



# Immigration News Highlights

2022-12, 22 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.



<b>Aruba</b>	<b><u><a href="#">Aruba to scrap all COVID travel restrictions, including testing requirements and proof of vaccination</a></u></b>
	From 18 March 2022, travelers arriving in Aruba are no longer required to present a negative COVID-19 test or a proof of vaccination for entry. However, they are still required to have a travel insurance and need to complete a pre-arrival embarkation/disembarkation card. <a href="#">Read more.</a>
<b>Canada</b>	<b><u><a href="#">Government of Canada will remove pre-entry test requirement for fully vaccinated travelers on April 1</a></u></b>
	The Government of Canada announced that, from 1 April 2022, fully vaccinated travelers will no longer have to provide a pre-entry COVID-19 test to enter Canada. However, travelers may be selected at random for post-arrival testing. <a href="#">Read more.</a>
<b>Chile</b>	<b><u><a href="#">Chile Eases Entry Restrictions for All Travelers</a></u></b>
	Travelers arriving in Chile no longer need to take a COVID-19 test upon entry. However, all travelers above the age of six must have completed a full series of COVID-19 vaccinations and must present a negative COVID-19 test taken within 72 hours of departure. Foreign travelers also need to provide proof of a travel insurance with a coverage of USD 30,000 for covering COVID-19 ailments. <a href="#">Read more.</a>
<b>United States</b>	<b><u><a href="#">USCIS Urges Eligible Individuals to Consider Applying for Adjustment of Status in the EB-2 Category Based on the April Visa Bulletin Date for Filing for India</a></u></b>
	The USCIS issued a release recommending applicants with an approved immigrant visa petition in the EB-2 category chargeable to India and a priority date earlier than 1 September 2014, to apply for the adjustment of status in April. <a href="#">Read more.</a>
<b>United States</b>	<b><u><a href="#">US senators relaunch move to secure thousands of visas for Irish people</a></u></b>
	The US Senate proposed an initiative to add Ireland to the E3 non-immigrant visa programme. The bill, if passed, would allow Irish nationals to access the unused E3 visas of the previous fiscal year. The E3 visa programme provides around 10,000 visas allocated annually to Australia. <a href="#">Read more.</a>
<b>United States</b>	<b><u><a href="#">USCIS Updates Guidance on Employment Authorization for E and L Nonimmigrant Spouses</a></u></b>
	USCIS updated the guidance in the USCIS Policy Manual to address the documentation used by certain E and L nonimmigrant spouses that they may use an evidence of employment authorization based on their nonimmigrant status. <a href="#">Read more.</a>
<b>United States</b>	<b><u><a href="#">April Visa Bulletin</a></u></b>

USCIS publishes the April visa bulletin to determine, based on dates for filing chart, the adjustment of status for employment-based applicants. Priority-date cutoffs will advance in India EB-2 but will remain the same for other employment-based categories. [Read more.](#)



## Asia Pacific

### China

#### [China cuts mandatory quarantine period for recovered Covid patients](#)

China reduced the mandatory quarantine period from 14 days to 7 days. The measure was taken to allocate more medical resources towards the increasing number of COVID-19 infections in the country. [Read more](#)

### Hong Kong

#### [Hong Kong to lift ban on flights from nine countries in April](#)

From 1 April 2022, Hong Kong will resume international flights for nine countries including the US and the UK. [Read more](#)

### India

#### [Govt restores valid e-visa to 156 countries; regular visas to all; 10 years visa to US, Japan nationals](#)

India restored all currently valid tourist visas, including e-visas held by nationals of 156 eligible countries and holders of regular tourist visas. These visas, which allow foreign tourists to stay in India for 5 years (10 years in case of the US and Japan), were suspended in March 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. [Read more](#)

### Indonesia

#### [Indonesia scraps quarantine for overseas arrivals](#)

Indonesia abolished its quarantine requirements for all overseas travelers from 21 March 2022. The measure was enacted considering the weakening COVID-19 scenario in the country. [Read more](#)

### Kuwait

#### [Kuwait to resume validity of visit visa for three months](#)

From 20 March 2022, Kuwait resumed the validity system of visit visas for three months. The relaxed measures allow unvaccinated travelers to enter the country if they submit a negative RT-PCR test taken at most 72 hours before entry and further observe a seven-day quarantine period post entry. [Read more](#)

### New Zealand

#### [New Zealand moves up reopening for vaccinated US tourists to May as COVID cases surge](#)

New Zealand will allow fully vaccinated US travelers to enter the country from May 2022. Previously, fully vaccinated US travelers were to be allowed in the country from July 2022. [Read more](#)

