

Mandatory testing and isolation after entry into Denmark

Tightened restrictions to limit the introduction and spread of more contagious virus variants.

6 February 2021

Mandatory testing and 10-day isolation after entry into Denmark

To limit the introduction and spread of more contagious virus variants, persons entering Denmark will now be subject to mandatory testing and 10-day isolation. The new rules take effect from Sunday, 7 February 2021.

Recommendation of the health authorities

Despite a declining rate of infection in Denmark, there is still great uncertainty regarding the new, more contagious virus variants. The B.1.1.7 virus variant, which was first found in the UK, is expected to comprise approximately 80% of all cases in Denmark by the beginning of March 2021. The risk level throughout all five regions of Denmark remains at Category 5 due to the rise of B.1.1.7, uncertainties about the development of this and other more contagious virus variants in the time to come, and the impacts of these variants on the overall spread of infection in Denmark.

The Task Force for management of COVID-19 has discussed the risk of spreading more contagious virus variants in connection with entry into Denmark from abroad.

The Task Force, including the health authorities, emphasizes the fact that Denmark is currently seeing the spread of infection with new virus variants of COVID-19, which are deemed to be problematic due to their heightened contagiousness. In addition to the known, more contagious variants, it is likely that other, as of yet unidentified variants also exist globally. The health authorities assess that there is a significantly greater risk of a renewed exponential rate of infection due to the spread of new and more contagious virus variants. This conclusion has been reached in spite of a general decline in the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19.

It has been decided to introduce mandatory testing for COVID-19 and a 10-day isolation period for all persons entering Denmark. Following the recommendation of the Task Force, including the health authorities, a concrete model for the requirements on all persons entering Denmark is being implemented.

New rules effective from 7 February and provisionally through 28 February 2021

Effective from 7 February 2021 and extending provisionally until the end of 28 February 2021, persons entering Denmark after a stay abroad are required to undergo testing for COVID-19 in connection with entry and to isolate for 10 days (with the option of prematurely breaking the isolation following a negative PCR test taken no earlier than the fourth day after entry). In addition to these new rules, foreigners who are not resident in Denmark or hold a Danish residence permit must still have a worthy purpose for entering the country.

A number of exemptions from the mandatory testing and isolation will apply, including for children under the age of 15, certain persons resident in the border regions, and certain persons who frequently cross the border for work-related purposes. Foreigners who enter Denmark for the purpose of working, delivering goods or services in or out of Denmark, or with another worthy purpose will also be

exempt from mandatory isolation during the periods in which they are performing worthy purposes.

New legislation as the basis for mandatory testing and isolation

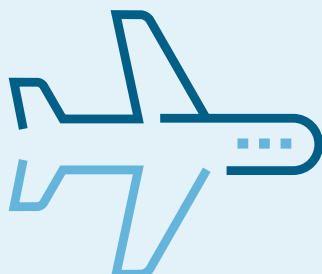
The Danish Parliament has passed legislation that allows for the implementation of mandatory testing and isolation of persons, including Danish citizens, who enter Denmark after a stay abroad.

The emergency legislation enacting the new requirements on testing and isolation can be read here (in Danish).

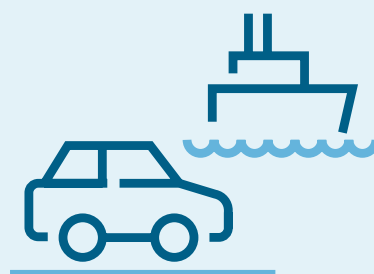
The new law has been implemented with rules by which persons entering Denmark from abroad, including Danish citizens, are subject to mandatory testing in connection with entry and must subsequently isolate for 10 days, with the option of breaking the isolation following a negative PCR test taken no earlier than the fourth day after entry.

Read more about the applicable rules and exemptions at coronasmitte.dk.

Overview of mandatory COVID-19 testing and isolation in connection with entry into Denmark



Entry by aircraft



Entry via sea or land borders

Test before entry

Presentation of a negative test that is no more than 24 hours old at the time of boarding an aircraft with a destination in Denmark.

