



Immigration News Highlights

2022-11, 15 March 2022



The KPMG team regularly monitors recent developments across the globe in the Immigration space and publishes them as Immigration News Highlights. Please find the key developments that occurred over the last week enumerated below.

Americas

Bermuda

[Bermuda relaxing strict COVID-19 entry requirements and making it easier to visit](#)

From 7 March 2022, Bermuda removed the mandatory quarantine and testing requirements. Travelers above the age of 12 are required to show a proof of vaccination and present a negative COVID-19 test. [Read more.](#)

Costa Rica

[Costa Rica eases COVID-19 entry requirements for new tourists](#)

Costa Rica will ease entry requirements from 1 April 2022. Travelers will no longer be required to complete an online health pass when entering the country. Further, unvaccinated travelers will not be required to purchase a travel insurance policy. [Read more.](#)

Asia Pacific

Indonesia

[Indonesia launches visa on arrival service for travelers from 23 countries...](#)

The Indonesia government has introduced a special visa on arrival service for international travelers from 23 countries. The special tourist visa can be obtained from Bali but allows foreign tourists to leave Indonesia through other immigration offices. The visa allows foreign tourists to stay in Indonesia for a maximum of 30 days and can be renewed once. [Read more](#)

Kuwait

[Workers can cash out on unused vacation days](#)

Kuwait cabinet is allowing employees across state bodies to exchange their unused vacation days for cash. A draft law has been established which allows workers having at least five years of service to exchange cash for unused vacation days exceeding thirty days. [Read more](#)

Malaysia

[Test and quarantine for travelers](#)

The Malaysian government announced the new COVID-19 entry and quarantine requirements, applicable from 1 April 2022, for travelers arriving in Malaysia. Fully vaccinated travelers are required to have a negative RT-PCR test taken within 48 hours of arrival and are further required to take an antigen test within 24 hours of arrival. Unvaccinated travelers must quarantine for five days, take a RT-PCR test on the fourth day, and an antigen test on the fifth day. [Read more](#)

Oman

[Omanis welcome decision to reduce expat visa fees](#)

Oman will reduce visa fees for expats from 1 June 2022. The fees for issuing and renewing a first class will be reduce from OMR 2001 to OMR 301 for two years and OMR 211 for meeting

Omanisation percentage. Similarly, the fees for second class will be reduce from OMR 601-1001 to IMR 251 and OMR 176 for meeting Omanisation percentage. The third-class visa fee will be reduced from OMR 301-361 to OMR 201 and OMR 141 for meeting Omanisation percentage. [Read more](#)

Saudi Arabia

[Saudi Lifts All COVID-19 Entry Restrictions for Tourists](#)

Saudi Arabia lifted all its COVID-19 entry requirements. Travelers are no longer needed to observe a post-arrival quarantine or present an evidence of a negative COVID-19 test. [Read more](#)

Sri Lanka

[One-year multiple entry tourist visa introduced to Sri Lanka](#)

The Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority plans to introduce a one-year multiple-entry tourist visa. The visa will cost USD 200 per year and will allow multiple entry opportunities for a stay of up to 90 days. The measure is yet to be approved by the Department of Immigration and Emigration. [Read more](#)

Taiwan

[Taiwan unlikely to cancel quarantine entirely this year: Minister](#)

Taiwan plans to keep the mandatory quarantine period for the new arrival in the country until the end of 2022 considering the global COVI-19 infection rates and the available treatment measures. [Read more](#)

Vietnam

[Vietnam resumes visa exemption for 13 countries](#)

Vietnam resumed it unilateral visa exemption policy for 13 countries that allows a 15-day visa-free travel in Vietnam. The measure aims to increase tourism in the country. [Read more](#)

Vietnam

[Tightened entry restrictions for foreign tourists no longer necessary](#)

On 15 March 2022, Vietnam lifted the restriction under which foreign tourists had to book tour packages before entering the country. [Read more](#)



Europe and Africa

Belgium

[Belgium Removes Passenger Locator Form Requirement from Today](#)

On 11 March 2022, Belgium removed the requirement to present a Passenger Locator Form (PLF) on entry. The PLF remains mandatory for third country travelers coming from a country not on the whitelist of the European Union. [Read more](#)

Bulgaria

[Bulgaria Updates COVID-19 Rules – EU Countries Remain in Red Zone](#)

Bulgaria updates its list of countries in the red zone based on the COVID-19 situation. All the EU member states remain in the zone. Further, Bulgarian authorities added new countries to the list. Arrivals coming from countries in the red list must present either a valid EU digital COVID-19 vaccinated certificate showing full vaccination status at least 14 days before travelling, a recovery certificate valid for 190 days, a negative RT-PCR test performed 72 hours before arrival, or an antigen test performed 48 hours before arrival. Travelers having neither of the required documents must observe a ten-day quarantine. [Read more](#)

