



**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 TRAVELLERS TO ST. VINCENT AND
THE GRENADINES**
- revised 13/10/2020

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 to SVG;
2. To minimize exposure of residents of SVG to new COVID-19;
3. Early identification of potential exposure to new COVID-19, and
4. Early containment of new COVID-19.

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. Complete the Port Health form for each arriving passenger.

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

TESTING & QUARANTINE:

PHASE #4 - Commencing October 14, 2020:

1. 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. **High Risk Countries:**
 - i. United States of America, including the United States Virgin Islands (USVI), China, Canada, Iceland, United Kingdom, Germany, British Virgin Islands, Guyana, Suriname, Belize, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, Dominican Republic, Mexico, Brazil, India, Panama, Argentina, Peru, Haiti, Colombia, South Africa, Nigeria, Indonesia, Philippines, Italy, Bahamas, 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 five (5) days before arrival.
 - iii. **Will be retested** for COVID-19 (RT-PCR) on arrival in SVG.
 - iv. **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.
 - v. **MUST transfer to the Transition Hotel in an approved AIA taxi or approved vessel (plane or ferry) at their expense.**
 - vi. **Must be retested** between day four (4) and day (5) of quarantine.
 - vii. **Must** continue Nine (9) to sixteen (16) monitored days in an approved home/hotel/vessel at the discretion of the Port Health Officer.
 - b. **Medium Risk Countries:**
 - i. Cuba and Taiwan.
 - ii. **Must arrive** with a negative result of a COVID-19 (RT-PCR) test done no more than five (5) days before arrival.
 - iii. **Will be retested** on arrival in SVG.

- iv. **MUST Mandatory quarantine for forty-eight (48) to seventy-two (72) hours** at home to await clearance.
 - v. May continue Nine (9) to sixteen (16) monitored days in an approved home/hotel/vessel at the discretion of the Port Health Officer.
- c. **Low Risk:**
- i. **CARICOM Bubble - activated:**
 - 1. Barbados
 - 2. For the purposes of the CARICOM Bubble, the country of residence will be the last country that the traveler was present in for at least 14 days.
 - 3. **NOT required to arrive with a** negative result for a COVID-19 test.
 - 4. **May be tested** on arrival in SVG at the discretion of the Port Health Officer.
 - 5. **No quarantine** if no evidence of onboard vessel exposure and not in a high risk occupation.
 - ii. **CARICOM Bubble - not activated:**
 - 1. Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, , Montserrat, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia,
 - 2. For the purposes of the CARICOM Bubble, the country of residence will be the last country that the traveler was present in for at least 14 days.
 - 3. **Required to arrive with a** negative result for a COVID-19 test.
 - 4. **May be tested** on arrival in SVG at the discretion of the Port Health Officer.
 - 5. **MAY Mandatory quarantine for forty-eight (48) to seventy-two (72) hours** at home to await clearance.
 - 6. May continue Nine (9) to sixteen (16) monitored days in an approved home/hotel/vessel at the discretion of the Port Health Officer.
- d. **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:
 - 1. All guests arrive with negative RT-PCR results for SARS-CoV-2 done within 72 hours (five days with permission).
 - 2. Guests arriving via direct private planes with negative RT-PCR test results will not quarantine.

- e. Any other country not assigned to the above categories should be assumed to be high risk.
- f. Countries are placed in categories based on the presence or absence of community spread in the country and the level of that spread:
 - i. High risk – widespread significant increasing community spread
 - ii. Medium risk – limited community spread; may be increasing;
 - iii. Low risk – no active community spread.
- g. High risk occupations include:
 - i. Crew members (persons **coming from** a sailing vessel)
 - ii. Oil Rig workers
 - iii. Health Care Workers (current)
 - iv. Prison/Detention Facility Workers.
 - v. Farm Workers (Canadian Farm Workers Programme)

2. 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. 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 - <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/>

3. 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.**

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 travelers.
- c. Travelers by air:
 1. All travelers will be assessed by the Port Health Officers to determine their final level of risk and the length of mandatory quarantine required.
 2. All travelers will then immediately proceed to an approved place of accommodation for a 24 - 48 hour quarantine period to await the result of the COVID-19 PCR test.
- d. Travelers by sea:
 1. All travelers with approved documentation of a negative COVID-19 PCR test done within 3-5 days will not need to quarantine.
- e. All travelers will be required to monitor their temperatures for the next 14 days and report any elevations to the local health authority.
- f. All travelers 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.

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 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.