

# COVID-19: Travel and health measures in the EU

NOVEMBER 2021

#Eutavel



## TRAVEL IN THE EU

Free movement is a **fundamental right** in the European Union.

Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, the EU's 27 Member States adopted various travel measures, some of which have had an impact on citizens' right to move freely across the EU.

The European Commission has acted to ensure that EU citizens can continue to exercise their right to free movement and to do so safely.



### EU Digital COVID Certificate

An EU-wide system to certify that a person was vaccinated, recovered or received a negative test result.

*The system is legally binding and applies directly in all EU Member States.*



### Traffic light system

The European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) publishes a traffic light map on the epidemiological situation across the EU to support national decisions on specific measures.



### Re-Open EU

Collecting information from Member States for travellers of the on measures in place:  
<https://reopen.europa.eu/en>

- ✓ EU DCC is recognised in all EU Member States and 26 other countries
- ✓ Travellers with vaccination and recovery certificates should not be subject to any travel restrictions
- ✓ Booster shots will now be accepted



## TRAVEL TO THE EU


To limit the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, the EU introduced a temporary restriction on non-essential travel to the EU in March 2020. Since then, the rules have evolved to allow for safe and progressive reopening to vaccinated travellers and to those coming from countries in a sufficiently good epidemiological situation.

### Member States should reopen to:

- ✓ Travellers fully vaccinated with an EMA-authorized vaccine or a vaccine having completed the WHO Emergency Use Listing process;
- ✓ Travellers who recovered from COVID-19 within 180 days before their trip and have either an EU Digital COVID Certificate or a certificate deemed equivalent;
- ✓ Travellers coming from countries in a sufficiently good epidemiological situation. The Council maintains a list of such countries, reviewed every 2 weeks based on an evaluation of the health situation.

### In addition, some travellers are exempted from the travel restriction:

- ✓ EU citizens and long-term residents as well as their family members;
- ✓ Those who have an essential reason to come to Europe.

 An 'emergency brake' mechanism allows Member States to act quickly and in a coordinated manner to limit the risk of coronavirus variants entering the EU.

## HEALTH MEASURES IN MEMBER STATES

Public health measures are a **national competence**.



Member States decide on their vaccination strategies, lockdown measures or the use of certificates to access public venues, such as cinemas or restaurants. Please check the latest health measures with national authorities and [Re-Open EU](#).