**January 29, 2021 Update**

**Canada toughens testing and quarantine requirements for international arrivals**

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced on 29 January that within the next few weeks, all airline passengers arriving in the country, including visiting students, will be required to take a COVID-19 test at the airport and go straight to a designated hotel to quarantine for three days. This quarantine will be at the travellers’ own expense and they will be only be free to leave the hotel when they receive negative test results. The cost of this quarantine stay for travellers is expected to be more than CDN$2,000 (US$1,560).

Those who obtain negative results will then be required to complete the remaining 11 days of mandatory quarantine at their private residence, subject to increased surveillance. On Day 10 of quarantine, travellers must undergo another COVID test.

To support the new quarantine requirements, as of midnight 3 February only Vancouver, Toronto, Montreal, and Calgary airports will receive international arrivals, as it is in these major cities that hotels are set up with the approved capabilities for the isolation of passengers.

The new mandatory test upon arrival is in addition to an existing rule that travellers must show [negative COVID test results obtained within 72 hours](https://monitor.icef.com/2021/01/canada-requires-international-travellers-to-show-negative-covid-test) of a scheduled flight before boarding any airplane destined for Canada.

The strict new rules were announced after the government spent days debating the best measures to reduce the risk of new COVID variants entering the country. So far, these variants have been brought into Canada via passengers arriving from the UK, South Africa, Brazil, and Denmark. Currently there are few cases of the variants in Canada, but the mutations are known to be more infectious and the race is on to contain their spread.

**Border remains open to international students**

Even as its government clamps down on international travel, the Canadian border remains open to international students, so long as the student holds a valid study permit and the host institution or school has had [its COVID-19 readiness plan approved](https://monitor.icef.com/2020/10/canada-shares-list-of-institutions-approved-to-welcome-international-students) by its respective provincial or territorial government.

**Outbound holiday flights suspended**

In a further effort to reduce the spread of COVID in the country, the government has negotiated a suspension of flights leaving Canada to some sunny destinations long favoured by Canadian vacationers. Major carriers Air Canada, WestJet, Sunwing, and Air Transat have suspended service to destinations in the Caribbean and Mexico. The airlines are working with the government to bring Canadians currently abroad in those destinations back to the country.

Prime Minister Trudeau said,

“With the challenges we currently face with COVID-19, both here at home and abroad, we all agree that now is just not the time to be flying. By putting in place these tough measures now, we can look forward to a better time, when we can plan those vacations.”

**June 26, 2020**

**Self-Isolation on Return to B.C.**

Unless you [are exempt](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/covid-19-provincial-support/self-isolation-on-return#exempt), all international travellers returning to B.C. are required by law to self-isolate for 14 days and complete a self-isolation plan. Travellers must [submit a B.C. self-isolation plan](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/covid-19-provincial-support/self-isolation-on-return#complete-plan) and [complete the federal ArriveCAN application](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/covid-19-provincial-support/self-isolation-on-return#federal-plan)for approval prior to their return to B.C., or upon arrival.

**On this page:**

* [Comply with the Quarantine Act](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/covid-19-provincial-support/self-isolation-on-return#quarantine-act)
* [Complete the federal ArriveCAN application](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/covid-19-provincial-support/self-isolation-on-return#federal-plan)
* [Complete a B.C. Self-Isolation Plan](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/covid-19-provincial-support/self-isolation-on-return#complete-plan)
* [Assessment process on arrival](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/covid-19-provincial-support/self-isolation-on-return#assessment)
* [Who must go through the assessment process?](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/covid-19-provincial-support/self-isolation-on-return#who-assessed)
* [Points of entry](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/covid-19-provincial-support/self-isolation-on-return#points-entry)

**Comply with the Quarantine Act**

On March 17, 2020, the Provincial Health Officer (PHO) [issued a self-isolation order](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/health/about-bc-s-health-care-system/office-of-the-provincial-health-officer/reports-publications/covid-19-pho-class-order-travellers.pdf) directing people returning to, or arriving in, B.C. from international destinations, including the U.S., to self-isolate.

On March 25, 2020, the federal government implemented a self-isolation plan for returning international travellers on select flights under the Quarantine Act.