Presentation at the border control checkpoint of a negative test that is no more than 24 hours old at the time of entry (only applies for foreigners not resident in Denmark or holding a Danish residence permit).

Test upon arrival

A rapid test must be taken before leaving the airport, with a limited few exemptions.

All entrants must obtain a new rapid test or PCR test no later than 24 hours after entry into Denmark, with a limited few exemptions.

Isolation

All entrants must isolate for 10 days, with a limited few exemptions.

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Breaking isolation

The isolation may be broken after a negative PCR test taken no earlier than on the fourth day after entry.

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→ The rules generally apply for all travellers.

[Read more about the applicable rules and exemptions at coronasmitte.dk.](https://coronasmitte.dk)

Violation of the mandatory testing and isolation rules for persons entering Denmark is a criminal offence

Violation of the rules is punishable by fine. The fine levied will generally amount to DKK 3,500 for first-time offenders and can be increased for repeat offenders.

Entry into Denmark by aircraft

Persons entering Denmark from abroad by aircraft must be tested both before boarding the aircraft and upon arrival. After arrival in Denmark, all persons must isolate for 10 days. These requirements apply to all persons entering Denmark, including Danish citizens.

For persons travelling by aircraft to Denmark from abroad, a series of tightened rules on mandatory testing for COVID-19 and isolation apply from 7 February 2021 and provisionally through 28 February 2021.

Who does the rules apply to?

The new testing and isolation requirements apply in principle for all travellers.

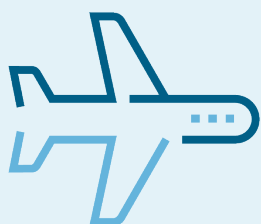
Foreigners who *are not* resident in Denmark or hold a Danish residence permit must still have a worthy purpose for entering Denmark. The worthy purposes can be found at coronasmitte.dk.

There are a number of exemptions from the rules on mandatory testing for COVID-19 upon entry into Denmark by aircraft, including:

- Children under the age of 15.
- Persons who, for medical reasons, should not take a rapid test (antigen test).
- Persons who are only travelling via Denmark in transit, and who stay within the transit areas of the airports without entering Denmark.
- Persons who were previously infected with COVID-19 and who are thus unable to present a negative test. Documentation of a positive COVID-19 test that is at least 14 days and no more than 12 weeks old must be presented.

Exemptions to the rules can be found at the end of this publication and at coronasmitte.dk.

When you are entering Denmark by aircraft



Test before entry

Presentation of negative test that is no more than 24 hours old at the time of boarding the aircraft.

Upon arrival

A rapid test must be taken before leaving the airport.

Isolation

Entrants must isolate for 10 days.

Breaking isolation

The isolation may be broken after a negative PCR test taken no earlier than the fourth day after entry.

Presentation of negative test prior to boarding the aircraft

All persons entering Denmark by aircraft, including Danish citizens, must be able to present a negative COVID-19 test taken no more than 24 hours before boarding the aircraft. The airlines are responsible for ensuring that no passengers are admitted on board without presenting a negative test.

If, for example, you are tested on Tuesday at 4:00 PM, you must have the test results and board the aircraft to Denmark no later than Wednesday at 4:00 PM. After Wednesday at 4:00 PM, you will no longer be able to use this test result to board a flight to Denmark.

All persons, including Danish citizens, entering Denmark via connecting flights in one or more airports must be able to present a negative test in connection with boarding the last aircraft with a destination in Denmark. In this case, a negative test can be approved if it was either taken no more than 24 hours before boarding the first flight or taken during the journey, for example in a connecting airport, before boarding the last leg of the journey to Denmark.

Presentation of negative test at entry control checkpoint in the airport

Foreigners who are not resident in Denmark or hold a Danish residence permit must have a worthy purpose for entering the country and a certified negative COVID-19 test in order to be granted permission to pass through the entry control checkpoint in the airport. The test must have been taken no more than 24 hours before entry. A list of worthy purposes can be found at coronasmitte.dk.

