

Travelling to and from the UK for work in Film or High-end Television Drama Production During COVID-19

First published 06 July 2020

Last updated 02 June 2021

V.7.1

Travel Corridors and the British Qualifying Film and HETV Exemption are currently suspended.

From 17 May, international travel to and from the UK has been allowed to restart, governed by a new traffic light system. Measures at the border will vary depending on whether passengers are travelling from a green, amber or red listed country. Rules may vary between [England](#), [Northern Ireland](#), [Scotland](#) and [Wales](#). Please check before you travel.

This guidance summarises government regulations relating to international travel and should be read in conjunction with [‘Working Safely During COVID-19 in Film and High-end TV Drama Production’](#).

Travelling to the UK

When bringing cast and crew into the UK, different rules may apply depending on the type of production they are coming to work on and where they are working and where they are travelling from or through.

NOTE: All usual [immigration requirements](#) for entering and working in the UK still apply.

Traffic Light System and Rules for International Travel

Passengers arriving into the UK from all international destinations must present a negative COVID-19 test result, taken in the three days before arrival. This applies to all cast and crew, including UK citizens. The test, test provider and certificate must meet the required standards for pre-departure testing - details can be found here for [England](#), [Northern Ireland](#), [Scotland](#) and [Wales](#). Passengers must also complete a [passenger locator form](#) on arrival.

Further measures at the border will apply. These will vary depending on whether passengers are travelling from a green, amber or red listed country. Rules for entering the UK are summarised in

Table 1 below. Cast and crew must check the latest government guidance for [England](#), [Northern Ireland](#), [Scotland](#) or [Wales](#) as appropriate before travelling.

Measure	Green country	Amber country	Red country
Passenger Locator Form	Yes	Yes	Yes
Pre-departure Test	Yes	Yes	Yes
Managed Quarantine at Hotel	No	No	10 days
Self-isolation	No	10 days	N/A
Test to Release (England only)	N/A	On day 5	No
PCR Testing	On or before day 2	On or before day 2	On or before day 2
Further PCR Testing	No	Day 8	Day 8

Table 1: Summary of traffic light rules for entering the UK.

British Qualifying Film and HETV Exemption

As of 4am GMT Monday 18 January 2021, the Film and HETV Travel Self-isolation “Quarantine” Exemption, along with other screen exemptions and Travel Corridors, has been suspended. Further detail can be read [here](#).

Northern Ireland only: for travellers from the Common Travel Area, the travel self-isolation exemptions for film and television still apply in Northern Ireland. This means that, providing the travellers have not left the Common Travel Area in the previous 14 days, they can continue to move between their accommodation and one place of work. Full guidance can be read [here](#).

Travelling from the UK

Coronavirus (COVID-19): Declaration Form for International Travel - ENGLAND ONLY

From 17 May 2021, there is no need to complete a declaration form for international travel.

If you get coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms while in the UK

You should look for any of the following symptoms during your ‘bubble’ period and throughout your stay in the UK:

- new continuous cough
- high temperature
- anosmia (loss or change to your sense of smell or taste)

If you develop symptoms you must self-isolate for at least 10 days from when your symptoms started until you are better and no longer have a high temperature.

If you have a high temperature you must continue to self-isolate even if:

- you have had and recovered from other coronavirus symptoms in this time
- you get a negative test result for coronavirus

Alert your production immediately on noticing symptoms. They will advise you of their symptom response plan, including when and how to seek medical assistance, and help to arrange an appropriate coronavirus (COVID-19) test for you.

If your test is positive you will be asked to share your contacts with the [NHS test and trace service](#). Your contact detail declaration may be used to alert people who travelled to the UK alongside you.

Anyone who is not experiencing symptoms but tests positive for COVID-19 must self-isolate for at least 10 days starting from the day the test was taken.

Anyone who tests positive whilst not experiencing symptoms, but develops symptoms during the isolation period, must restart the 10-day isolation period from the day they first develop symptoms.

Please consult the [‘What to do if you get Coronavirus symptoms’](#) guidance for more information. For a medical emergency while working in the UK, dial 999.

If a co-worker or close contact gets coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms

If you come into close contact with an unconfirmed case while working in the UK, you will not need to self-isolate until the case is confirmed. However, you should take extra care in practising social distancing and good hand and respiratory hygiene, and be more alert to any symptoms you might develop, until the test result is known.

International Travel Guidance Update Log

- up to and including V.7.1, 02 June 2021

02 June 2021 (V.7.1)	
	Updated guidance on introduction of traffic light system for international travel.
17 May 2021 (V.7.0)	
	New guidance on introduction of traffic light system for international travel.
	Updated guidance on removal of Travel Declaration Forms.
01 April 2021 (V.6.1)	
	Updated guidance on Declaration Form for International Travel to reflect roadmap out of lockdown for England.
19 March 2021 (V.6.0)	
	Document title updated to reflect new content. Link added to test-booking information for travellers who will quarantine at home upon entering England from international destinations. Travel Bans and Mandatory Hotel Quarantine - updated guidance regarding travel to Northern Ireland. Updated guidance on introduction of travel declaration form for those travelling from England.

17 February 2021 (V.5.1)	
	Updated guidance on mandatory hotel quarantine and testing for permitted arrivals, including addition of information for Scotland and Wales.
11 February 2021 (V.5.0)	
	Updated guidance to reflect mandatory hotel quarantine and testing for permitted arrivals from countries on the travel bans list. Updated guidance on COVID-19 testing requirements. Updated guidance on Test to Release.
05 February 2021 (V.4.1)	
	Updated guidance on travel bans. Updated guidance on COVID-19 testing requirement for anyone arriving in the UK.
19 January 2021 (V.4.0)	
	Updated guidance on suspension of travel corridors. Updated guidance on Test to Release eligibility. Updated guidance on suspension of the British Qualifying Film and HETV Exemption.
15 January 2021 (V.3.1)	
	Updated guidance on travel bans. Updated guidance on COVID-19 testing requirement for anyone arriving in the UK.
14 December 2020 (V.3.0)	
	Updated guidance on self-isolation period. Updated to reflect new 'Test to Release' scheme.
09 December 2020 (V.2.4)	
	Updated to reflect removal of additional travel restrictions from Denmark.
11 November 2020 (V.2.3)	
	Updated guidance on travel from Denmark.
29 September 2020 (V.2.2)	
	Updated guidance on the 14-day 'bubble' for those exempt from self-isolation. Clarity on the required certificate number as proof of qualification for exemption.
31 July 2020 (V.2.1)	
	Updated guidance on self-isolation for those with COVID-19 symptoms or who have tested positive.
17 July 2020 (V.2.0)	
	Updated to reflect legislation now applicable UK-wide.
10 July 2020 (V.2.0)	
	Updated wording regarding eligibility and immigration requirements. Updated to reflect addition of Devolved Administrations. Updated guidance on required contents of eligibility confirmation letters.