

# CORRESPONDENT'S ADVICE

**LATVIA**

20 SEP 2021

## COVID-19 update

*The following information was received from our correspondent on 20 September:*

### QUOTE

Please see below an updated information on safety measures/restrictions implemented by the governments of Latvia [...] due to outbreak of Covid-19. If the Members' vessels are going to call one of our ports, they may contact us to clarify the status on the day of call.

### Latvian ports:

- General restrictions - Use of face masks is compulsory in all enclosed spaces (including public transport/taxi). Face masks are also compulsory outside, in public gathering places. Exclusions are contemplated for vaccinated persons at workplace, if all employees working in the same room are vaccinated.
- Travel restrictions - It is compulsory for all persons, who are planning to cross Latvian border, to complete an electronic form at the web portal <https://www.covidpass.lv/en/> before crossing the border. For non-submission of the electronic form an administrative liability (a fine from 100 to 2000 Euro) is contemplated by law.
- Persons without Covid-19 certificate (non-vaccinated, not recovered from the illness, without a negative test) are allowed to perform non-essential travel from the EU, EEA, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and low-risk third countries, but non-vaccinated persons must be tested before travel and self-isolate upon arrival. When returning from high-risk third countries, these persons must additionally perform a test after arrival in Latvia.
- The ban on non-essential travel, the requirement to take a [Covid-19 test](#) and go in [self-isolation](#) when entering Latvia is not in force if a person can present a [Digital Covid-19](#)



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[Certificate](#) confirming the completion of vaccination or recovery from the disease.

- The ban on non-essential travel to Latvia for vaccinated and recovered persons, the requirement to perform a test before and after the trip, as well as the requirement for self-isolation remain only when traveling from countries where there is a particularly high risk to public health.
- The fact of vaccination or recovery from disease is confirmed only by an interoperable EU Certificate (electronically on a smart device or printed out) or a certificate of vaccination or recovery issued in the EU, EEA countries, the Swiss Confederation or the United Kingdom. Proof of recovery is valid for 11 to 180 days from the onset of illness. If a person does not have such a certificate, the requirements applicable to unvaccinated or non-recovered persons shall apply.
- Link to a website with a list of applicable travel related restrictions:  
<https://covid19.gov.lv/en/support-society/careful-travel/overview-entry-restrictions-and-security-measures>
- Some of the restrictions shall not apply to seafarers who must reach their workplace aboard a ship or must return from it;
- Crew change is allowed.
- There are no issues with ambulatory treatment of seafarers. Disembarkation of Covid-19 infected crewmembers from a ship to a hospital or special hotels, where a seafarer must observe a quarantine for 10 days, is allowed;
- Prior to entering the port all ship agents of all cargo ships calling at the ports shall provide the port authorities with accurate information on the composition of the ship's crew and the health status of all crew members. Any cases of illness or bad feeling among the members of the crew shall be reported to the authorities;
- Calling of cruise ships to Latvian ports is not restricted but is still on a very low level. Special management plan for cruise ships is in force in the Freeport of Riga (see attachment and link: <https://rop.lv/sites/default/files/2021-08/ROP%20COVID-19%20MANAGEMENT%20PLAN.pdf>);
- All activities related to cargo handling and ship maintenance are performed observing general safety rules. Surveyors and other service providers may visit the vessel in case of necessity, observing general safety rules that are in force in Latvia;
- Courts operate in a normal regime.

UNQUOTE



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