



# Health & Safety

Protocols For The Tourism Sector



These protocols are valid until September 30.  
A new protocol document issued September 24, 2020  
takes effect October 1, 2020.

In light of the fluidity of the COVID-19 pandemic, these protocols are likely to change.  
Travellers are encouraged to check [barbadostravelprotocols.com](http://barbadostravelprotocols.com) for updates.



# Commercial Travel and Visitor Arrivals



# Assessing Country Risk for Importation of COVID-19

Country risk assessments are done using a transparent, reproducible methodology. The assessment takes into consideration factors including the number of cases, country population, deaths, and testing levels.

Additionally, the assessment takes into consideration other factors that may influence the accuracy of the risk classification such as the adequacy of testing in the source country.

- **No cases:** with no confirmed cases.
- **Sporadic cases:** with one or more cases, imported or locally detected.
- **Clusters of cases:** experiencing cases, clustered in time, geographic location and/or by common exposures.
- **Community transmission:** experiencing larger outbreaks of local transmission defined through an assessment of factors including, but not limited to large numbers of cases not linkable to transmission chains; large numbers of cases from sentinel lab surveillance; and/or multiple unrelated clusters in several areas of the country.

**Travellers from each country or region will be designated in various risk categories for possible disease export which will determine the public health measures to be implemented before arrival and while in Barbados. It should be appreciated that these criteria may change as the situation evolves.**



# COVID-19 Public Health Protocols for Air Travel to Barbados

## Risk Categories of Selected Countries as at Sep 11, 2020<sup>1</sup>

A traveller's risk category will be determined by the highest risk level associated with any country that they have travelled to or transited through within 21 days prior to travel to Barbados. Additionally, the assessment takes into consideration other factors that may influence the accuracy of the risk classification such as the adequacy of testing in the source country.

### High-Risk:

Includes **Argentina, Bahamas, Belize, Brazil, British Virgin Islands, Columbia, Dominican Republic, France, Guyana, Haiti, India, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Mexico, Netherlands, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Puerto Rico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Spain, South Africa, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Turks and Caicos Islands, United States, US Virgin Islands, Venezuela.**

### Medium-Risk:

Includes **Bermuda, Canada, Estonia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Iceland, Japan, Martinique, Norway, United Kingdom, United Arab Emirates.**

### Low-Risk:

Includes **Australia, Cuba, Egypt, Sri Lanka.**

### Very Low-Risk:

Includes **Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Cayman Islands, China, Dominica, Finland, Greenland, Grenada, Montserrat, New Zealand, Saint Lucia, St. Kitts and Nevis, St Vincent and the Grenadines.**

In light of the fluidity of the COVID-19 pandemic, these protocols are likely to change. Travellers are encouraged to check [barbadostravelprotocols.com](http://barbadostravelprotocols.com) for updates.

<sup>1</sup>For review within 2 weeks. The Government of Barbados is working towards a reciprocal arrangement with like-minded states/countries to implement a travel bubble at a later date.



# Requirements For Entry Into Barbados

I All travellers to Barbados must complete a pre-arrival Online Immigration/Customs form at least 24 hrs before arrival. This online form will include personal health information related to COVID-19.

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II The Online Immigration/Customs form is available at **[www.travelform.gov.bb](http://www.travelform.gov.bb)**

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III Travellers who fall into the following categories:

- i. Diplomats
- ii. Persons with a medical condition warranting special consideration (to be certified by the Chief Medical Officer (CMO));
- iii. Persons with a disability or travelling with persons with disabilities; and require special arrangements or considerations must send an email to **[cmo@health.gov.bb](mailto:cmo@health.gov.bb)** containing such particulars to allow for the consideration and justification of the request for special arrangements or considerations. This email should be submitted no less than 72 hours prior to arrival.

Any special considerations given under this section shall be specific and shall not exempt the person from any other requirement, obligation or condition associated with their risk category.