### Philippines

#### [The Philippines loosens entry restrictions for all foreign nationals](#)

Philippines eased the entry restrictions for fully vaccinated travelers visiting the country. Travelers coming from visa-required countries must have an exemption document to be allowed entry into the Philippines. Further, foreign nationals above the age of 12 must present a negative RT-PCR test taken at most 48 hours before entry in the Philippines. [Read more](#)

### South Korea

#### [South Korea to allow fully vaccinated travelers to visit without a quarantine period](#)

From 1 April 2022, fully vaccinated travelers who have registered with South Korea's Q-code website will be able to enter the country without observing a mandatory seven-day quarantine. Travelers must have completed a two-dose vaccine series at least 14 days before arrival in South Korea. [Read more](#)

### Taiwan

#### [Taiwan adjusts COVID testing rules for self-health management](#)

Taiwan's Central Epidemic Command Center (CECC) shortened the mandatory COVID-19 testing frequency to second and fourth day of the seven-day self-health management period of 7 days post observing a quarantine. [Read more](#)

### Thailand

#### [Thailand drops pre-departure test requirement for visitors](#)

A pre-departure COVID-19 test will no longer be needed for travelers, starting from 1 April 2022. However, travelers are still required to register in advance and take an on-arrival test. [Read more](#)

**Vietnam****[E-visa system for 80 countries back online: Foreign ministry](#)**

Vietnam's Ministry of Finance resumed its electronic visa services for citizens of 80 countries. The service was earlier halted in March 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. [Read more](#)

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

On 15 March 2022, Vietnam resumed visa-free travel for citizens of Belarus, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Norway, Russia, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, and the UK. Travelers from these countries can enter and stay in Vietnam for a period of 15 days. [Read more](#)

**Europe and Africa****Czech Republic****[Czechia Lifts Entry Rules for EU/Schengen Area & Returning Travelers](#)**

From 18 March 2022, travelers coming from the European Union and returning citizens are no longer subject to entry restrictions. They are exempt from presenting a valid vaccination, recovery, or test certificate. [Read more](#)

**Finland****[Finland Extends Restrictions at External Border Until April 10](#)**

Finland will continue to implement external border restrictions until 10 April 2022. The passengers at the external border must present either a vaccination certificate or a recovery certificate or a negative test certificate. Passengers who have been fully vaccinated with authorized vaccines can enter Finland without any restrictions. [Read more](#)

**France****[France Moves US & Several Other Third Countries to Green List](#)**

France added the US along with Brazil, Egypt, and most countries in Africa and the Americas to the green list. Travelers from these countries can enter France without being subject to additional entry rules. Only unvaccinated travelers coming from green countries must provide a RT-PCR or an antigen test before arrival. [Read more](#)

**Greece****[Greece Extends COVID-19 Restrictions for Another Two Weeks](#)**

Greece will continue to implement the COVID-19 restrictions until 4 April 2022. The Greek Aviation Authority (CAA) issued a release requiring travelers outside special categories to present a RT-PCR test performed at most 72 hours before arrival or an antigen test taken 24 hours before arrival. All travelers showing COVID-19 symptoms, will need to undergo a PCR or rapid post-arrival test. [Read more](#)

**Netherlands****[Netherlands to Abolish Entry Rules for All travelers From March 23](#)**

From 23 March 2022, travelers coming from the European Union will no longer be required to present a vaccination, recovery, or a test certificate before entry into the Netherlands. The same applies for European citizens traveling from countries outside the European Union. [Read more](#)

**Portugal****[Portugal Now Allows Non-Essential Travel from Additional 5 Third Countries](#)**

The government of Portugal announced that travelers from Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique and São Tomé and Príncipe, can enter the country for travel purposes. However, among these countries, travelers coming from Angola, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique and São Tomé and Príncipe, need to present a pre-entry RT-PCR or antigen test. [Read more](#)

**Switzerland****[Switzerland Permits Entry for travelers From Risk Countries Who Have Recovered From COVID-19](#)**

From 21 March 2022, unvaccinated travelers from risky third countries, who have recovered from COVID-19 in the last 180 days can enter Switzerland restriction-free for non-essential travel purposes. [Read more.](#)

**United Kingdom****[UK to Abolish All Remaining COVID-19 Travel Restrictions for Arrivals from Other Countries](#)**

From 18 March 2022, Travelers entering the United Kingdom will no longer be subject to travel restrictions imposed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Thus, travelers no longer need to complete a Passenger Locator Form or present a negative COVID-19 test before entering Britain. [Read more](#)



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