



Government of Samoa

MINISTRY OF HEALTH
MATAGALUEGA O LE SOIFUA MALOLOINA

March 24, 2022

Special Travel Advice for Travelers Entering Samoa

Expect Changes at Short Notice

1. ALL passengers are advised to communicate directly with the Samoa Health Authorities 21 days before planned travel time by emailing enquiries@health.gov.ws or samoahhealth.travelenquiries@gmail.com for clarification pertaining to Health Requirements as per travel advice.
2. 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 Overseas Mission Offices to register for a flight.
3. With the current emergence of the COVID-19 **Omicron variant in South Africa with imminent** spread to other countries; Samoa's borders are now closed to the following countries, identified as 'high risk'; South Africa, Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, Zimbabwe, United Kingdom, Belgium, Germany, United States of America, Australia
4. RESTRICTED TRAVEL will apply to the listed countries. Exemption is granted on a case-by-case basis for approved returning residents and essential workers only.
5. All travelers will be assessed on a case-by-case basis before being granted permission to travel to Samoa.
6. Airline carriers are encouraged to conduct pre-departure screening of passengers for signs and symptoms including temperature check and general condition.
7. All Travelers age 12 years and above including flight crew are NOW required to be **fully vaccinated** with the prescribed 2 doses preferably of vaccines pre-qualified by the World Health Organization (AstraZeneca, Pfizer, Janssen-single dose, Moderna, Sinopharm, Sinovac, Covaxin, Novavax) before entry into Samoa;
8. 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
9. 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. Electronic documents on phones or other electronic device including email are **NOT** acceptable.
10. A **Negative Nucleic Acid Amplification Test (NAAT) - (RT-PCR, NEAR, TMA, LAMP or SDA)** is still required to be taken **within 48 hours** of departure from originating airport for all passengers and flight crew. The test result must have the testing laboratory or Clinic letter head and stamp. Any results received by email or presented as InBox are **NOT** accepted. The lab result must be presented in hard copy on arrival in Samoa.
11. **Medical Clearance signed, stamped and fully completed by a GP within 120 hours** of departure from originating airport is still required for all passengers and flight crew. The medical clearance must be presented in hard copy on arrival into Samoa.
12. Failure to provide a legitimate vaccination certificate and required documents will result in **NO BOARDING**.
13. **Passengers who have not been fully vaccinated or who fail to complete the 14 days after the second dose will be denied boarding.**
14. **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 it is not satisfied with the medical report provided;
 - iii. Requirements a and b below are mandatory and without exemption for travelling infants and children;
 - a) A **Negative Nucleic Acid Amplification Test (NAAT) - (RT-PCR, NEAR, TMA, LAMP or SDA)** is required to be taken **within 48 hours of departure from originating airport**. The test result must have the testing laboratory or Clinic letter head and stamp. Any results received by email or presented as InBox are **NOT** accepted. 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.

15. 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. Completed **3 consecutive negative tests 7 days apart** from date it was tested positive before intended date of departure and must comply with all other requirements stated above.
- b. 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 – THE USE OF OTHER LANGUAGE WILL RESULT IN DENIED BOARDING

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 endeavour 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.

Travellers are also required to download the Samoa Travel Tracer app onto their phones before travel. You can download the app from the Samoa Tourism Authority website or directly from the Google play for android and Apple for iPhones or use the following links:

Google Play - <https://bit.ly/3zYPxL5>

App Store - <https://apple.co/3k01wIO>

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.



Dr Robert Edward Thomsen
Acting Director General of Health



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.
- ✓ **All passengers will go into quarantine for at least 14 up to 21 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.