



Entry requirements in times of a COVID-19 pandemic

The entrance to Costa Rica is enabled for tourists from all the countries of the world by air, land and sea.

The tourist must meet the visa requirements, when required, as well as the requirements established in the framework of the pandemic.

The Government of the Republic does not require coronavirus detection tests, nor does it issue sanitary confinement orders to enter the country by air or land.

Those who enter the country by sea and who have not made a stopover elsewhere, should not be subjected to isolation if they have been sailing for more than 14 days.

Tourists visiting Costa Rica are requested to abide by the sanitary protocols in place for carrying out all tourist activities in the country.

****Important Update*** Starting 8 January 2022 hotels, restaurants, bars, casinos, shops, museums, art and dance academies, gymnasiums, resorts, and adventure tourism may admit only persons who are verifiably fully-vaccinated (Moderna, Pfizer-BioNTech, AstraZeneca y Janssen). This must be verified by means of a QR code or the printed vaccination certificate. This requirement applies to all patrons 12 years of age and older.*

Essential services such as supermarkets and pharmacies will not require proof of vaccination.

Exceptions to the presentation of the QR code of the vaccination certificate to enter commercial establishments are as follows:

- 1. Children under 12 years of age.*
- 2. Tourists who have a medical condition, duly accredited, that makes it impossible to apply any vaccine approved by the Ministry of Health of Costa Rica.*

Country entry requirements

Tourists can verify if they require entry with or without a visa at the following link: <https://migracion.go.cr/Paginas/Visas.aspx>.

The CIRCULAR DG-004-2021-UI-AJ that details the countries in the first, second, third and fourth groups is available at:

<https://migracion.go.cr/Documentos%20compartidos/Circulares%20y%20Directrices/2021/DIRECTRICES%20GENERALES%20DE%20INGRESO%20Circular%20DG-004-2021-UI-AJFEB%202021.pdf>

In the framework of the pandemic, the following requirements were also established:

1. Complete the digital form called HEALTH PASS and available at <https://salud.go.cr>

The Health Pass can only be completed within 72 hours of arriving in the country. It must be accessed in updated browsers with the exception of Internet Explorer. One form must be completed per person, including minors, without exception.

2. Travel policy

From August 1, 2021, all tourists who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and inoculated with Moderna, Pfizer-BioNTech, AstraZeneca or Johnson & Johnson can enter the country without a travel policy. The last dose of the vaccine must have been applied at least 14 days before arrival in Costa Rica.

Vaccinated tourists must attach the vaccination certificate to the Health Pass. As proof, vaccination certificates and vaccination cards that contain at least the following information will be accepted:

1. Name of the person who received the vaccine
2. Date of each dose
3. Pharmaceutical house

In the case of U.S. travelers, the "COVID-19 vaccination record card" will be accepted.

****Important Update*** All tourists under 18 years of age may enter the country without a travel policy. Unvaccinated tourists 18 years of age and older must purchase a travel policy that covers COVID-19 care and quarantine if necessary. However, unvaccinated tourists 12 years and older will not be allowed to enter commercial establishments as of January 8, 2022.*

The requirement of being fully-vaccinated to enter commercial establishments, except for stated exceptions, DOES NOT PREVENT tourists without vaccination, with incomplete vaccination schedules or inoculated with vaccines not admitted in Costa Rica, from entering the country to visit family, friends or their properties in the country.

All tourists must complete the Health Pass.

Exceptions to the presentation of the QR code of the vaccination certificate to enter commercial establishments are as follows:

- 1. Children under 12 years of age.*
- 2. Tourists who have a medical condition, duly accredited, that makes it impossible to apply any vaccine approved by the Ministry of Health of Costa Rica.*

For those who apply, mandatory travel insurance must cover lodging in case of quarantine and medical expenses due to COVID-19 disease as detailed below.

International Policies

Regarding the policy, you can choose any international insurance company that meets the following requirements:

1. Valid during the entire stay in Costa Rica (coverage dates).
2. \$50,000 for medical expenses, including COVID-19 disease.
3. \$2,000 for lodging expenses in case of COVID-19 quarantine.

Ask your insurance company for a certificate/letter in English or Spanish stating the following:

1. Name of the person traveling.

2. Validity of the effective policy during the Costa Rica visit (travel dates).
3. Guarantee of coverage for medical expenses in case of COVID 19 in Costa Rica, for at least \$50,000
4. Minimum coverage of \$2,000 for lodging expenses for quarantine or trip interruption for this same amount.

This certificate must specify that the policy covers COVID-19 and must be uploaded to the **HEALTH PASS** to be reviewed and approved by the Costa Rican authorities. **Insurance cards are not accepted**, it must be a document that allows the verification of the coverage mentioned.

Costa Rican policies

The tourist can also choose any of the following Costa Rican insurance companies, which sell products registered and authorized by the General Superintendency of Insurance of Costa Rica.

INS: <https://www.grupoins.com/seguros-para-viajero/seguero-viajero-ingreso-costa-rica/>

Sagicor: <https://tiendasagicor.com/en/>

BlueCross BlueShield: <https://www.bluecrossblueshieldcr.com/rod>

IMPORTANT: For international policies, the minimum coverage was set at \$50,000, while for policies sold by Costa Rican insurers the minimum was set at \$20,000.

Foreigners with temporary or permanent residence, or temporary category who return to Costa Rica, and who are not up to date with the corresponding payments with the Costa Rican Social Security Fund, must acquire a temporary local insurance for 22 days or an international insurance that complies with the same requirements that are applied to a foreign tourist.

In the case of foreigners with the immigration category of permanent or temporary resident, or special category in the latter case (with the exception of the Student Subcategory), they must demonstrate the assurance by the Costa Rican social security, which is in force and can be verified in the link:

<https://sfa.ccss.sa.cr/servMedicos/validarDerechos.do>

Tourists who are in transit through the country must purchase insurance with a minimum coverage of five days.

Costa Rican citizens do not require health insurance.

Tourists are requested and warned not to attach unsolicited personal documents, such as copies of credit cards, keys or private passwords or others in the link of the Health Pass: <https://salud.go.cr> nor in an email to seguros@ict.go.cr. Reminder that only a copy of the insurance policies should be attached.

Questions

Entry by air or land - By land, the country admits tourists from groups one and two included in the general guidelines for entry and stay visas for non-residents, that is, they do not require a visa. In case of questions or concerns about the requirements or conditions of medical insurance, write to the email address seguros@ict.go.cr.

Entry by sea – From September 1st, Costa Rica reactivated cruise tourism for the 2021-2022 season. As a requirement, vessels must guarantee complete vaccination schedules against the COVID-19 virus in all crew members and 95% of passengers who are of age to be vaccinated.

In case of questions or concerns about the requirements or conditions of medical insurance, passengers and crew members of yachts or sailboats can write to the email address seguros.marinas@ict.go.cr.

Failure to comply with these requirements makes it impossible for the passenger to enter the country