## IV

With effect from September 19th it will be mandatory for all persons travelling to Barbados from High, and Medium risk countries to take a COVID-19 PCR test from an accredited or certified facility/ laboratory within 72 hours prior to arrival in order to enter the country. Persons travelling from Low-Risk countries, in order to expedite processing through the airport are strongly advised to take, and will be allowed to present results of, tests taken up to 5 days prior to arrival. Relevant accrediting bodies and standards include: ISO:15189, CAP, UKAS or the equivalent.

## V

Test results must be submitted electronically at **[www.travelform.gov.bb](http://www.travelform.gov.bb)** and travellers are required to present a copy of test results bearing their name on arrival. Test results must be validated by the Ministry of Health and Wellness in Barbados. Test results should be presented in English to facilitate validation.

## VI

Persons travelling from countries within the Very Low-Risk category, who have not travelled to or transited through any country designated as High, Medium or Low-Risk within 21 days prior to travel to Barbados, are not required to take a COVID-19 PCR test prior to or on arrival. These travellers will be permitted to leave the airport after clearance by Immigration, Customs and Port Health Officials.

## VII

Persons arriving in Barbados from High or Medium Risk countries without a valid negative COVID-19 PCR test result from an accredited or recognized laboratory may be denied entry in to the country. Persons from Low-Risk countries without a valid negative COVID-19 PCR test result from an accredited or recognized laboratory will be required to take a test upon arrival. In all cases if testing is done on arrival for any reason or for any risk category the following will apply:

- i. Persons travelling from High-Risk countries or who have visited or transited through a High-Risk country in the past 21 days will be tested at the airport free of charge. These travellers shall be required to remain at the airport or a government approved facility until the results are available.
- ii. Persons travelling from Medium-Risk and Low-Risk countries can either:
  - a. be tested at the airport free of charge and can await their results at the airport or other government approved facility; or await their results at a designated holding hotel or Approved Villa at their own expense.
  - b. be tested at one of the approved satellite sites/hotels for a fee of USD \$150 plus the cost of the hotel stay.

All persons must remain in their chosen accommodation until they receive their results. Test results are generally available within 24 hours.

The Ministry of Health and Wellness reserves the right to require testing of any person regardless of documentation presented or any other requirement, obligation or condition associated with their assigned risk category.



## Villa

For the purpose of quarantine, a villa means a self-contained accommodation unit. There must be no common areas accessible by the occupants of the villa.

In the case of quarantine, villa staffing is at reduced levels and visitors are asked to note that staff are required to wear full industry standard Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) in the provision of service.

The villa is for the exclusive use of the party of each reservation. Guests are not permitted to leave the accommodation neither are they to receive any visitors. The only person permitted to visit the property is the Property Manager or a representative of the villa management company.

There must be 24-hour manned security or security cameras monitored by a security firm in Barbados capable of ensuring that quarantine is not violated. All villas must be registered with the Barbados Tourism Product Authority (BTPA) and managed by a villa management company. Any villa to be used for the purpose of quarantine must be approved by the Product Quality Unit of the BTPA. Requests must be submitted by the villa management company at least 72 hours in advance of arrival via [villaapproval@visitbarbados.org](mailto:villaapproval@visitbarbados.org)



# Procedures at the Grantley Adams International Airport

I Masks must be worn at all times while at the airport.

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II All incoming travellers must undergo a health assessment which may include a temperature check and a brief interview by Port Health Officials.

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III Subject to item 6 under Section: Requirements for Entry into Barbados noted above, all incoming travellers who have taken a COVID-19 PCR test prior to arrival, will be required to present the results for review by the Ministry of Health and Wellness in Barbados. This test must have been conducted within the period specified in item 4 under Section: Requirements for Entry into Barbados to be deemed valid. Any person who fails to satisfy these requirements must undergo a COVID-19 PCR test upon arrival in Barbados.

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IV A visitor from High, Medium and Low-Risk countries who does not present a valid negative COVID-19 PCR test result and who declines testing on arrival will be denied entry into Barbados.

## V

Citizens, Permanent Residents and persons with permanent status who do not present a valid negative COVID-19 PCR test result and who decline testing on arrival will be quarantined in a government facility.