New test before leaving the airport in Denmark

All persons, including Danish citizens, arriving in Denmark from abroad by aircraft must undergo a rapid test for COVID-19 before leaving the airport, with a limited few exemptions.

Upon arrival in Denmark, all entrants will be guided directly to a testing facility in the airport. Upon request, the entrant must provide the necessary information to the test staff (such as your name, CPR number or other identification information, and telephone number).

Persons arriving from abroad in airports or airfields where it is not possible to obtain a rapid test must obtain a rapid test or PCR test no later than 24 hours after the time of entry.

Isolation for 10 days after arrival in Denmark

All persons entering Denmark from abroad must, without undue delay, enter into isolation for 10 days (unless, for example, they require medical treatment) – and they must not leave the place of isolation before the expiry of this 10-day period. You must isolate even if you are able to present a negative test at the time of entry.

There are a number of exemptions from the mandatory isolation requirement.

Certain groups of persons are exempt from the mandatory isolation requirement. The exemptions can be found at the end of this publication and at coronasmitte.dk.

There are also a number of worthy purposes that justify a temporary interruption of the mandatory isolation. This applies, for example, for persons who must seek necessary treatment in the health service, including to obtain a rapid test or PCR test.

The complete list of purposes that justify a temporary interruption of the mandatory isolation can be found at coronasmitte.dk.

Persons who have tested negative for COVID-19 and are subject to the isolation requirement, but who are unable to enter into isolation under suitable conditions and who therefore are referred to a voluntary stay at a municipal isolation facility, must pay the expenses of the stay including meals. Stays at a municipal isolation facility are available through referral by the municipality.

Breaking isolation following negative PCR test taken on the fourth day

The isolation may be broken after a negative PCR test taken no earlier than on the fourth day after entry. If you enter Denmark on Monday, you may take a PCR test no earlier than Friday and break the isolation if the test result is negative. If you do not obtain a negative PCR test taken on the fourth day after entry or later, you must remain in isolation for 10 days.

Migrant labour – regardless of travel by air or via land/sea

Exemptions from the rules on isolation

Foreigners who are not resident in Denmark or hold a Danish residence permit, and Danish citizens resident abroad who enter Denmark to work must, in principle, also enter into isolation for 10 days.

However, they may break the isolation while performing their work or delivering services. Outside of performing their work or delivering services they must remain in isolation.

The isolation period may be broken completely if they obtain a PCR test with a negative result. The test must be taken within a specified period of time. Read more about this on the website of [the Danish Working Environment Authority](#).

Entry into Denmark across sea or land borders

Persons entering Denmark from abroad via sea or land borders must be tested for COVID-19 no later than 24 hours after entry. After arrival in Denmark, all persons must isolate for 10 days. The new requirements apply in principle to all persons entering Denmark, including Danish citizens.

For persons travelling to Denmark from abroad via sea or land borders, the requirements on mandatory testing for COVID-19 and isolation apply from 7 February 2021 and provisionally through 28 February 2021.

Who does the new rule apply to?

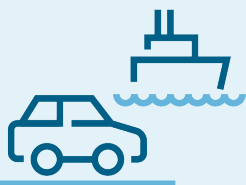
The mandatory testing no later than 24 hours after entry into Denmark and mandatory isolation apply in principle for all travellers, including Danish citizens.

A number of exemptions apply to the new requirement on testing no later than 24 hours after entry, including:

- Children under the age of 15.
- Persons who, for medical reasons, should not take a rapid test or PCR test.
- Persons who enter Denmark from Sweden after having been in transit through Sweden to or from Bornholm without having stopped in Sweden.
- Persons who were previously infected with COVID-19, if they are able to present documentation of a positive COVID-19 test result that is at least 14 days and no more than 12 weeks old.

Exemptions from the requirements can be found at the end of this publication and at coronasmitte.dk.

When entering Denmark via sea or land borders



Test before entry

Presentation of negative test that is no more than 24 hours old at the time of entry*

Test upon arrival

All entrants must obtain a test no later than 24 hours after entry into Denmark.

Isolation

All entrants must isolate for 10 days.

