

Canada Lifting Quarantine Requirements for Vaccinated Travelers Starting July 5



Canadians who are fully vaccinated will be getting a late Canada Day present. The Government of Canada today announced that starting July 5 at 11:59 p.m. EST, all Canadians and permanent residents who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 will be able to enter the country without quarantining for 14-days.

Beginning on July 5, fully vaccinated travelers who are permitted to enter Canada will no longer be subject to the federal requirement to quarantine. Fully vaccinated travelers will not be required to take a COVID-19 test on day eight or stay at a government authorized hotel.

The new rule only applies to those who have been fully vaccinated with two weeks passed since the final dose of their vaccine (Pfizer, Moderna, or, Johnson & Johnson, or AstraZeneca). Those traveling into Canada will have to provide proof of vaccination both prior to entry, through Canada's ArriveCan travel app, and in person at the border. All travelers must also be asymptomatic when they cross.

Canada is still urging its citizens to avoid non-essential travel. The Government's warning continues to read "during the COVID-19 pandemic, we strongly advise Canadians to cancel or postpone non-essential travel plans outside of Canada. Now is not the time to travel." Canada's restrictions on non-essential international and U.S. travel also remain in place until at least July 21st.

The Government is also continuing to require international flights to come through one of four of Canada's major airports — Montreal-Trudeau, Toronto Pearson, Calgary, and Vancouver.

Florida Gov. Signs Bill Voiding Key West's Ban on Cruise Ships

Despite residents voting to do so last November, Florida will not ban large cruise ships from docking in Key West.

Gov. Ron DeSantis this week signed Senate Bill 1194 into law. Section 311.25 in the bill prohibits any ban on cruise ships with a capacity of 1,300 or more persons docking in South Florida, voiding last November's referendum, passed by Key West voters, which aimed to keep them out of the Keys.



Key West residents had passed the bill by a wide margin during a referendum last November, but the bill signed into law this week will not allow any referendum to "restrict maritime commerce" at any port that has received or is eligible to apply for state funding.

The bill will not allow referendums to limit vessel type, size, or capacity, along with origin, nationality, or number of passengers on board.

Large cruise ships could now be back in Key West as early as this year when Royal Caribbean's Brilliance of the Seas stops in Key West during its Sept. 4 sailing out of Tampa.

Key West was the busiest U.S. cruise port in 2019 with more than 900,000 passengers and over 400 calls during 2019.

Royal Caribbean Gets Green Light to Restart Cruises with Ticketed Passengers



After successfully completing its test cruises, Royal Caribbean's Freedom of the Seas has officially received approval from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to restart sailings with ticketed passengers.

With the news, Freedom will become the cruise line's first ship to resume sailing from the U.S.

Royal Caribbean president Michael Bayley made the announcement in a message posted to social media on Tuesday morning, writing that "this is exciting progress, and we look forward to welcoming our guests onboard."

Guests will now be able to sail on Freedom starting next month. The first revenue sailing will depart from Miami on July 2 and visit Nassau and Perfect Day at CocoCay, Royal Caribbean's private island destination, in The Bahamas, before returning to Miami on July 5.

While the CDC's approval allows ships to sail with less than 95% of guests vaccinated, Freedom will sail with all crew fully vaccinated and the "majority of guests fully vaccinated."

Any unvaccinated guests, which Bayley said will be mainly children, will be subject to additional testing requirements and specific health protocols, including not being able to enter certain public spaces.

DIRECTIONS

The Deep Blue Sea Cocktail

1. Muddle (gently) the Thai chili pepper and Grand Marnier.
2. Add the remaining ingredients with ice and shake about 1 minute.
3. Double-strain into a mug filled with fresh ice.
4. Garnish with a pineapple wedge and a Thai chili pepper

The Deep Blue Sea Cocktail is as delicious as it is pretty. Blue curaçao gives the drink its blue color as well as a sweet orange flavor. The sour mix and pineapple juice add a tart and tropical taste while finishing up the aquamarine look of the martini. It comes together quickly, and the taste is refreshing, making it an ideal summertime martini you'll come back to time and again. You may also have yourself sipping this on your next Grand Voyage on Star Clippers!...

