

British Film Commission - Travelling to and from the UK for work in Film and High-end TV Drama Production During COVID-19

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V.9.3

This document summarises Government guidance 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

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](#).

International travel to and from the UK is governed by a traffic light system. Measures at the border will vary depending on whether passengers are travelling from a green, amber or red listed country. Cast and crew must check the latest government guidance for [England](#), [Northern Ireland](#), [Scotland](#) or [Wales](#) as appropriate before travelling.

From 19 July 2021, arrivals returning to the UK from amber list countries will not need to quarantine if they:

- have been fully vaccinated under the UK vaccination programme or under the UK vaccine programme overseas (see [‘The UK vaccination programme overseas’](#))
- are participating or have participated in a formally approved clinical trial of a coronavirus vaccine in the UK
- are ordinarily resident in the UK and under the age of 18 at the time they arrive

These passengers must have had their final dose of the vaccine at least 14 whole days before the date they arrive. The day they have their final dose of the vaccine does not count as one of the 14 days. They may have had one dose of the vaccine in the UK and one dose under the UK vaccine programme overseas. For more information [refer to the latest Government guidance](#).

From 02 August 2021, in addition, arrivals into the UK from an amber list country who have been fully vaccinated in the USA or Europe will not need to quarantine or take a day 8 test, providing they have not been in a red list country in the previous ten days.

The European countries this rule applies to are:

- [EU countries](#)
- Andorra, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Norway, San Marino, Switzerland and the Vatican City

Arrivals must have been fully vaccinated with a vaccine authorised by:

- the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for the USA, or
- the European Medicines Agency (EMA) for Europe, or
- Swissmedic for Switzerland

Eligible individuals will still be required to complete a pre-departure test before arrival, alongside a PCR test on or before day 2 after arrival, and must have had their final dose of the vaccine at least 14 whole days before the date they arrive. Those vaccinated in the USA will also need to provide proof of USA residency. For more information [refer to the latest Government guidance](#).

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

British Qualifying Film and HETV Exemption

The Film and HETV Travel Self-isolation “Quarantine” Exemption, along with other screen exemptions and Travel Corridors, remains suspended. Further detail can be read [here](#).

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

You should look for any of the following important symptoms during your stay in the UK:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

For most people, COVID-19 will be a mild illness. However, if you have any of the symptoms above, even if your symptoms are mild, stay at home or at your designated accommodation and [arrange to have a test](#). 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, however mild. 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](#) or equivalent COVID-19 tracking 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

Contacts who need to self-isolate will usually be notified and advised to do so by NHS Test and Trace or equivalent COVID-19 tracking service, including by the NHS COVID-19 app. If you believe that you are a contact of someone with COVID-19 but have not yet been notified, you should carefully follow the guidance on how to stay safe and prevent the spread of COVID-19. In this circumstance you can arrange to take a PCR test, even if you do not have symptoms, because you may be at higher risk of being infected.

Cast and crew may no longer be legally required to self-isolate if they are identified as a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case, as long as they received their final dose of an MHRA-approved COVID-19 vaccine at least 14 days prior to contact with a positive case.

- In England and Wales, the MHRA-approved vaccine must have been administered in the UK.
- In Northern Ireland and Scotland, the vaccine must be MHRA-approved but there is no requirement for it to have been administered in the UK.

Please check for the latest guidance in [England](#), [Northern Ireland](#), [Scotland](#) and [Wales](#) as rules differ between the nations.

International Travel Guidance Update Log

- up to and including V.9.3, 16 August 2021

16 August 2021 (V.9.23)	
	Updated guidance on self-isolation requirements across the UK.
06 August 2021 (V.9.2)	
	Updated guidance on quarantine waiver.
30 July 2021 (V.9.1)	
	Clarified scope of new quarantine waiver.
30 July 2021 (V.9.0)	
	Guidance added covering new quarantine waiver.
22 July 2021 (V.8.0)	
	Updated guidance for cast and crew returning to the UK from amber list countries.
02 July 2021 (V.7.2)	
	Updated guidance on coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms.
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.