* The federal government will continue to use its authority under the Quarantine Act to ensure compliance with the order to self-isolate, enforceable by RCMP or local police
* Maximum penalties for breaking self-isolation orders include a fine of up to $750,000 and/or imprisonment for six months

**Information for returning travellers**

Self-isolation means staying home and avoiding situations where you could come in contact with others.

* [Returning Travellers Factsheet (PDF, 216KB)](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/public-safety-and-emergency-services/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/gdx/factsheet_returningtravelers_final.pdf)
* [回程旅客 (PDF, 710KB)](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/public-safety-and-emergency-services/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/gdx/translations/7501_factsheet_returningtravelers_chisimp_v1.pdf)
* [Essential Workers and Health Care Providers Factsheet (PDF, 209KB)](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/public-safety-and-emergency-services/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/gdx/7501_factsheet_returningessentialworkers_v2.pdf)
* [Welcoming Home a Friend of Family Member Factsheet (PDF, 214KB)](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/public-safety-and-emergency-services/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/gdx/factsheet_returning_friend_or_family_final.pdf)
* [在新型冠状病毒(COVID-19)大流行期间欢迎来自国外的朋友或家人 (PDF, 500KB)](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/public-safety-and-emergency-services/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/gdx/translations/7501_factsheet_returningfamily_chisimp_v2.pdf)

**Complete the Federal ArriveCAN Application**

Travellers must submit a B.C. self-isolation plan and complete the federal ArriveCAN application for approval prior to their return to B.C., or upon arrival**.**  
  
Download the ArriveCAN application:

* [i](http://apps.apple.com/ca/app/canarrive/id1505394667)[Phone/App Store](https://apps.apple.com/ca/app/canarrive/id1505394667)
* [Android Devices](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=ca.gc.cbsa.coronavirus&hl=en_US)

**Complete a B.C. Self-Isolation Plan**

Your plan should be **completed and submitted online before, or when, you arrive** back in British Columbia.

A self-isolation plan is a legal commitment to self-isolation, enforceable under the Public Health Act*.*

Your self-isolation plan must consider:

* The location of your 14-day self isolation
* How you will travel to your isolation location
* Arranging the necessary supports:
  + Food
  + Medications
  + Child care
  + Cleaning supplies
  + Pet care
* Social or family support

[Submit your self-isolation plan](https://travelscreening.gov.bc.ca/) **Note:**The form does not work on Internet Explorer

**Assessment Process on Arrival**

Additional screening measures are in place for people returning to B.C. from international locations including the United States by air, land or sea.

**If you have COVID-19 Symptoms**

You are required to disclose symptoms in your self-isolation plan. A government official will review your plan.

* If your self-isolation plan is adequate, you will proceed home (or your identified location) via private transportation to self-isolate
* If you do not have an adequate self-isolation plan, you will be directed to government-managed accommodation where you can safely complete your 14-day self-isolation

During your 14-day period of isolation, you must:

* Undergo any health assessments that a quarantine officer requires
* Monitor your signs and symptoms
* Report to the public health authority specified by a screening officer or quarantine officer if you require additional medical care

**If you don't have COVID-19 Symptoms**

Even if you don't have symptoms, you are required to submit a self-isolation plan that outlines where and how you will self-isolate for 14 days. Your plan will be reviewed by government officials.

If you arrive without an appropriate self-isolation plan in place:

* Please indicate that you do not have a plan to federal officials at your point of entry into Canada
* Federal officials will discuss self-isolation requirements and options with you

**How to Self-Isolate Successfully**

The BCCDC has [guidelines on how to self-isolate](http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/self-isolation).