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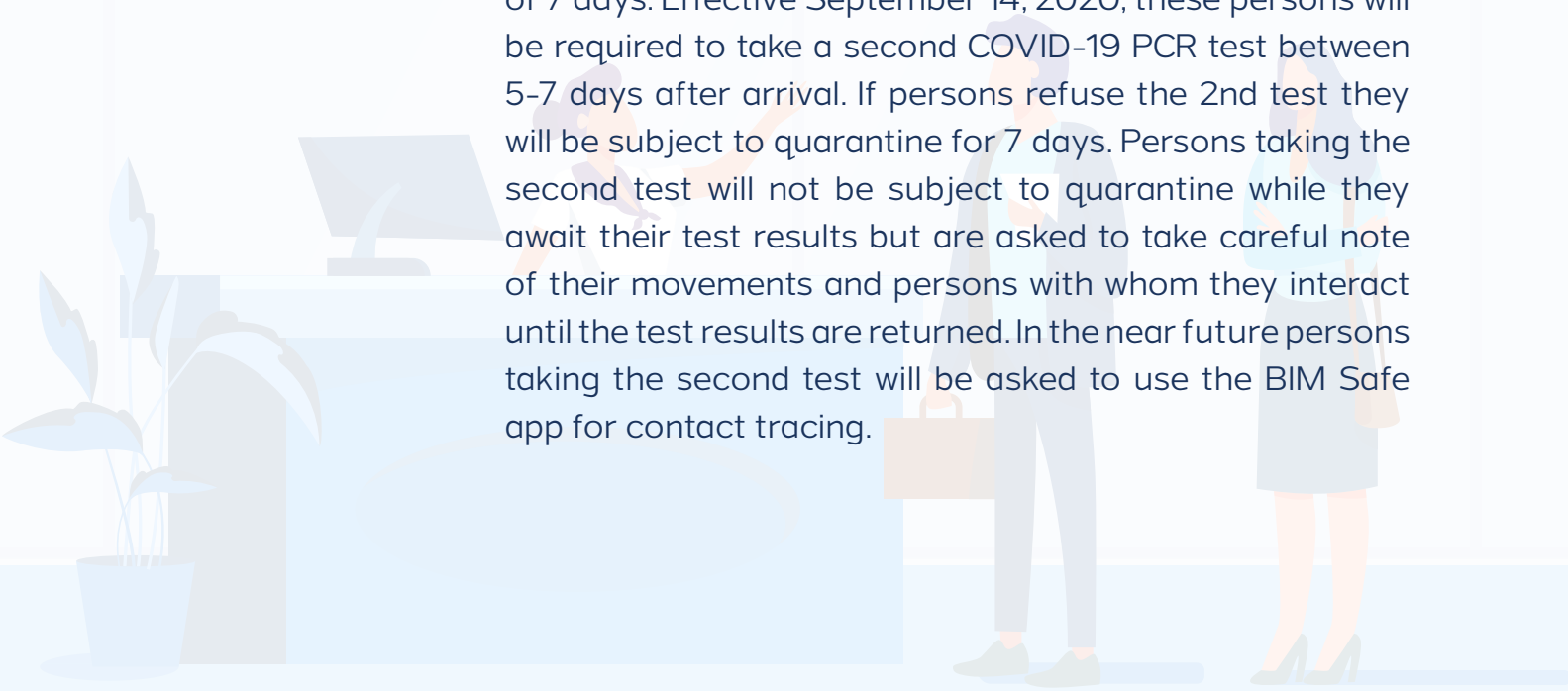
## VI

Persons travelling from Medium and Low-Risk countries who arrive with a valid negative COVID-19 PCR test result will be permitted to leave the airport after clearance by Immigration, Customs and Port Health Officials.

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## VII

Those persons travelling from Medium-Risk countries will be monitored daily for the onset of symptoms for a period of 7 days. Effective September 14, 2020, these persons will be required to take a second COVID-19 PCR test between 5-7 days after arrival. If persons refuse the 2nd test they will be subject to quarantine for 7 days. Persons taking the second test will not be subject to quarantine while they await their test results but are asked to take careful note of their movements and persons with whom they interact until the test results are returned. In the near future persons taking the second test will be asked to use the BIM Safe app for contact tracing.

