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# PROTOCOL FOR THE ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS TO ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

Revised October 24th, 2020





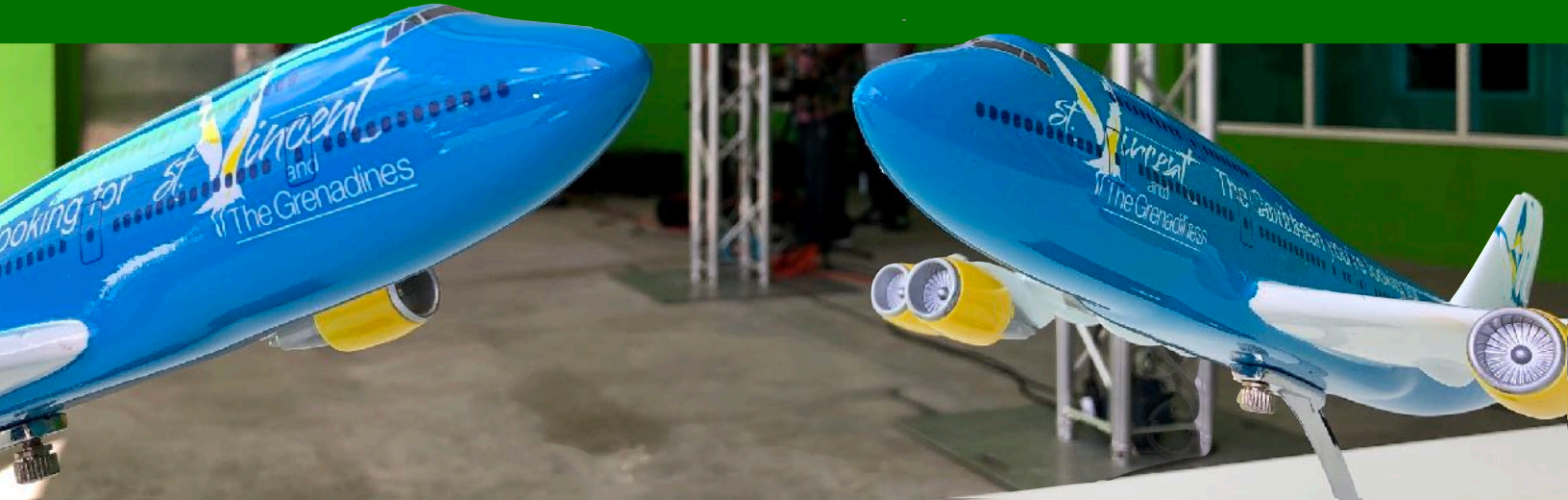
**AIM** The safe entry of travellers to St. Vincent and the Grenadines in a manner that reduces the risk of the importation and subsequent transmission of COVID-19 in St. Vincent and the Grenadines during the period leading up to the General Elections in St. Vincent and the Grenadines commencing October 25 to November 10, 2020. These interim protocols are implemented due to the following:

1. The alarming increase in the incidence of COVID-19 cases in the United States of America where 80,000 new cases were recorded on October 23, 2020. This is the highest recorded number of new cases in the USA for the entire pandemic period .
2. All countries in the Caribbean region receive direct or indirect flights from the USA, Canada, the United Kingdom and Europe, and are therefore deemed high risk countries during this interim period.
3. Increasing evidence of local and community spread in neighbouring countries.
4. The growing number and size of election campaign related mass gatherings in St. Vincent and the Grenadines resulting in the increased potential of the risk of transmission of COVID-19 during these events.

## OBJECTIVES

1. To establish the risk of the arriving traveller introducing new COVID-19 cases to SVG;
2. To minimise exposure of residents of SVG to new COVID-19 cases;
3. Early identification of potential exposure to new COVID-19 cases, and
4. Early containment of new COVID-19 cases.

# PHASED PROCESS OF ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS TO ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES



## TESTING & QUARANTINE:

PHASE #5 – Interim Phase - October 25 to November 10, 2020:

1. **ALL TRAVELLERS TO ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES MUST ARRIVE WITH A NEGATIVE SARS-COV-2 RT-PCR COVID-19 TEST RESULT** (except those arriving from Barbados after being there for at least 21 days) as per the following:
  - A. **Must arrive** with a negative result of a COVID-19 (RT-PCR) test done no more than five (5) days (including the day of arrival) before arrival.
  - B. **Will be retested** for COVID-19 (RT-PCR) on arrival in SVG.
  - C. **MUST Mandatory five (5) day** quarantine in a Tourism Authority/MOHWE approved Transition/Quarantine Hotel at their cost. Must arrive with proof of the fully paid reservation.

- D. **MUST** transfer to the Transition Hotel in an approved AIA taxi or approved vessel (plane or ferry) at their expense.
- E. **Must be retested** between day four (4) and day (5) of quarantine.
- F. **Must** continue Nine (9) to sixteen (16) monitored days in an approved home/hotel/vessel at the discretion of the Port Health Officer.

## **2. Barbados: ALL TRAVELLERS ARRIVING FROM BARBADOS AFTER BEING THERE FOR AT LEAST 21 DAYS:**

- A. **Are NOT required to arrive with a** negative result for a SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR test.
- B. **MUST be tested** on arrival in St. Vincent and the Grenadines for SARS-CoV-2 if arriving without a negative result.
- C. **Must QUARANTINE** for 24/48 hours to await clearance of the flight and/or their results.

## **3. Bubble Resorts/Hotels in SVG:**

- i. SVG Island Resorts /Hotels designated Bubble Resorts by the Tourism Authority/MOHWE (the entire island or hotel facility is considered a COVID-19 free space).
- ii. Adhere to testing as per Bubble Resort Protocols:
  - a. All guests arrive with negative RT-PCR results for SARS-CoV-2 done within 72 hours (five days with permission).

