[corona | covid-19]

The Danish model for entry restrictions and travel advice

This fact sheet provides an overview of the Danish model for travel restrictions in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

As of 27 December 2021, the entry restrictions comprise a general requirement for testing prior to or after entry into Denmark, depending on the country in which the person entering is resident. Additional requirements for isolation after entry may apply depending on the country from which the entrant is arriving. Special rules apply if the country from which a person is entering Denmark is classified as a virus variant area.

The entry restrictions, as well as exemptions for children, business travellers, etc, can be found at corona | covid-19 (coronasmitte.dk).

Violation of the testing or isolation requirement is punishable by fine.

Requirement for negative test prior to or after entry into Denmark

As of 27 December 2021, all persons entering Denmark are subject to a general requirement that they have been tested with a PCR test (72 hours prior to entry) or a rapid test (48 hours prior to entry). The requirement also applies for vaccinated persons but not for previously infected people. However, persons resident in Denmark may choose between taking a test abroad prior to entry or taking a test up to 24 hours after entry.

Exemptions also apply for certain groups of people, e.g. children, people resident in the border regions, entrants from Sweden in transit from Bornholm who did not stop while in Sweden, entrants for the purpose of freight transport and persons in transit through Denmark who will be departing the country within 24 hours of entry (e.g. Swedish air passengers using Denmark as a hub). See all of the exemptions here: Questions and answers regarding entry into Denmark (coronasmitte.dk).

Entrants resident in a country other than Denmark must take a test abroad. This means, for example, that air travellers must take the test before boarding the aircraft, as it will not be possible to obtain a test in the Danish airports. The requirement for testing prior to entry is not an entry condition, and thus entrants will not be denied entry at the border. However, non-compliance is punishable by a fine of DKK 3,500 for first-time offenders.

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Isolation requirement for non-vaccinated or not previously infected persons upon entry from certain countries

Persons entering Denmark from an **EU or Schengen country** or a **COVID-19 risk country** are not subject to any isolation requirement after entry.

Persons entering Denmark from a **COVID-19 high-risk country** are subject to an isolation requirement after entry if they are not considered fully vaccinated or previously infected in Denmark. The isolation period is ten days, but may be broken after a negative PCR test taken no earlier than the sixth day after entry.

Previously infected persons is defined as persons who have previously been infected with COVID-19 and who can present documentation of a positive PCR test for COVID-19 that was taken at least 14 days and no more than 180 days before the time of entry.

Table 1. Model for entry restrictions

Risk areas

EU or Schengen countries	Countries that are members of the European Union or Schengen cooperation**, as well as Andorra, San Marino, Monaco and Vatican City State.
COVID-19 risk countries	Countries on the EU positive list and from which Denmark has opened for entry
COVID-19 high-risk countries	All other third countries
Virus variant areas*	Countries, regions or areas with a prevalence of virus variants of concern

* The decision to categorise a country, region or area as a virus variant area is made by the national COVID-19 task force for travel restrictions on the basis of a recommendation from Statens Serum Institut. The recommendation is based on a scientific assessment of the country's COVID-19 situation, including the spread of virus variants of concern.
** Iceland, Norway, Switzerland and Liechtenstein are part of the Schengen cooperation

Emergency brake for virus variants of concern

If the COVID-19 situation in a country worsens, particularly in the event of the emergence of new virus variants of concern, and the country is therefore categorised as a "virus variant area", tightened travel restrictions (an emergency brake) may be introduced on short notice.

The decision to categorise a country, region or area as a virus variant area is made by the national COVID-19 task force for entry restrictions on the basis of a recommendation from Statens Serum Institut. The recommendation is based on a scientific assessment of the country's COVID-19 situation, including the spread of virus variants of concern. The emergency brake is typically introduced at the country level. However, exceptions may be made in some cases for regions or areas.

Activation of the emergency brake means that all travel to the designated area is advised against in the travel advise, and the area will be categorised as red; the area will be categorised as a virus variant area upon entry, with requirements for testing prior to entry, a requirement for a particularly worthy purpose for entering the Denmark (and thus also border control), testing prior to boarding flights, and testing and isolation after entry.

As of 23 December 2021, no countries are categorised as virus variant areas.

Who is considered fully vaccinated?

You are considered fully vaccinated if you can document vaccination with an EMA-approved vaccine.[1] Furthermore, it must be at least two weeks after the completion of the vaccination series, and the vaccination series must have been completed within the past 12 months.

Fully vaccinated persons may enter Denmark without a requirement for isolation if they 1) are resident in an EU or Schengen country, OECD country, or country categorised as a COVID-19 risk country; or 2) are a holder of either the EU Digital COVID Certificate or an equivalent vaccination certificate. Fully vaccinated foreigners resident in a COVID-19 high-risk country and who are not resident in an OECD country or a holder of the EU Digital COVID Certificate or an equivalent vaccination certificate must also isolate after entry.

If you are a Danish citizen and fully vaccinated with an EMA-approved vaccine in any country in the world, you are exempt from the requirement to isolate after entry, regardless of where you are resident.

Table 2 provides an overview of the applicable entry restrictions when entering Denmark.

Table 2. Entry restrictions

	Test requirement before boarding aircraft	Isolation requirement upon entry	Requirement for a worthy purpose for foreigners without residence permit/residence in DK	Test requirement prior to entry
EU or Schengen countries	No	No	No	Yes
COVID-19 risk countries	No	No	No	Yes
COVID-19 high-risk countries	No	Yes**	No	Yes
Virus variant areas	Yes	Yes	Yes (short list)	Yes

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[1] At present, the EMA has approved the following vaccines against COVID-19: Pfizer BioNTech (Comirnaty), Johnson & Johnson - Janssen Pharmaceutical (COVID-19 Vaccine Janssen), Moderna (COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna) and AstraZeneca (Vaxzevria, formerly COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca).

*Certain exemptions apply. If you are resident in Denmark, you can instead choose to take the test up to 24 hours after entering Denmark.

***If you belong to one of the following groups, you are not required to isolate: 1) Fully vaccinated Danish citizens; 2) fully vaccinated with residence in an EU or Schengen country, OECD country or COVID-19 risk country; 3) fully vaccinated persons who can provide documentation with the EU Digital COVID Certificate or an equivalent certificate; 4) previously infected persons.

Travel advice is based on security rather than COVID-19 infection situation

The majority of the Danish population is fully vaccinated. Therefore, the travel advice is based on the security situation rather than the COVID-19 infection situation at the destination. The risk assessment and colour codes in the travel advice thus account for security conditions such as the risk of war, terror, conflict, unrest, natural disasters and general health conditions.

Travellers must be aware that many countries have entry restrictions or strict quarantine or isolation requirements for certain travellers. Therefore, it is important to familiarise yourself with the country's COVID-19 entry rules on the COVID-19 websites of the Danish embassies. The travel advice for each country contains a link to the applicable COVID-19 website.

Table 3. Travel advice based on security

Risk assessment	Advice
Green	Be attentive
Yellow	Exercise caution
Orange	We advise against non-essential travel
Red*	We advise against all travel

Travellers should also check the COVID-19 entry rules at the travel destination on the embassies' COVID-19 websites.
*May also be based on the spread of virus variants of concern.