



GMS Flash Alert

Immigration Edition

2020-459 | November 16, 2020

Spain - COVID-19: Health Measures Announced for Purposes of Entering Spain

This *GMS Flash Alert* provides an update on the current Spanish controls at the borders due to the international health emergency.¹

As we anticipated in our previous *GMS Flash Alert* [2020-447](#) (3 November 2020), the Spanish authorities have approved new sanitary/health control measures to allow entry through Spain's maritime and air borders (not land) that will come into force on 23 November.²

WHY THIS MATTERS

The new health controls can affect employers and their globally-mobile employees – especially business travellers – doing business in Spain.

All this could cause some anxiety, stress, and inconvenience, especially where plans for travel and relocation are already underway. Individuals should be particularly aware of the consequences of non-compliance with the new policies, which could result in sanctions, an interruption in travel plans, and the disruption of planned business and leisure travel activities.

New Health Controls at Air and Sea Borders (Not Land Borders)

The health control measures put in place can require travellers, before entering the country, to have their temperatures taken, to submit to a document check, and undergo what the authorities are calling a visual check (“un control visual”) on the status of the passenger.

Regarding the document control of international passengers whose final destination is Spain (not international passengers in transit at a Spanish port or airport with their final destination being another country)³, it is important to note:

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(1) All passengers originating from any airport or port located outside of Spain must complete, before departure, a public health form called "Health Control Form," through the website www.spth.gob.es or from the Spain Travel Health-SpTH application, or the downloadable file at <https://www.mscbs.gob.es/profesionales/saludPublica/sanidadExterior/ControlHS.htm> .

(2) All passengers from a country or risk zone listed in Annex II (see below), who intend to enter Spain, must have a Diagnostic Test for Active Infection (hereinafter PDIA) for SARS-CoV-2 with a negative result, performed in the seventy-two (72) hours prior to arrival in Spain.

Update / Information Responsibility

The authorities establish the responsibility of information collection and conveyance for travel agencies, tour operators, and air or maritime transport companies, and any other agent that sells tickets in isolation or as part of a combined trip. They must inform passengers, at the start of the process of selling tickets to travel to Spain, of the obligation of the traveller to present the Health Control Form upon arrival. In addition, if the country or area of origin of the trip is classified as risky, they must inform the traveller of his/her obligation to have a PDIA for SARS-CoV-2 with a negative result, carried out in the seventy-two (72) hours prior to arrival.

This responsibility is crucial given that the list in Annex II may be updated and will become effective seven days after its publication.

List of Countries (Annex II)

Below, please find a list of countries and areas that require passengers coming from these countries to carry out a diagnostic test for active infection by SARS-CoV-2 with a negative result as a requirement to enter Spain.

Countries of the European Union / European Economic Area

(Inclusion criteria: red or gray risk areas, based on the combined indicators according to European Council Recommendation 2020/1475.)

1. Germany	6. Cyprus	11. France	16. Italy	21. Norway***	26. Sweden
2. Austria	7. Croatia	12. Greece**	17. Latvia	22. Netherlands	27. Liechtenstein
3. Belgium	8. Denmark*	13. Hungary	18. Lithuania	23. Poland	28. Slovakia
4. Bulgaria	9. Slovenia	14. Ireland	19. Luxembourg	24. Portugal****	
5. Czechia	10. Estonia	15. Iceland	20. Malta	25. Romania	

* Except the Faroe Islands and Greenland

** Except Kitri, Ionia Nisia, Dytiki Ellada and Sterea Ellada regions)

***Except Rogaland, Møre og Romsdal, Nordland, Viken, Innlandet, Vestfold og Telemark, Agder, Vestland, Trøndelag and Troms og Finnmark regions

****Except the autonomous region of the Azores Island

Third Countries

(Inclusion criteria: cumulative incidence greater than 150 per 100,000 inhabitants in 14 days.)

1. Albania	8. Bosnia and Herzegovina	15. Georgia	22. North Macedonia	29. French Polynesia (France)	36. Tunisia
2. Andorra	9. Cape Verde	16. Gibraltar (United Kingdom)	23. Morocco	30. Puerto Rico	37. Ukraine
3. Argentina	10. Colombia	17. Guam	24. Moldova	31. United Kingdom	
4. Armenia	11. Costa Rica	18. Jordan	25. Monaco	32. San Marino	
5. Aruba	12. United Arab Emirates	19. Kuwait	26. Montenegro	33. San Martin	
6. Bahrain	13. United States of America	20. Lebanon	27. Palestine	34. Serbia	
7. Belize	14. Russian Federation	21. Libya	28. Panama	35. Switzerland	

(Source: ECDC) (<https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en>).

KPMG NOTE

Any questions or concerns should be directed to your qualified professional adviser or a member of the GMS/People Services team with the KPMG International member firm in Spain.

FOOTNOTES:

1 See (in Spanish and English): <https://www.mscbs.gob.es/profesionales/saludPublica/sanidadExterior/ControlHS.htm> .

2 See (in Spanish): https://www.boe.es/diario_boe/txt.php?id=BOE-A-2020-14049 .

3 If the transit in Spain is carried out without leaving the international zone, the presentation of a PDIA will not be required. If the transit involves passing through border control centers and therefore an individual has entered Spanish territory, he or she may be required to submit a PDIA according to the same terms as the passengers whose final destination is Spain. See:

<https://www.mscbs.gob.es/profesionales/saludPublica/sanidadExterior/CHS/Pdf/PreguntasRespuestas.pdf>.

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Contact us

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The information contained in this newsletter was submitted by the KPMG International member firm in Spain.

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