitors coming from Spain – what rules apply regarding entering Switzerland?

Everyone arriving in Switzerland must comply with two rules:

1. On entry, everyone must have completed the entry form with their contact details (Swiss PLF). This can be done online or on paper. The contact details are important in case the person needs to be notified that someone with whom they may have had contact has tested positive. The contact details can also be used by the cantons to check that arrivals have had the required tests.
2. In addition, everyone entering Switzerland must also present a negative PCR test.

2. Does the test requirement also apply to Switzerland's border regions?

No, exemptions apply for cross-border commuters and people travelling to Switzerland from the border regions. Travellers from these regions do not have to complete a contact form or have a test.

The border regions are:

- Regions in Germany: Baden-Württemberg and Bavaria
- Regions in France: Grand-Est, Burgundy/Franche Comté and Auvergne/Rhône-Alpes
- Regions in Italy: Piedmont, Aosta Valley, Lombardy and Trentino/South Tyrol
- Regions in Austria: Tyrol and Vorarlberg
- Regions in Liechtenstein: the whole Principality of Liechtenstein

4. What test is needed for entry?

To enter Switzerland, a negative PCR test must be presented.

Further information:

Federal Office of Public Health, Communication and Media Section, www.bag.admin.ch
This publication is also available in German, French and Italian.

People must then have another test between day four and day seven. All test results must be reported to the cantonal authority.

5. So altogether two tests are required to enter Switzerland. That's a lot of hassle...

It can take up to 10 days to detect an infection, so a second test must be performed between day four and day seven.

6. Does this test requirement also apply to Swiss nationals returning to Switzerland?

Yes, the test requirement applies to all arrivals aged 16 or over.

7. Who pays for the two tests?

Travellers themselves must pay for the tests.

8. Who checks whether the tests are even performed?

When entering by plane or coach, boarding is only possible on presentation of a negative test. Airlines and coach operators are responsible for checking these. They must inform passengers that they need to get tested for SARS-CoV-2 before departure and that they will only be allowed to board the plane or coach on presentation of a negative test result.

When entering on other means of transport, spot checks will be carried out at the border to ensure that people can present a negative test result.

After entry, the cantonal authorities can check that tests have been performed on the basis of the entry form that everyone needs to complete. At the same time, all hotels and holiday apartments are required to check that guests have had a test.

9. What happens if no test was done before entering Switzerland?

Anyone who is unable to present a negative test result when entering Switzerland risks a fine from the border control authority. The person must get a test immediately and inform the cantonal authority.

The cantons check compliance with the test requirement using the contact data. Hotels and holiday apartments are required to check that their guests have been tested and notify the cantonal authority if anyone has failed to have a test.

Quarantine rules

10. Is there still a quarantine requirement when entering Switzerland from certain countries?

No, all countries will be removed from the quarantine list as of Saturday, 4 December 2021. Testing is compulsory for all persons entering the country. This also applies to vaccinated and cured persons.

12. What should people do if they are already in quarantine after entering Switzerland?

The Confederation has informed the competent cantonal authorities that the quarantine can be lifted for all persons. These persons can therefore be released from quarantine. However, they are subject to the newly applicable testing regime and must be tested 4 to 7 days after their return at their own expense.

Further information:

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