Breaking isolation

The isolation may be broken after a negative PCR test taken no earlier than on the fourth day after entry.

*The mandatory presentation of a test certificate upon entry only applies for foreigners who *are not* resident in Denmark and do not hold a Danish residence permit.

Presentation of negative test prior to entry into Denmark

Foreigners who *are not* resident in Denmark and do not hold a Danish residence permit must, in connection with border control at the Danish border, present a negative COVID-19 test that was taken no more than 24 hours before entry.

If, for example, you were tested on Tuesday at 4:00 PM, you must obtain the test results and enter Denmark no later than Wednesday at 4:00 PM. After Wednesday at 4:00 PM, you will no longer be able to use this test result to enter Denmark.

Foreigners who *are not* resident in Denmark or hold a Danish residence permit must still have a worthy purpose for entering Denmark. The worthy purposes can be found at coronasmitte.dk.

Danish citizens and foreigners resident in Denmark or holding a Danish residence permit may enter the country regardless of purpose and without presenting a negative test upon entry into Denmark.

Test no later than 24 hours after entry into Denmark

Persons entering Denmark from abroad via a sea or land border must take a rapid test or PCR test for COVID-19 no later than 24 hours after the time of entry. This requirement applies in principle to all persons entering Denmark, including Danish citizens.

It is possible to obtain a rapid test or a PCR test. Test stations are located in the immediate vicinity of the border crossings, and entrants will also be able to use test stations within Denmark.

Persons resident in the border regions who enter Denmark are exempt from the mandatory test requirement if they can present documentation of a negative COVID-19 test result that is no more than seven days old.

There are a number of other exemptions from the mandatory test within 24 hours of entry into Denmark, which can be found at the end of this publication and at coronasmitte.dk.

Isolation for 10 days after arrival in Denmark

All persons entering Denmark from abroad must, without undue delay, enter into isolation for 10 days (unless, for example, they require medical treatment) – and they generally must not leave the place of isolation before the expiry of this 10-day period. You must isolate even if you obtain a negative test in connection with your entry into Denmark.

There are a number of exemptions from the mandatory isolation requirement.

Certain groups of persons are exempt from the isolation requirement, including children under the age of 15, Danish citizens and foreigners resident in Denmark or holding a Danish residence permit who have performed work in the border regions, and Danish citizens and foreigners resident in Denmark or holding a Danish residence permit who enter from Sweden after having been in transit through Sweden to or from Bornholm without having stopped in Sweden. Other exemptions can be found at the end of this publication and at coronasmitte.dk.

There are also a number of worthy purposes that justify a temporary interruption of the mandatory isolation. This applies, for example, for persons who must seek necessary treatment in the health service, including to obtain a rapid test or PCR test. The complete list of purposes that justify a temporary interruption of the mandatory isolation can be found at coronasmitte.dk.

Persons who have tested negative for COVID-19 and are subject to the isolation requirement, but who are unable to enter into isolation under suitable conditions and

are therefore referred to a voluntary stay at a municipal isolation facility must pay the expenses of the stay including meals. Stays at a municipal isolation facility are available by referral by the municipality.

Breaking isolation after negative test taken on the fourth day

The isolation may be broken after a negative PCR test taken no earlier than on the fourth day after entry. If you enter Denmark on Monday, you may take a PCR test no earlier than Friday and break the isolation if the test result is negative. If you do not obtain a negative PCR test taken on the fourth day after entry or later, you must remain in isolation for 10 days.

If the test is positive

Persons who test positive for COVID-19 upon entry into Denmark must isolate.

Persons who test positive for COVID-19 must isolate. If a person is unable to isolate in suitable conditions, they can be referred to a voluntary stay at a municipal isolation facility on the condition that they are part of the target group for this service..

If a person tests positive, the test supplier will notify the Danish Patient Safety Authority, which will then immediately contact the person and initiate contact tracing efforts and provide general advice.

Persons entering Denmark who test positive in an airport will generally be guided by testing staff, via an exit, to a PCR test facility at the airport for an additional PCR test that can be used for sequencing, which makes it possible to identify the variant of the virus infection. After this PCR test is completed, the infected person will be offered transport by the private contractor to the infected person's isolation facility.

