

NATIONAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ORGANISATION (NEMO) MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES WEST INDIES

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HEALTH SERVICES SUBCOMMITTEE

PROTOCOL FOR THE ENTRY OF FULLY VACCINATED TRAVELLERS TO ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES – revised 14/01/2022

AIM: The safe entry of travelers 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.

OBJECTIVES:

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

ESTABLISH RISK OF ARRIVING TRAVELLER:

The arriving traveler will:

1. Complete the Pre-Arrival Form available at health.gov.vc

And the Port Health Officer will:

1. Review Port Health form for each arriving passenger.

PHASED PROCESS OF ENTRY OF FULLY VACCINATED TRAVELERS TO ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES:

TESTING & QUARANTINE:

PHASE #22 - Commencing Saturday, January 15, 2022:

1. Where 'Fully Vaccinated Travelers' are those persons who:

- a. Have completed a vaccination regimen with one of the following COVID-19 vaccines recognized by the Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment of St Vincent and the Grenadines:
 - i. AstraZeneca Oxford AstraZeneca (Vaxzevria), COVISHIELD, AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine by SK Bioscience;
 - ii. Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine;
 - iii. Moderna COVID-19 vaccine;
 - iv. Janssen (Johnson & Johnson);
 - v. Gamalaya (Sputnik V, Sputnik Light, Gam-Covid-Vac);
 - vi. Cuban COVID-19 vaccine Abdala, Soberana
 - vii. Sinovac, Sinopharm.
- b. At least two (2) weeks have passed since the last dose of a two (2) dose vaccine or the single dose of a one (1) dose vaccine;
- c. Present with a vaccine certificate in English which will be validated either pre-arrival or at the point of entry by one of the following:
 - i. Proof of issuance from a national Public Health Organization
 - ii. Proof of documented vaccination issued by a hospital or medical centre.
- Fully vaccinated travelers to St. Vincent and the Grenadines MUST ARRIVE WITH a negative SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR COVID-19 test result as per the following:
 - a. Very High-Risk, High-risk, Medium-risk Low Risk Countries:
 - i. Botswana, Eswatini (formerly Swaziland), Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Belgium, Israel and Hong Kong, St. Kitts Nevis, Grenada, Taiwan, Bermuda, Anguilla, Montserrat Dominica, Barbados, Antigua and Barbuda, Brazil, Venezuela, Trinidad and Tobago, Ecuador, Suriname, Colombia, Belize, Mexico, India, Guyana, Panama, Argentina, Peru, British Virgin Islands, United States of America, including the United States Virgin Islands (USVI), China, United Kingdom, Germany, St. Lucia, Jamaica, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Cuba, Nigeria, Indonesia, Philippines, Italy, Bahamas, Canada, Turks and Caicos Islands, France (including overseas regions), Spain and Russia.

- ii. **MUST** arrive with a negative result of a COVID-19 (RT-PCR) test done no more than **seventy-two (72) hours** or three (3) days before arrival.
- iii. **WILL NOT** be retested for COVID-19 on arrival in SVG unless so determined by the Port Health Officer.
- iv. WILL NOT mandatory quarantine for forty-eight hours (48) hours in a Tourism Authority/MOHWE approved Transition/Quarantine Hotel/Property at their cost on arrival in SVG unless so determined by the Port Health Officer.
- 3. Travelers (nationals and residents) with a recent (10 days 2 months) diagnosis of COVID-19:
 - a. Must apply to <u>coronavirustaskforcesvg@gmail.com</u> for an exemption to enter St. Vincent and the Grenadines with a positive SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR result.
 - b. Must provide proof of the original positive SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR or Rapid Antigen result.
 - c. Must be fully vaccinated having completed a vaccination regimen with one of the COVID-19 vaccines recognized by the Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment of St Vincent and the Grenadines.
 - d. Must arrive with a negative rapid antigen test result from an approved testing site/facility no older than 24 hours. (Home antigen tests will not be accepted.)

4. Resort Specific "Bubble Protocol" Hotels in SVG:

- a. Resort Specific Protocols must be approved by the Health Services Subcommittee of the National Emergency Organization and bear the stamp of the NEMO.
- Besort Specific "Bubble Protocol" Approved Hotels Mandarin Oriental Canouan, Soho Beach House Canouan, Canouan Estates Resort and Villas, Bequia Beach Hotel, Petit St. Vincent Island & Resort, Mustique.
- 5. Any other country not assigned to the above categories should be assumed to be high risk.
- 6. High risk occupations include:
 - a. Health Care Workers (current)
 - b. Prison/Detention Facility Workers.
- 6. In-transit Passengers:
 - a. Through St. Vincent and the Grenadines:
 - i. Must have a negative COVID-19 PCR test result done within **72 hours 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. Travelers 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 <u>https://www.nowgrenada.com/2020/07/protocol-for-travellers-into-grenada/</u>
 - 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/

7. Diplomats:

- a. Must have a negative PCR COVID-19 test result done within 72 hours of arrival.
- b. ALL Diplomats must quarantine for the duration of time as per the approved protocols. The site of quarantine will be at the discretion of the Chief Medical Officer or the Medical Officer of Health.
- 8. Minors as travelers:
 - a. Persons under the age of 18 years are considered minors.
 - b. Shall follow the protocol applied to their parent or guardian.
 - c. When traveling alone will quarantine with a guardian in a private residence for the period as determined by their country of origin and their vaccination status.

PROCESS ON ARRIVAL:

ARRIVAL ASSESSMENT:

a. Review of online pre-arrival form.

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

- a. Approval of SARS-CoV-2 test result by Port Health Team.
- b. Collection of a nasal swab specimen for a COVID-19 PCR test from all qualifying disembarking travelers.
- c. All travelers will be assessed by the Port Health Officers to determine their final level of risk and the length of any quarantine required.
- d. All travelers will be required to monitor their temperatures and other symptoms for the next 10 days and report any abnormalities to the local health authority.
- e. All travelers with a positive COVID-19 PCR test result will be isolated in an approved accommodation/facility at the traveler's own cost.

REQUIREMENTS OF DISCHARGE FROM QUARANTINE:

- 1. Objective measures:
 - a. Negative COVID-19 Test and or
 - 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 is prepared by the Health Services Subcommittee of the National Emergency Committee/COVID-19 Task Force and may be revised at any time at the discretion of the Health Services Subcommittee.