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GOVERNMENT OF SAMOA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH

November 30, 2021

Special Travel Advice for Travelers Entering Samoa

Expect Changes at Short Notice

1. ALL passengers are advised to communicate straight to the Samoa Health Authorities 21 days before planned travel time by emailing enquiries@health.gov.ws or samohealth.travelenquiries@gmail.com for clarification pertaining to the travel advice.
2. All travelers will be assessed on a case-by-case basis before being granted permission to travel to Samoa.
3. The current emergence of the COVID-19 **Omicron variant in South Africa with imminent spreading to other countries**; Samoa's borders is now closed to the following countries, identified as high risks.
4. These has been categorized as NO TRAVEL. Entry is denied to All passengers from or transit through **South Africa, Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, and Zimbabwe, Great Britain, Belgium, Germany**. They are NOT permitted to enter Samoa.
5. Countries of concern with Omicron variant will be closely monitored. These include; Israel, Hong Kong and Australia; all passengers from these countries must submit all documents to the Ministry of Health within 24 hours before travel departure for entry approval.
6. Airline carriers are encourage to conduct pre-departure screening of passengers for signs and symptoms include temperature check and general condition. (refer to annex 1 for pre departure screening details). Any abnormal finding will be denied boarding.
7. All those who wish to travel to Samoa please contact the Chief Executive Officer of the Samoa Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade or The Chairman of the Disaster Advisory Committee or any of Samoa's Mission Office overseas to register a flight.
8. All Travelers age 12 years and above including flight crew are NOW required to be **fully vaccinated** with the prescribed 2 doses, with the exception of Janssen vaccine before entry into Samoa with any COVID-19 vaccine and preferably vaccines already pre-qualified by the World Health Organization (AstraZeneca, Pfizer, Janssen-single dose, Moderna, Sinopharm).

9. A **legitimate vaccine certificate** is required for boarding. Being fully vaccinated implies completion of the required prescribed doses as per vaccine used. All should have completed 2 weeks (14 days) post vaccination prior to travel. The vaccine certificate must be a **Health**

Authority Approved Certificate/Card of country where vaccination took place and should contain at least the following information:

- a. Name of Country
 - b. Name of person - should be the same as name on passport or birth certificate
 - c. National Identification/Registration Number if available
 - d. Address of Clinic and contact details
 - e. Name of Vaccine and Batch Number
 - f. Dates of Vaccination
 - g. Name of Vaccinator (optional)
 - h. Health Institution Stamp if available
10. A hard copy of vaccine certificate must be presented at check in and on arrival into Samoa for sighting and also during registration at quarantine/isolation facilities.
11. A **Negative rtPCR COVID test** is still required to be taken within 72 hours of departure from originating airport. The lab result must be presented in hard copy on arrival into Samoa.
12. **Medical Clearance signed, stamped and fully completed by a GP within 120 hours** of departure from originating airport is still required. The medical clearance must be presented in hard copy on arrival into Samoa.
13. **All passengers with a legitimate vaccination certificate are exempted from doing blood serology.** Failure to provide a legitimate vaccination certificate will result in **NO BOARDING**
14. **Passengers who haven't been vaccinated or who fail to complete the required doses of vaccination will be denied boarding.**
15. **Children 11 years and under and others who satisfy the exemption criteria for Vaccination as per country of origin specific COVID-19 vaccination policy are required to comply with requirements below:**
- i. All others with medical conditions that deem them exempt for Vaccination must email the aforementioned email addresses with a written report from a registered medical officer stating reasons for exemption;
 - ii. The Ministry reserves the right to deny boarding if the Ministry is not satisfied with the medical report provided;
 - iii. Refusal to vaccinate due to personal belief or his/her individual rights is **NOT** a valid reason for exemption;

- iv. Requirements a, b, and c below are mandatory and without exemption for travelling infants and children;
- a) A **Negative rtPCR COVID test** is required to be taken within 72 hours of departure from originating airport. The lab result must be presented in hard copy on arrival into Samoa.
 - b) **Medical Clearance** signed, stamped and fully completed by a GP within 120 hours of departure from originating airport. The medical clearance must be presented in hard copy on arrival into Samoa. Form can be downloaded from Ministry of Health Samoa website; all sections must be filled in.
 - c) **Blood Serology for COVID19 Antibody Test** to be done within 7 days before departure from originating airport. Must be presented in hard copy on arrival into Samoa. Rapid serology tests for IgM and IgG is not acceptable.