Persons who test positive for COVID-19 upon entry into Denmark are not exempt from mandatory isolation even if they belong to one of the groups of persons who are otherwise exempt from mandatory isolation.

If you have tested positive for COVID-19, you may not temporarily break your isolation – even if you have a worthy purpose. If you have tested positive after entry into Denmark, you may only break your isolation to seek necessary treatment in the health service, including to obtain a rapid test or PCR test.

Infected persons are also advised to follow the general health guidelines. Read more on the website of [the Danish Health Authority](#).

Who is exempt from mandatory testing in connection with entering Denmark?

	Entry by aircraft	Entry via sea or land borders
Test before entry	All entrants*	Foreigners not resident in Denmark or holding a Danish residence permit
Exemptions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children under the age of 15. Persons who were previously ill with COVID-19 and who are thus unable to present a negative test must present documentation of a positive COVID-19 test result that is at least 14 days and no more than 12 weeks old. Other flights, including cargo flights, flight crew and other special flights, are not subject to this requirement. <p>*The test requirement also applies for Danish citizens, persons resident in Denmark and persons holding a valid Danish residence permit, even though there is no requirement that these persons present a negative COVID-19 test in connection with entry at the border control checkpoint.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children under the age of 15. Persons who were previously ill with COVID-19 and who are thus unable to present a negative test must present documentation of a positive COVID-19 test result that is at least 14 days and no more than 12 weeks old. Persons transporting freight Train crew members Ship crew members disembarking and embarking in Danish ports, and workers entering for the purpose of signing on or signing off from offshore installations.
Test after arrival	All entrant	All entrants
Exemptions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children under the age of 15. Persons who, for medical reasons or due to physical or mental disability should not be tested. Aircraft crew members. Persons who are only travelling via Denmark in transit, and who stay within the transit areas of the airport. Persons arriving in airports where it is not possible to obtain a rapid test (in these cases, mandatory testing no later than 24 hours after entry applies). Persons who were previously infected with COVID-19 must present documentation of a positive COVID-19 test result that is at least 14 days and no more than 12 weeks old. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children under the age of 15. Persons who, for medical reasons or due to physical or mental disability should not be tested. Persons who were previously infected with COVID-19 must present documentation of a positive COVID-19 test result that is at least 14 days and no more than 12 weeks old. Danish citizens and foreigners resident in Denmark or holding a Danish residence permit, and who have performed work or delivered a service in the border regions.* Persons resident in the border regions. Persons who enter Denmark for the purpose of freight transport or after having transported freight abroad. Crew members. Persons who enter from Sweden after having been in transit through Sweden to or from Bornholm without stopping in Sweden. Persons who depart from Denmark no later than 24 hours after the time of entry. <p>*Must present documentation of a negative test result which is no more than seven days old at the time of entry.</p>

Who is exempt from mandatory isolation in connection with entering Denmark?

Entry by aircraft and via sea and land borders

Isolation

All entrants

Exemptions

- Children under the age of 15.
- Persons who have obtained a negative test for COVID-19 in accordance with the law stipulating mandatory COVID-19 testing of incoming labour after entry into Denmark.
- Persons who were previously infected with COVID-19 and who are able to present documentation of a positive COVID-19 test result which, at the time of entry, is at least 14 days and no more than 12 weeks old.

The following Danish citizens and foreigners resident in Denmark or holding a Danish residence permit are exempt:

- Persons who are a crew member of an aircraft, train, bus or taxi, or other commercial passenger transport that requires a permit under the Danish Taxi Act, and who are entering Denmark after having performed work or a function of this nature abroad.*
- Persons entering Denmark after performing work or delivered services in the border regions.
- Persons who enter Denmark for the purpose of freight transport or after having transported freight abroad.*
- Persons who are a crew member of a ship, offshore workers or maritime technicians entering Denmark after having performed work or a function of this nature abroad.**
- Persons entering Denmark after having performed work abroad as a cross-border worker, border guard, emergency response staff, police, or fire brigade, and persons participating in the deportation from or escort to Denmark of detainees.
- Persons entering Denmark from Sweden after having been in transit through Sweden to or from Bornholm without having stopped in Sweden.
- Persons entering Denmark after performing a necessary journey to exercise stipulated or agreed visitation with a child abroad.
- Minors entering Denmark after performing a necessary journey abroad to exercise stipulated or agreed visitation with a parent or person in their network.
- Persons entering Denmark after visiting a close acquaintance in the border regions.
- Persons entering Denmark after having performed a function abroad as a state envoy, including diplomats and members of the European Parliament.
- Persons who can document having entered Denmark more than six times within the past 30 days from the time of entry.

*Must be able to present a negative PCR test which, at the time of entry, is no more than seven days old. Persons who were previously infected with COVID-19 and who are thus unable to present a negative test, must instead be able to present documentation of a positive COVID-19 test result which, at the time of entry, is at least 14 days and no more than 12 weeks old.

**Must be able to present a negative rapid test (antigen test) or PCR test which, at the time of entry, is no more than seven days old. Persons who were previously infected with COVID-19 and who are thus unable to present a negative test, must instead be able to present documentation of a positive COVID-19 test result which, at the time of entry, is at least 14 days and no more than 12 weeks old.

Entry by aircraft and via sea and land borders

Breaking isolation

Persons with a negative PCR test taken no earlier than on the fourth day after entry.

Temporary interruption of isolation

All entrants may temporarily break their isolation to:

- Seek necessary treatment in the health service, including to obtain an antigen test or PCR test.
- Visit close acquaintances who are seriously ill or dying.
- Participate in the funeral or burial of a close acquaintance.
- Attend the birth of their child.
- Participate in a court trial or similar.

Danish citizens and foreigners resident in Denmark or holding a Danish residence permit can temporarily break their isolation if they:

- Perform particularly critical and urgent functions and they have had significant reasons for being abroad, and they must attend the workplace in person or travel abroad to perform especially critical and urgent functions.
- Perform work as wind turbine technicians, food technicians, technical specialists who perform service or production of medical equipment or medicines, including pharmacists, or other types of technical specialists who have had significant reasons for being abroad, and who must attend the workplace in person or travel abroad on work to perform technical work or deliver services of a technical nature.
- Are professional athletes or persons who support professional sports activities and have been abroad after participating in a championship, tournament or similar, and who are going to participate in championships, tournaments or similar in Denmark or abroad.

Danish citizens resident abroad and foreigners who are not resident in Denmark or hold a Danish residence permit, and who are permitted entry according to the applicable entry restrictions, may temporarily break their isolation in order to:

- Perform work as an employee, employer or self-employed person.
- Perform work in a work placement in Denmark as part of a course at a Danish institute of higher education under the supervision of the Ministry of Higher Education and Science (only applies for persons who are resident in the border regions).
- Drop off or pick up their child at an institution or school (only applies to people resident in the border regions).
- Perform commercial freight transport in or through Denmark.
- Deliver services in Denmark.
- Perform work as a crew member of an aircraft, train, bus, ship, taxi or other commercial passenger transport that requires a permit under the Danish Taxi Act, offshore worker, wind turbine or maritime technician, or technical specialist who performs service or production of medical equipment or medicines or foods, or to perform tasks as a cross-border worker, emergency response worker, police, fire-fighter or border guard.
- Perform tasks as a head of state or similar, including delegations, or as a diplomat.
- Participate in a critical business meeting.
- Exercise agreed or stipulated visitation with minor children, young people or parents resident in Denmark.
- Serve as a primary caregiver for minor children or young people resident in Denmark.
- Visit a close acquaintance in Denmark (only applies to people resident in the border regions).
- Accompany a child with a physical or mental disability in Denmark (only applies to people resident in the border regions).
- Participate in a current course of treatment provided by the Danish health authorities or a private hospital.

Persons who temporarily break their isolation based on one of the above conditions must immediately resume isolation after completion of the applicable activity.