Deliciousness

BY STAR CLIPPERS

INGREDIENTS

- 2 ounces vodka
- ¾-ounce blue curaçao liqueur
- ½-ounce sour mix
- ½-ounce pineapple juice



There is a **lot** of confusing information out there, and we want you to know that it is a priority of ours to make sure you have the most accurate and up to date information available about traveling to Hawaii.

All Hawaii **inter-island travel restrictions** were lifted on **June 15, 2021**. There are now currently no restrictions or testing requirements when flying between islands within Hawaii!

Additionally, as of **June 15, 2021**, those traveling to the mainland and returning to the state of Hawaii **who have been vaccinated in the state of Hawaii** will be able to travel without having to get a pre-travel test. The state of Hawaii is starting with those vaccinated within Hawaii due to the fact travel authorities can verify their vaccination status. As noted above, this week on **July 8th**, all travelers **vaccinated within the U.S.** will be able to visit Hawaii without a pre-travel test.

In late May 2021, Governor Ige announced that **masks are no longer required outdoors**. The Governor also added the amended outdoor mask rules are effective immediately and apply to everyone, regardless of vaccination status. **Masks are still required for all indoor activities** — across the board.

SPECIAL—Book from July 5th until July 12th, 2021



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RED VELVET CUPCAKES WITH CREAM CHEESE FROSTING



FOR THE CUPCAKES

- 2 1/2 c. all-purpose flour
- 1 1/2 c. granulated sugar
- 1 tbsp. cocoa powder
- 1 tsp. baking soda
- 1 tsp. kosher salt
- 1 1/2 c. vegetable oil
- 1 c. buttermilk, at room temperature

- 3 large eggs, at room temperature
- 2 tbsp. (1 oz.) red food coloring
- 1 tsp. white distilled vinegar
- 2 tsp. pure vanilla extract

FOR THE CREAM CHEESE-MASCARPONE FROSTING

- 8 oz. cream cheese, softened
- 8 oz. mascarpone cheese
- 1/2 c. heavy cream, plus 1 tbsp. more if needed
- 4 c. sifted powdered sugar
- 1 c. (2 sticks) butter
- 2 tsp. pure vanilla extract

DIRECTIONS

- 1** | **Make cupcakes:** Heat the oven to 350° and line two muffin tins with cupcake liners.
- 2** | In a large bowl, sift together the flour, sugar, cocoa powder, baking soda, and salt. In another large bowl, whisk together the oil, buttermilk, eggs, food coloring, vinegar and vanilla.
- 3** | Using a stand mixer or in a large bowl using a hand mixer, stir dry ingredients into the wet ingredients until just combined and batter is smooth. Scoop or pour batter into muffin tin cups until they are three-fourths of the way full, making sure not to overfill.
- 4** | Bake until a toothpick inserted in the center of a cupcake comes out clean, about 18 minutes. Let cool completely.
- 5** | **Meanwhile, make cream cheese frosting:** In a stand mixer fitted with the paddle attachment or in a large bowl using a hand mixer, mix together butter, cream cheese, and mascarpone cheese until combined.
- 6** | Stir in heavy cream, being sure to not over mix (or it will curdle!), then slowly add sugar on low speed until incorporated. Increase the speed to high, and mix until light and fluffy, pausing to scrape down the sides of the bowl with a rubber spatula occasionally, about 5 minutes.
- 7** | Reduce mixer speed to low to add vanilla, then return to high and mix briefly, scraping down the bowl as needed, until fluffy.
- 8** | Frost cooled cupcakes using a pastry bag with a large tip or an icing spatula.

Ireland to Remove Quarantine Requirement for Americans July 19

As of July 19, **U.S.** visitors who have been vaccinated, have a negative PCR test within 72 hours of arrival or have recovered from **COVID-19** in the last six months will be able to visit **Ireland** and they will not have to quarantine.

