



airports authority of jamaica

## NOTICE TO AIRLINES OPERATING IN JAMAICA

### Controlled Entry of Jamaican Nationals and Non-Nationals November 1-16, 2020

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1. The controlled entry of persons during the period November 1 - 16, 2020 will continue to be facilitated by registration and approval as follows:
  - Residents of Jamaica – register on <https://jamcovid19.moh.gov.jm/immigration.html>
  - Non-Residents of Jamaica – register on <https://www.visitjamaica.com/>

A Travel Authorisation evidencing registration and approval will be required for passengers to check in for/board flights. In addition, non-residents travelling from high-risk locations will be required to present their COVID-19 negative test certificate to check in for their flight. The Travel Authorisation will indicate whether or not the traveller is required to present a negative COVID-19 test. **Residents of Jamaica are not required to provide a COVID-19 test.**

2. The Government of Jamaica has modified its risk-based protocols that will determine testing and quarantine requirements for arriving passengers for the period November 1 - 16, 2020. Upon arrival in Jamaica, all persons will be subject to health screening and risk assessment by the Jamaican health authorities. The detailed protocols are set out in the attached Appendix.

We continue to place the highest priority on the safety and well-being of all who reside here and all who are visiting. In order to ensure a seamless and convenient experience for all, we look forward to working with you our valued partner to welcome persons to Jamaica.

**Audley Deidrick (Mr.)**  
**PRESIDENT**

**PROTOCOLS EFFECTIVE FOR NOVEMBER 1-16, 2020**

All persons travelling to Jamaica – both Jamaicans and non-nationals - must obtain a Travel Authorisation document issued by the Government of Jamaica to check in for/board flights.

Jamaican nationals and non-nationals who are residents of Jamaica should apply to obtain a Travel Authorisation on <https://jamcovid19.moh.gov.jm/immigration.html> and non-residents should apply on <https://www.visitjamaica.com/>.

All persons arriving in Jamaica will be subject to a health screening and risk assessment by the health authorities. The health screening will include temperature checks, observation for COVID-19 related symptoms, as well as a short interview with a Health Officer. **Airline crew who enter Jamaica but are not landed in Jamaica will be exempt from this requirement.** Airline crew who are landed in Jamaica are subject to health screening but will be exempt from any testing requirements described below if they are staying in Jamaica for less than 48 hours.

***Please note that nightly curfews are in effect with varying hours for certain areas. As a result, flights should not normally be scheduled to arrive later than 8:00 p.m. and depart earlier than 8:00 a.m. each day.***

The risk-based testing and quarantine protocols differ among the following four categories of passengers:

1. Residents - Jamaican nationals and non-nationals ordinarily resident in Jamaica by virtue of work permit, marriage, being a dependent of a national, etc.
2. Non-residents visiting Jamaica for tourism purposes staying within the "resilient corridor"
3. Non-residents visiting Jamaica for business purposes
4. Non-residents visiting Jamaica for other purposes including tourists not staying within the designated "resilient corridor"

**Pre-testing Requirement for Visitors from High Risk Locations**

***Please note that the requirement for pre-testing is based on the country of residence of the traveller, not on their nationality or passport. Residents of Jamaica are not required to provide a negative COVID-19 test.***

All persons visiting Jamaica aged 12 and over who are residents of locations designated as high-risk by the Jamaican health authorities will be required to obtain a COVID-19 PCR or Antigen test that has been authorized by the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) under an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA), or meets the standards of the World Health Organisation (WHO), within ten (10) days prior to their intended date of travel to Jamaica.

Effective October 10, 2020, persons applying to enter on <https://www.visitjamaica.com> from the designated high-risk locations are no longer required to upload their COVID-19 test certificate as part of the application process. They will instead be required to present it (either hard copy or electronic) at the airport in addition to their travel authorisation in order to check in for/board their flight to Jamaica.

Note the following requirements in relation to the test certificate:

- It must indicate the name and address of the laboratory at which the test was conducted
- The name and date of birth of the individual on the test certificate must match those on the passport
- The test must be either a PCR test or Antigen test that has been authorized by the United States FDA under an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) or meets the standards of the WHO. PCR or Antigen tests which have not been approved by those organisations or other tests such as antibody tests will not be accepted.
- The date of collection of the sample must be within 10 days of travel, including the day of travel.

**The travel authorisation for each traveller will indicate whether or not the traveller is required to present a test certificate.**

**The locations designated as high-risk for this purpose by the Jamaican health authorities at this time are the United States of America (all States), Brazil, Dominican Republic, Mexico and Panama.** The test should be performed at a medical laboratory that is accredited by the relevant national health authorities. For the United States of America, the medical laboratory should be certified under the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA).

Please note that this list of high-risk locations is subject to ongoing reassessment and could therefore change. The pre-testing requirement will not apply to visitors who are not residents of these high-risk locations. **As specified earlier, the pre-testing requirement is based on country of residence, not nationality or passport.**

### **Category 1 – Residents**

#### **Jamaican Nationals and Non-nationals Ordinarily Resident in Jamaica**

Jamaican nationals and non-nationals ordinarily resident in Jamaica may be subject to testing if assessed as high-risk as a result of exhibiting symptoms, exposure to persons who have tested positive, belonging to a high-risk group or other risk factors. High-risk groups include cruise ship workers, involuntarily returned migrants and health care workers. For persons required to be tested for COVID-19, the test will be a RT-PCR or Antigen test and a sample will be taken by oropharyngeal and/or nasopharyngeal swabbing.