* [How to self-isolate after travel when you live with other family members (PDF)](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/health/about-bc-s-health-care-system/office-of-the-provincial-health-officer/covid-19/covid-19-pho-guidance-self-isolation-multi-generational-households.pdf)
* [新型冠狀病毒(COVID 19): 如果您與家人同住，旅遊回來後如何自我隔離 (PDF)](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/public-safety-and-emergency-services/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/gdx/translations/7507_multigenhousing_traditionalchinese.pdf)
* [新型冠状病毒(COVID 19)：如果您与家人同住，旅游回来后如何自我隔离 (PDF)](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/public-safety-and-emergency-services/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/gdx/translations/7507_multigenhousing_simplifiedchinese.pdf)
* [ਕੋਵਿਡ-19: ਯਾਤਰਾ ਕਰ ਕੇ ਆਉਣ ਤੋਂ ਬਾਦ ਦੂਸਰੇ ਪ੍ਰਵਾਰਕ ਮੈਂਬਰਾਂ ਨਾਲ ਰਹਿੰਦੇ ਸਮੇਂ ਆਪਣੇ ਆਪ ਨੂੰ ਅਲੱਗ (ਸੲਲਡ-ਸਿੋਲੳਟੲ) ਕਿਵੇਂ ਰੱਖਣਾ ਹੈ? (PDF)](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/public-safety-and-emergency-services/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/gdx/translations/7507_multigenhousing_punjabi.pdf)
* [कोविद -19: यात्रा सेलौर्निंग के पश्चात परिधि की दू सिसदस्सों के साथ अहितेसमे स्वेस को अलग-अलग कै से(self-isolate) िख? (PDF)](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/public-safety-and-emergency-services/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/gdx/translations/7507_multigenhousing_hindi.pdf)
* [COVID 19: 가족과 함께 살 경우, 여행 후 자가격리 방법​ (PDF)](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/public-safety-and-emergency-services/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/gdx/translations/7507_multigenhousing_korean.pdf)
* [COVID 19: Cómo autoaislarse después de un viaje si vive con familiares (PDF)](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/public-safety-and-emergency-services/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/gdx/translations/7507_multigenhousing_spanish.pdf)
* [COVID 19: Paano ihiwalay ang sarili pagkatapos ng paglalakbay kapag nakatira ka kasama ang iba pang mga kapamilya (PDF)](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/public-safety-and-emergency-services/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/gdx/translations/7507_multigenhousing_tagalog.pdf)
* [COVID-19 : Comment se placer en quarantaine (s’auto-isoler) à la suite d’un voyage lorsque vous vivez avec d’autres membres de votre famille​ (PDF)](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/public-safety-and-emergency-services/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/gdx/translations/7507_multigenhousing_french.pdf)

[(PDF) 19 COVID :روش قرنطینهسازی شخصی پس از سفر، در صورتی که با سایر اعضای خانواده زندگی میکنید](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/public-safety-and-emergency-services/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/gdx/translations/7507_multigenhousing_farsi.pdf)  
[(PDF) کوو 19 :جب آپ گھرکے دوسرے افرادکے ساتھ رہتے ہیںتو سفرکے بعد خودکو الگ تھلگ کیسےکرنا ہے](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/public-safety-and-emergency-services/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/gdx/translations/7507_multigenhousing_urdu.pdf)  
[(PDF) فيروس كوفيد 19 :كيفية العزل الذاتي بعد السفر إذا كنت تعيش مع أفراد األسرة اآلخرين](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/public-safety-and-emergency-services/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/gdx/translations/7507_multigenhousing_arabic.pdf)

**Who Must Go Through the Assessment Process?**

Unless you are exempt, all international travellers returning to British Columbia must create a self-isolation plan.

* **Workers on the provincial list of essential services who are not named on the**[**federal exemption list**](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/covid-19-provincial-support/self-isolation-on-return#exempt) **must self-isolate and submit a self-isolation plan**
* Workers may be permitted to go to work during their 14 days of self-isolation if their employer deems them critical to operations
* Permitting an essential service worker to leave self-isolation to go to work is allowed only under certain circumstances as outlined in the Provincial Health Officer's [Travellers and Employers Order](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/health/about-bc-s-health-care-system/office-of-the-provincial-health-officer/covid-19/covid-19-pho-order-travellers-employers.pdf)

**Who is Exempt?**

Workers exempt from the federal Quarantine Act do not have to create a self-isolation plan.

* They are not required to self-isolate for 14 days

**Workers exempt under the federal Quarantine Act**

**Points of Entry**

Government officials are reviewing self-isolation plans at B.C. airports and land border crossings.

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/covid-19-provincial-support/self-isolation-on-return>