Ireland will be following the advice of the **European Union**, which, earlier in June, suggested to its member states reopen to select countries, including the United States, subject to confirmation of reciprocity. While the United States has not yet officially opened its borders to Europeans, many E.U. members have announced plans to reopen to Americans, if they have not already reopened entirely.

As of July 19, **U.S.** visitors who have been vaccinated, have a negative PCR test within 72 hours of arrival or have recovered from **COVID-19** in the last six months will be able to visit **Ireland** and they will not have to quarantine.

Travelers to Ireland will need to use the **E.U. Digital COVID Certificate** (in either digital or paper format), proving they have been vaccinated, received a recent negative test result or have recovered in the last six months.

Your certificate will include necessary information, such as your name, date of birth, date of issue, vaccine/test/recovery history and an ID number.

Ireland plans to launch the certificate when it reopens on July 19. According to the Government of Ireland, "Teams across the public service are working together to deliver the E.U. Digital COVID Certificate in Ireland and you will be clearly notified of the steps needed to access the E.U. Digital COVID Certificate soon." So, be sure to keep an eye out for updates before traveling.

Note: Americans can currently visit Ireland, although there is a mandatory 14-day quarantine (with few exceptions and none for tourist reasons). They still need a negative PCR test result from within 72 hours of travel, fill out a **COVID-19 Passenger Locator Form** and take another test upon arrival free of charge.

With Vaccines Required, American Queen Steamboat Company

Restarts Hop-On, Hop-Off Touring

American Queen Steamboat Company, part of the **Hornblower Group**, announced Thursday that as all guests and crew on all sailings are now required to be vaccinated, it's adopted several major health/safety protocol changes.

River cruise guests will no longer be required to wear masks in any place inside the vessel. Of course, guests can still "mask up" if they so desire. That said, masks will continue to be required for all people on the line's motorcoaches, as well as during the boarding process, per **U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)** requirements.



The big news is that guests on all sailings can once again head for the line's branded "**Hop-On, Hop-Off**" motorcoaches and enjoy unrestricted shore explorations. Simply put, the "touring bubble" policy for shore tours is eliminated.

Also, the pre-cruise PCR test required the day before departure has been eliminated for all guests on **Mississippi, Tennessee and Ohio River** sailings. That pre-cruise PCR test is still a mandate, though (given **Washington State** regulations), for all **Columbia/Snake River** sailings. And now that all guests must be vaccinated, they'll be required to upload their proof of vaccination online, after automatically receiving an email from the line about how to do that.

Those guests who've taken the "Hop-On, Hop-Off" transport in the past will happily find that select attraction admissions will still be included and there will still be—as in the past—designated coach pick-up points in downtown or tourism areas.

Globus Family Of Brands To Require Full Vaccination For Guests

This week, the **Globus family of brands**—consisting of **Globus, Cosmos, Avalon Waterways** and **Monograms**—introduced important updates to pre-trip **Health & Safety Protocols**, including requiring proof of full **COVID-19** vaccination to join the company's upcoming international tours, river cruises and independent vacation packages.

With this new policy in place, travelers ages 12 and older will need to provide proof of COVID-19 vaccination, completed at least 14-days prior to embarkation. The Globus family of brands will accept vaccines authorized or approved by the **World Health Organization (WHO)**, **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)**, **European Centre for Disease Prevention (ECDC)** or an official government body.

Those who do not comply will not be able to join a planned international vacation with Globus, Cosmos, Avalon Waterways or Monograms. This new protocol will take effect for international vacations departing July 15 through October 31, 2021. The company plans to revert back to its policy of proof of vaccination, negative COVID-19 test or immunity for travel after October 31, 2021.

The company's "**Peace of Mind Travel Plan**," which states if guests are unable to go on their vacation due to COVID-19 restrictions, they have the flexibility to move their plans to any other 2021 or 2022 date, destination, itinerary or even another brand without penalty.