A light blue illustration in the background shows a person sitting at a desk with a computer monitor. In the foreground, two people are standing: a man in a suit holding a briefcase and a woman in a dress. The illustration is semi-transparent and serves as a decorative background for the text.

## VIII

Persons travelling from High-Risk countries with a valid negative COVID-19 PCR test result will be quarantined at a designated holding hotel or Approved Villa at their own expense, or free of charge at a government facility. These persons will be quarantined for a period of 14 days with an option to take a second COVID-19 PCR test between 5-7 days after arrival in Barbados. If the result of that second test is negative, that person will not be subject to further quarantine.

# In-transit Passengers

## I

Masks must be worn at all times while at the airport in Barbados.

## II

All in-transit passengers must undergo a health assessment which may include a temperature check and a brief interview by Port Health Officials.

## III

All in-transit passengers from High, Medium and Low-Risk countries must have proof of a valid negative COVID-19 PCR test result prior to arrival in Barbados.

## IV

In-transit passengers from High, Medium and Low-Risk countries without evidence of a valid negative COVID-19 PCR test may be denied entry into Barbados.

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## V

The Government of Barbados reserves the right to refuse entry to any person who does not have a valid test result.

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## VI

Travellers are required to observe the public health regulations of the Government of Barbados including requirements for physical distancing while in transit in the airport.



# During Stay in Barbados

I All persons travelling to Barbados must abide by all public health protocols in place in Barbados related to COVID-19 risk reduction; including physical distancing, hygiene practices, wearing of face masks and all other relevant measures.

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II All persons will be required to immediately report any COVID-19 symptoms to Public Health Officials or relevant hotel/accommodation management.

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III Persons may be requested to undergo an additional COVID-19 PCR test if circumstances warrant.

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IV Persons who test positive will be transferred to alternate accommodations for isolation and treatment until they have been cleared by the Ministry of Health and Wellness. After clearance, persons may resume their planned activities.

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V Those persons identified to have been in close contact with a positive COVID-19 case will be quarantined at facilities approved by the Ministry of Health and Wellness.

## VI

### **Self-Isolation COVID-19 Positive Cases**

Should a person test positive for COVID19 in Barbados they may request the option to self-isolate at a designated isolation-hotel or isolation-villa or other government approved isolation-property at their own expense. This option will apply to persons who are asymptomatic and deemed well and stable enough by the Ministry of Health and Wellness. The other requirements are:

- i. Persons must sign a consent release which also states their acceptance for information on their movements during self-isolation to be shared with the Ministry of Health and Wellness by an approved security company.
- ii. The isolation-property must contract the services of the approved security company for the period of time of such isolation with the associated expenses charged to the account of the property occupant.
- iii. Medical support services approved by the Ministry of Health & Wellness must be contracted at the expense of the patient to monitor their condition in accordance with clinical protocols.
- iv. The management of self-isolation in a government approved isolation facility will work in conjunction with the soon to be implemented BIMSAFE app and contact tracing bracelet. The option to request self-isolation comes in to effect from September 19th 2020.

# Departure from Barbados

I All departing persons must wear a mask while at the airport.

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II All departing persons must comply with instructions given by Public Health Officials.

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III Persons requiring a COVID-19 PCR test prior to travel from Barbados must submit the request at least 72 hours prior to travel via [pcrtest@visitbarbados.org](mailto:pcrtest@visitbarbados.org).

## Special Considerations

I Travellers under 5 years of age will not be required to have a COVID-19 PCR test unless they are symptomatic or any member of the travel party has a positive test result.

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II Unaccompanied minors will be required to have a valid negative COVID-19 test result to enter Barbados.

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III Travellers who have non-standard circumstances that need to be addressed, are advised to contact The Ministry of Health and Wellness via [cmo@health.gov.bb](mailto:cmo@health.gov.bb) at least 72 hours prior to travel to Barbados. This allows for requests to be reviewed and processed.

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IV The CMO reserves the right to alter or vary the application of these protocols as circumstances warrant.











# Barbados Covid-19 Traveller Entry Matrix

A traveller's risk category will be determined by the highest risk level associated with any country that they have travelled to or transited through within 21 days prior to travel to Barbados.

