

Entering Austria: These new rules apply to passengers at present – COVID-19 tests can be performed directly at Vienna Airport from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. without registering in advance - Results in 3-6 hours

New regulations for entering Austria recently came into effect. Vienna Airport has now summarised the most important existing rules on the basis of government regulations. The previously applicable landing bans on aircraft from 18 countries, including China, United Kingdom, Belarus, Portugal and Sweden, expire on Friday, 31 July 2020. They will be replaced by new, strict entry requirements and a COVID-19 testing obligation.

Vienna Airport welcomes the lifting of the landing bans and the new entry rules. “The strict, currently applicable entry requirements ensure the greatest possible safety and best possible freedom of travelling. Landing bans only lead to a shifting of travel patterns and harm Austria’s role as a business location and tourism destination. For this reason, the decision not to further extend the landing bans is a welcome and correct step”, Günther Ofner and Julian Jäger, Members of the Management Board of Flughafen Wien AG.

Simplified entry requirements from 31 countries

It is possible without restrictions for people to enter Austria from one of the following countries if they have their domicile or habitual place of residence in Austria or in one of these countries. In this regard, the person travelling to Austria must credibly show that he was not in any other country with the exception of Austria or one of the countries on the list. At present, they currently include the following countries: Andorra, Belgium, Croatia, Belgium, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Switzerland, Spain, United Kingdom and the Vatican. The COVID-19 situation in these countries was rated as being safe by the Austrian Federal Government.

COVID-19 test or 10-day quarantine when entering Austria from all other countries

In order to enter Austria from all other countries not on the above-mentioned list, they must either present a negative COVID-19 test (not older than 72 hours) or begin a ten-day quarantine period. A person who takes a COVID-19 test with negative results when entering Austria means the mandatory quarantine period is prematurely terminated. Passengers have the opportunity to take COVID-19 tests at Vienna Airport every day from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. without the necessity of registering in advance.

Passengers from the following COVID-19 risk areas cannot freely decide between a COVID-19 test or quarantine. In this case, negative COVID-19 test results must be presented when entering the country. This applies for travelling to Austria from: Albania, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Ecuador, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Iran, Kosovo, Mexico, Moldavia, Montenegro, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Province of Hubei (People’s Republic of China), Romania, Russian Federation, Sweden, Senegal, Serbia, South Africa, Turkey, Ukraine and the United States.

People coming from these countries who are Austrian citizens and nationals of EU and EEA member states as well as people travelling from these countries whose domicile or habitual place of residence is in Austria or who possess a valid residence permit in Austria have the possibility to take a molecular-biological SARS-CoV-2 test within 48 hours after entering Austria. This means that this group of people is allowed to enter Austria without a COVID-19

test. These people entering Austria can take the PCR test on site when arriving at the airport. The test results will be conveyed to them electronically. However, in this case they will have to remain in quarantine until they receive the negative test results. Quarantine means self-monitored home quarantine or suitable accommodations. The affected individuals have to pay the costs for testing and accommodations themselves.

No entry for third party nationals outside of the Schengen area

At the present time, third party nationals without a residence permit in Austria or a Visa D are generally prohibited from entering Austria from a country outside of the Schengen area. In order for these individuals to enter Austria from within the Schengen area, they must be able to present a negative COVID-19 test and also begin a mandatory ten-day quarantine period. However, there are exemptions from both rules, for example for nursing staff, seasonal workers, diplomats and travellers within the context of commercial traffic who are required to present a negative COVID-19 test when entering the country, or who can prematurely end their potential quarantine with corresponding negative test results. These entry regulations do not generally apply for people in transit through Austria (also for transfer passengers, amongst others).

All the information provided above is based on decrees issued by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Social Affairs, Health, Care and Consumer Protection and serves as an orientation guide for travellers. However, the information provided by Vienna Airport does not represent legally binding information. All currently valid entry requirements when travelling to Austria and exemptions from these rules can be found in the decrees issued by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Social Affairs, Health, Care and Consumer Protection at: www.sozialministerium.at/en.html.

COVID-19 test: easily and quickly at Vienna Airport

The COVID-19 test offering is available every day from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on the premises of Vienna Airport, namely in the Health Centre of Vienna Airport located in Office Park 3. If necessary, these hours can be extended. The test results will be available in three to six hours and will be sent per email to the tested individual. Passengers can take advantage of the COVID-19 test offering at Vienna Airport after successfully entering Austria. All relevant information can be found on the website of Vienna Airport at www.viennaairport.com/coronatest.

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