## **4. In-transit Passengers:**

- a. Through St. Vincent and the Grenadines:
  - i. Must have a negative COVID-19 PCR test result done within **five (5) days of arrival**.

- ii. If the in-transit period does not include an over-night stay, that period must be spent at the Argyle International Airport.
  - iii. If the in-transit period includes an over-night stay, that period must be spent in a TA/MOHWE approved hotel.
- b. Travellers intending to transit through another country from St. Vincent and the Grenadines are advised to visit the country's travel website to determine the requirements for travel. For
  - i. Grenada - <https://www.nowgrenada.com/2020/07/protocol-for-travellers-into-grenada/>
  - ii. Antigua - <https://visitantiguabarbuda.com/travel-advisory/>
  - iii. Barbados - <https://www.visitbarbados.org/covid-19-travel-guidelines-2020>
  - iv. St. Lucia - <https://www.stlucia.org/en/covid-19/>

5. Diplomats:

- a. Must have a negative PCR COVID-19 test result done within **five (5) days of arrival**.
- b. **ALL Diplomats who arrive by air will be quarantined at the discretion for the Chief Medical Officer or the Medical Officer of Health as per the established protocols.**

6. Travellers by air:

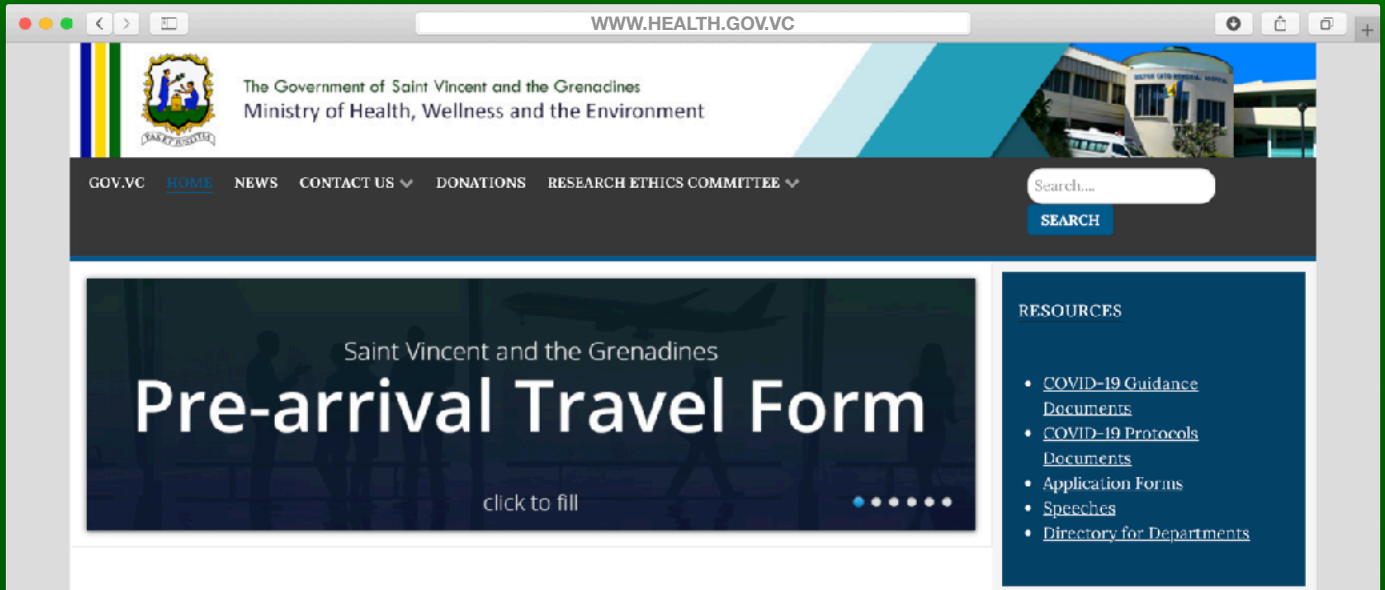
- a. All travellers will be assessed by the Port Health Officers to determine their final level of risk and the length of mandatory quarantine required.
- b. All travellers will then immediately proceed to an approved place of accommodation for a quarantine period to await the result of the COVID-19 PCR test.

7. All travellers will be required to monitor their temperatures for the next 14 days and report any elevations to the local health authority.

8. All travellers with a positive COVID-19 PCR test result will be isolated in an approved accommodation/facility for the next 14 days at the cost of the traveler.

# ESTABLISH RISK OF ARRIVING TRAVELLER

The arriving traveler will:



1. Complete the Pre-Arrival Form  
available at [www.health.gov.vc](http://www.health.gov.vc)



And the Port Health Officer will:

1. Complete Port Health form for each arriving passenger.

# PROCESS ON ARRIVAL

## ARRIVAL ASSESSMENT:

- a. Review of Pre-Arrival Form online.

## ESTABLISH SARS-COV-2/COVID-19 STATUS:

- a. Approval of SARS-CoV-2 test result by Port Health Team  
and
- b. Collection of a nasal swab specimen for a COVID-19 PCR test from all qualifying disembarking travellers.

# REQUIREMENTS OF DISCHARGE FROM QUARANTINE

## 1. Objective measures:

- a. Negative PCR Test
- b. Not a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case.

## 2. Subjective measures:

- a. Absence of signs and symptoms of COVID-19.

## 3. Not determined to be at high risk for being exposed to COVID-19.

*Please note that this protocol may be revised at any time at the discretion of the Health Services Subcommittee of the National Emergency Management Committee/COVID-19 Task Force, Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment.*