	 HIGH RISK	 MEDIUM RISK	 LOW RISK	 VERY LOW-RISK
All passengers must complete the Online Immigration/Customs Form at <a href="http://www.travelform.gov.bb">www.travelform.gov.bb</a> at least 24 hours prior to arrival in Barbados	✓	✓	✓	✓
Persons travelling with a valid negative COVID-19 PCR test result are eligible for expedited processing				N/A
Test must be taken within:	72 HRS	72 HRS	5 DAYS	
Test result uploaded via <a href="http://www.travelform.gov.bb">www.travelform.gov.bb</a>	✓	✓	✓	
Travel with negative test result	✓	✓	✓	
In-transit Passengers must travel with a valid negative COVID-19 PCR test result				N/A
Test must be taken within	72 HRS	72 HRS	5 DAYS	
Valid Negative COVID19 PCR test is mandatory to enter the country.	✓	✓		
Test result uploaded via <a href="http://www.travelform.gov.bb">www.travelform.gov.bb</a>	✓	✓	✓	
Travel with negative test result	✓	✓	✓	

	 HIGH RISK	 MEDIUM RISK	 LOW RISK	 VERY LOW-RISK
<b>Persons travelling without a valid negative COVID-19 PCR test result will be tested in Barbados</b>				N/A
<b>Testing Options (Test results can take up to 24 hrs)</b>				N/A
Test at Airport (no charge)	✓	✓	✓	
Test at Government Facility (no charge)	✓	✓	✓	
Test at Designated Satellite Hotel (US \$150+ Hotel daily rate)		✓	✓	
Citizens, Permanent Residents and persons with permanent status who decline testing on arrival will be quarantined in a government facility	✓	✓	✓	
<b>Options for Awaiting Test Results</b>				N/A
Designated Holding Hotel or Approved Villa (Daily Rates apply)		✓	✓	
Airport or Government Facility (No cost)	✓	✓	✓	

	 HIGH RISK	 MEDIUM RISK	 LOW RISK	 VERY LOW-RISK
<b>Options if your COVID-19 PCR test is negative:</b>				N/A
No quarantine or monitoring required			✓	
<b>OR</b>				
Monitored for 7 days at your intended address with a mandatory 2nd test 5-7 days after arrival, producing a 2nd negative test result		✓		
14-Day Quarantine at Designated Hotel, Approved Villa or Government Facility	✓			
<b>OR</b>				
7-Day Quarantine at Designated Hotel, Approved Villa or Government Facility with a mandatory 2nd test 5-7 days after arrival, producing a 2nd negative test result	✓			
<b>If your COVID-19 PCR test is positive you will be transferred to alternative accommodation for isolation and treatment. Persons may request the option of self-isolation at an approved isolation-villa, isolation-hotel, or other government approved isolation property.</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓

	 HIGH RISK	 MEDIUM RISK	 LOW RISK	 VERY LOW-RISK
<b>Special Considerations</b>				
Travellers under the age of 5 will not be required to have a test unless symptomatic or if guardian or any other member of the travel party tests positive	✓	✓	✓	✓
Unaccompanied minors are required to have a valid negative COVID-19 PCR test for entry into Barbados	✓	✓	✓	N/A
<b>Diplomats; Persons with a medical condition warranting special consideration (to be certified by the Chief Medical Officer (CMO)); Persons with a disability or travelling with persons with disabilities, are eligible for special arrangements under the following conditions:</b>				
1. Email <a href="mailto:cmo@health.gov.bb">cmo@health.gov.bb</a> with particulars of request no less than 72 hours prior to arrival	✓	✓	✓	
2. Travel with their COVID-19 negative test result	✓	✓	✓	
The Ministry of Health and Wellness reserves the right to require testing of any person regardless of documentation presented or any other requirement, obligation or condition associated with their assigned risk category	✓	✓	✓	✓

A white, cursive handwritten signature of Dr. Kenneth George, positioned above a horizontal dotted line.

**Dr. Kenneth George**  
Chief Medical Officer (Ag.)  
Ministry of Health and Wellness



**BARBADOS**  
TOURISM MARKETING INC.