Whether or not persons are required to be tested, they will be under a Home Quarantine order for 14 days from their date of entry to Jamaica. If persons are required to be tested and their test is negative, they will still be required to complete their quarantine at home for 14 days from their date of entry to Jamaica. If the test is positive, they will be isolated either at home or in a government facility as determined by the health authorities.

**Category 2 - Non-residents visiting Jamaica for Tourism Purposes and Staying within the "Resilient Corridor" (a defined geographical area designated for tourism purposes)**

**The pre-testing requirement described above is applicable to persons in this category if they are residents of locations designated as high-risk by the Jamaican health authorities.**

Note that based on health screening and risk assessment on arrival, persons may still be required to be tested at the airport or designated facility, if, for example, they are exhibiting symptoms or belong to a high risk group despite presenting a negative COVID-19 test certificate. In this case, they would await their test result in their hotel room.

If the test is negative, they would be under a "Stay in Resilient Corridor" order as described on page 5. If the test is positive, they would be isolated either at the hotel/resort or in a government facility as determined by the health authorities.

Persons not required to be tested on arrival will be allowed to go to their hotel/resort under the "Stay in Resilient Corridor" order as described on page 5.

**Category 3 - Non-residents visiting Jamaica for Business Purposes**

**The pre-testing requirement described above is applicable to persons in this category if they are residents of locations designated as high-risk by the Jamaican health authorities.**

In addition, all persons visiting Jamaica for business purposes will be required to be tested at the airport. The test will be a COVID-19 RT-PCR or Antigen test and a sample will be taken by oropharyngeal and/or nasopharyngeal swabbing. **Business purposes do not include funerals and weddings or other personal activities.**

They will await their test results under quarantine at their hotel/intended address. If the test is negative, they would be released from quarantine and be allowed to conduct the business for which they came while adhering to all infection prevention and control guidelines including minimal interactions with the general public.

If the test is positive, they would be isolated either at their hotel/intended address or in a government facility as determined by the health authorities.

**Category 4 - Non-residents visiting Jamaica for other Purposes  
Including Tourists not Staying within the “Resilient Corridor”**

**The pre-testing requirement described above is applicable to persons in this category if they are residents of locations designated as high-risk by the Jamaican health authorities.**

Persons who are not required to pre-test may be required to be tested at the airport or other designated facility, if assessed by the health authorities as high-risk based on health screening and risk assessment on arrival. For persons required to be tested for COVID-19, the test will be a RT-PCR or Antigen test and a sample will be taken by oropharyngeal and/or nasopharyngeal swabbing. They will then await their test results under quarantine at their hotel/intended address.

Whether or not persons are required to be tested, they will be required to remain under a Home Quarantine order for 14 days from their date of entry to Jamaica. If persons are required to be tested and their test is negative, they will still be required to complete their quarantine at their intended address for 14 days from their date of entry to Jamaica. If the test is positive, they will be isolated either at their intended address or in a government facility as determined by the health authorities.

**TYPES OF RESTRICTIVE MEASURES UNDER THE ORDER**

There are various measures applicable under the Order issued under the Disaster Risk Management Act, as follows:

**Home Quarantine** – Under this measure, persons are required to remain at home/intended address for 14 days from their date of entry to Jamaica. Persons under quarantine cannot leave their quarantine location, except with express permission from the health authorities.

**Stay in Resilient Corridor** – This measure applies only for tourist visitors who are staying in the “resilient corridor” designated for tourism purposes. Under this measure, persons are required to remain at their hotel/resort within the corridor for the duration of their stay. They may, however, leave the hotel/resort to visit any tourist attraction, that is certified by the Jamaica Tourist Board to be a COVID-19 Resilient licensed tourist attraction. The list of such attractions is available at <https://www.visitjamaica.com/travelauthorization/compliant-listings/>. Any travel to and from attractions must be on transportation licensed under the Tourist Board Act.

**Quarantine for Business Traveller** – Under this measure, business travellers are required to remain at their intended address, whether a hotel or private home, until they receive a negative COVID-19 test. They are then able to conduct their business as described in their travel application while observing all the infection prevention protocols applicable in Jamaica such as wearing a mask in public places and complying with the physical distancing rule. They must also minimize any interactions with the general public.

**Quarantine vs isolation** – Quarantine is intended to restrict movement and may be at home, a hotel/resort or a government facility as determined by the health authorities. Persons under quarantine cannot leave their quarantine location, except with express permission from the health authorities. Isolation is intended to separate persons who have tested positive for COVID-19 or are suspected to be positive from other persons. This may be at home, hotel/resort or a government facility as determined by the health authorities.

**Monitoring during Quarantine or Isolation** - Persons who are quarantined or placed in isolation at their home, hotel or intended address will be monitored electronically and by the health authorities to ensure that they do not leave their designated quarantine or isolation location.

Note that persons permitted to enter Jamaica will be permitted to leave Jamaica while in quarantine or isolation in accordance with applicable protocols which would include appropriate arrangements for transportation. An "unfit to fly" notice will be issued to the airlines for persons with positive tests. Persons will be allowed to leave Jamaica using medical evacuation or private flights.