16. All passengers entering Samoa will go into quarantine for at least 14 days or as determined by the Ministry of Health.

Any Passenger or Crew with a **Positive COVID-19 rtPCR test** is **NOT allowed** to enter Samoa, unless they have satisfied the following:

- a. **30 days have passed** from date of the first **NEGATIVE** test result following the date of the positive test;
- b. Must provide genome sequencing test of the virus if available;
- c. Must provide proof of 3 consecutive negative tests results on **Day10, Day5 and Day2** before intended date of departure and must comply with all other requirements stated above.
- d. All COVID 19 PCR test results, genomic sequencing test and Serology tests must be submitted via email to Director General of Health on email ceo@health.gov.ws and Dr Robert Thomsen email robertt@health.gov.ws


NOTE: ALL DOCUMENTS MUST BE IN ENGLISH - ANY OTHER LANGUAGE WILL BE DENIED BOARDING WITHOUT EXCEPTION.

TRAVELLERS AND CREW ENTERING SAMOA MUST COMPLY WITH ALL REQUIREMENTS NOTED. Your compliance with the conditions listed is imperative in ensuring the safety of all travelers and our people in Samoa. We endeavor to keep Samoa COVID-19 Free.

For travel preparations visit the Ministry of Health website at www.health.gov.ws to download the Government of Samoa, Ministry of Health Medical Clearance Health form and for information regarding rules of quarantine.

The Ministry of Health appreciates your full cooperation and patience on arrival as you may experience long delays.

We pray for your safe travel to Samoa.



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Leausa Samau Tupa'i T. Dr Take Naseri

Director General of Health

Annex:

Pre-departure Screening Assessment:

Name:.....

Age:

Passport Number:

Flight:

Date:

Did you come in contact with a confirmed COVID-19 case within the past 7 days

Have you been feeling unwell for the past 3 days

Are you experiencing the following:

- Cough
- Fever
- Loss of appetite
- Sore throat

Have you completed all required vaccination doses for COVID19:

Name of Vaccine:.....

Date first dose:

.....

Date second dose:

.....

YES	NO

Temperature measurement in degrees Celsius:

Some Basic Requirement and Information

- ✓ All passengers eligible for COVID-19 vaccination must complete require vaccination doses.
- ✓ All are **required to wear a face mask at all times** during the flight, upon arrival and while in quarantine.
- ✓ You will go directly into managed isolation upon arrival into Samoa at a designated location.
- ✓ You must **change any foreign currency to Samoan Tala before traveling to Samoa** as no banks will be open at the airport on arrival.
- ✓ **Minimum period of quarantine is 14 days and can change any time**, and you will be informed of any changes.
- ✓ You must bring your own personal necessities e.g. soap, tooth brush, tooth paste etc. to last for 14 days or more.
- ✓ Passengers are advised to check in only one piece luggage (required weight 23kg)
- ✓ You are **not allowed** to bring in any additional packages/parcels for delivery upon arrival into Samoa to family members etc.
- ✓ You are required to ensure you have sufficient medications to last you three months and note your medical condition on the Health declaration card.
- ✓ You are responsible for the cost of any medications prescribed while in quarantine.
- ✓ You are **not allowed** to bring alcohol or consume any alcohol while in quarantine.
- ✓ Passengers **requiring special diets will be responsible for their own dietary needs** and must inform the quarantine site staff of your dietary needs. **You are responsible for costs** associated with your dietary needs.
- ✓ The cost of accommodation, breakfast and lunch during quarantine will be paid by Government. **Dinner will be the passenger's responsibility.**

Travelers with Special Requirements:

- If you have any medical conditions or above 60 years of age travelling alone and require regular medical assistance while in quarantine, you are advised to defer your travel until borders are fully opened.
- All travelers requiring wheelchair assistance and those with special needs must be accompanied by an adult relative in flight and during the mandatory quarantine period.

Infants and Children less than 18 years of age:

- All infants and children should be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian for the duration of the quarantine period.
- A written consent is required from parent or legal guardian for any child going into quarantine alone.
- Parents are advised that all children's immunizations are up to date especially measles vaccines due to the recent outbreak.
- Parents/legal guardian travelling with infants/child must ensure sufficient supplies of basic needs e.g. milk, wipes, diapers, formula etc. for the duration of quarantine.

There are penalties if the conditions of quarantine are breached. This applies to all people in quarantine leaving or individuals and families going to quarantine sites.

The Ministry of Health is not responsible or liable for any costs or lost items on arrival or while in quarantine.