Cyprus

[Cyprus Introduces New Epidemiological Categorization of Countries for Travel](#)

The Cypriot government announced a new categorization epidemiological evaluation for countries, introducing only green, red, and grey categories of countries. The new categories are based on the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) category list. [Read more](#)

Czech Republic

[Czechia Moves Spain & Sweden to Red List](#)

On 14 March 2022, Czech Republic moved Spain and Sweden from the dark red to the red list. Malta was added to this list. Travelers coming from red countries must present either a valid vaccination, recovery, or a test certificate. [Read more](#)

Finland

[Finland Eases Restrictions for Passengers on Cruise Ships from Today](#)

Travelers coming from third countries by cruise ships, were allowed entry into Finland from 14 March 2022, given that they had a COVID-19 vaccination certificate not older than 270 days or a recovery certificate no older than six months. If a traveler has neither of the two, they will have to undertake a COVID-19 test at the border. [Read more](#)

Greece**[Today Greece Lifts Passenger Locator Form Requirement for All Travelers](#)**

From 15 March 2022, international arrivals at Greek airports are not required to present a Passenger Locator Form (PLF). Further, the Greek Aviation Service announced facilitated entry for travelers coming from Benin and Jordan as these countries have joined the EU Digital COVID-19 Certificate (EUDCC) gateway. [Read more](#)

Hungary**[Hungary Removes All COVID-19 Entry Requirements](#)**

Hungary removed all COVID-19 entry requirements for incoming travelers. Travelers are no longer required to present a vaccination, a recovery certificate, or a negative COVID-19 test prior to the entry, regardless of their country of origin. [Read more](#).

Ireland**[Current rules for travelling to Ireland](#)**

Ireland updates its COVID-19 entry requirements. From 6 March 2022, travelers are no longer required to fill a COVID-19 Passenger Locator Form, show proof of vaccination against COVID-19, show proof of recovery, or provide a negative PCR test upon arrival, and are exempt from post arrival COVID-19 test and quarantine. [Read more](#).

Ireland**[Fast track to Stamp 4 for non-EEA doctors](#)**

Doctors who have been working in Ireland for more than two years will have an immediate access to a Stage 4 permission and spousal work rights. A Stage 4 stamp allows a right to work without preconditions. [Read more](#)

Malta**[Malta Risks Losing Visa-Free Travel to US Due to Its Golden Passport Scheme](#)**

Malta may be removed from the US Visa Waiver Programme citing security concerns in the Maltese citizenship for investment program. The members of the US Congress stated lack of transparency of the programme as the main concern behind the proposal of removing Malta from the US Visa Waiver Programme. [Read more](#)

Malta**[Malta Has Facilitated Entry for Travelers from Dark-Red Countries & Vaccinated Third Country Nationals](#)**

From 7 March 2022, positive COVID-19 travelers coming from dark-red countries can enter Malta with a reduced quarantine requirement of seven days, which can be ended upon performing a negative COVID-19 test. Further, the Maltese authorities will also recognize all WHO approved vaccines with a negative RT-PCR test. Fully vaccinated travelers are exempt from observing any quarantine. [Read more](#)

Namibia**[Namibia accelerates implementation of tri-nation tourism visa](#)**

Namibia is accelerating the implementation of the tourism Univisa in the Kavango-Zambezi (KAZA) Transfrontier Conservation Area. The measure aims to facilitate traveler movements among Namibia, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. [Read more](#).

Romania**[Romania Lifts All COVID-19 Travel Restrictions](#)**

Romania removed all COVID-19 restrictions on 9 March 2022. Travelers reaching Romania are exempt from any testing, providing a proof of vaccination, and observing a mandatory quarantine. However, all passengers must present the Passenger Locator Form (PLF) to Romanian authorities. [Read more](#).

South Africa**[South Africa to start e-visa facility for Indian tourists](#)**

South Africa plans to introduce e-visas for Indian tourists to increase the number of Indian tourists visiting the country by 64% in 2022. [Read more](#).

Spain

[Spain Travel: COVID-19 Risk List to Remain Unchanged for Another Week](#)

The Spanish Ministry of Health announced that the European Union countries will remain part of the risk list until further notice. Travelers, above the age of 12, entering Spain from one of the EU risk countries need to fill out the Health Control Form within 48 hours before arrival. Travelers are also required to show either of a valid vaccination certificate, a certificate of recovery, or result of a COVID-19 test. [Read more](#)



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