GUIDANCE

Border rules for people travelling to and from Wales: coronavirus (COVID-19)

Explains what you must do if you are travelling to or from Wales.

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The Health Protection (Coronavirus, International Travel) (Wales) Regulations 2020 ("the Travel Regulations") introduced certain requirements for persons entering Wales to reduce the risk of imported infections.

The law in Wales may differ to the law applicable in other parts of the UK. This guidance is applicable to anyone who arrives in Wales who has been outside of the Common Travel Area (UK, Ireland, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man) in the 10 days before arrival.

The Travel Regulations are subject to a formal review every 28 days. However,
changes may be made more frequently, especially in relation to the removal of countries from the list of exempt countries and territories. It is advisable to check the latest position before departure on both the outward and return journeys.

From 04:00 on Monday 18 January, all exempt countries and territories (travel corridors) have been suspended. Anyone arriving in Wales from outside the Common Travel Area after 4am on Monday 18 January will need to isolate for 10 days.

From 15 February 2021, there is no direct arrival into Wales from travellers who have been in a country on the 'red list'.

Background

The Travel Regulations were introduced on 8 June 2020 and required persons arriving in Wales who have been in a country outside the Common Travel Area (UK, Ireland, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man) at any point during the 10 days before arrival to isolate for up to 10 days, subject to a number of exemptions.

The Travel Regulations have been amended on a number of occasions, most notably to introduce travel corridor exemptions for persons travelling from some countries and territories. The list of exempted countries and territories sets out those countries from which persons arriving in Wales do not need to isolate.

Isolation requirements

If you are travelling from within the Common Travel Area or you are arriving from one of the countries or territories listed in the Travel Regulations as exempt (“the exempted countries list”) you will not have to isolate when you arrive in Wales.

You will, however, need to isolate if you visited or made a transit stop in a country or territory that is not on the exempted countries list in the 10 days.
before you arrive in Wales. This applies to all travel into Wales, by train, ferry, coach, air or any other route.

Even if you are exempt from the requirement to isolate as set out in the Travel Regulations, you will still need to follow the rules for people who live in Wales upon arriving in Wales.

**Travellers arriving in Wales from elsewhere within the UK**

If you are arriving in Wales from within the UK (England, Scotland or Northern Ireland) and have not been outside the Common Travel Area (Ireland, Isle of Man or the Channel Islands) in the 10 days before entering Wales, you will not need to complete a passenger locator form to provide your journey or contact details or isolate.

**Travellers arriving in Wales from within the Common Travel Area**

If you are arriving in Wales from the Republic of Ireland, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man and have not been outside the Common Travel Area in the 10 days before entering Wales you will not need to provide your journey and contact details by completing a passenger locator form or isolate.

You can show details of recent travel into the CTA, such as a boarding pass or itinerary, to help confirm when you entered the CTA and how long you have spent in the CTA in total.

**Travellers arriving in Wales from an amber list country**

Amber list countries and territories are places that are not in the Common Travel Area or on the list of red list of countries.
If you are arriving in Wales from an amber list country or territory or you have been in an amber list country or territory at any time in the 10 days before entering Wales:

- You will need to provide your journey and contact details by completing a passenger locator form. (This can be done electronically prior to arriving in Wales and you may be requested to present these details at your point of arrival.)
- You must have proof of a negative coronavirus (COVID-19) test for all travellers aged 11 or above, taken no more than 72 hours before departure (Pre Departure Test – PDT)
- Pre-booked a testing package for all travellers aged 5 and above for COVID-19 testing at Day 2 and Day 8 following your arrival
- You will need to isolate for up to 10 days.

This applies to both visitors and UK residents.

If you are arriving from elsewhere in the UK having been in an amber list country in the last 10 days, you are not required to submit another passenger locator form when you arrive in Wales as this will have already been submitted before your arrival in the UK.

Should your address or contact details change whilst you are in Wales then you must update this as and when required by submitting a new passenger locator form.

There are some exemptions from requirements to provide journey details and/or to isolate for specific categories of people (see below).

**How long must you isolate for**

Please note: References in this guidance to the 10 day isolation period should be read as the period for which you are required to isolate depending on your specific circumstances.

If you arrive in Wales directly from an amber list country or territory, you are
required to isolate for a period of 10 days on arrival in Wales.

If you travel to Wales from within the CTA but have been in or transited through an amber country or territory in the 10 days before your arrival in Wales, you will need to isolate in Wales for the remainder for the 10 day period.

The isolation period starts on the day after you last left an amber country or territory and ends at 23:59 on the 10th day from that date.

Example, if you left an amber country on the 5th of the month your period of isolation will end at 23:59 on the 15th. You would be able to go out on the 16th.

Example, if you left an amber country on the 8th of the month and then travelled within the CTA before arriving in Wales on the 11th you would have to isolate in Wales from your arrival on the 11th to 23:59 on the 18th. You would be able to go out on the 19th.

Negative tests do not avoid or reduce the period of isolation. Tests taken abroad to meet requirements in other countries do not avoid or reduce the period of isolation required when you arrive in Wales. This includes the requirement to have a negative test within 72 hours prior to departure.

There is no Test To Release Scheme in Wales so negative tests taken in England do not avoid or reduce the period of isolation required in Wales.

Short visit – if you are required to isolate and you are staying in Wales for less than 10 days then you must remain in isolation for the whole time you are here.

What you must do when you are isolating is explained in this guidance.

**Travellers arriving in Wales from a red list country**

From 15 February you cannot travel directly to Wales if you’ve visited or passed through a country where travel to the UK is banned in the last 10 days. These banned counties are often called ‘red list’ (countries where new variant covid strains have been found).
You will only be able to enter the Wales from ‘red list’ countries via a designated port of entry in England or Scotland and isolate for 10 days in a nearby managed quarantine hotel. There are no designated ports of entry in Wales.

You will need to:

• Provide your journey and contact details by completing a passenger locator form.  
  (This can be done electronically prior to arriving in Wales and you may be requested to present these details at your point of arrival.)
  
• Have proof of a negative coronavirus (COVID-19) test, taken no more than 72 hours before departure (Pre Departure Test – PDT)
• Quarantine for 10 days in a managed quarantine hotel.
• Take a coronavirus (COVID-19) test on or before day 2 and on or after day 8 of quarantining (Everyone aged 5 and above).

Both the managed quarantine and testing must be pre-booked before arrival via the UK booking site.

You will not be able to transit to Wales until you have completed quarantine.

This applies to all travellers intending to travel to Wales.

If you are arriving from elsewhere in the UK having been in a red list country or territory in the last 10 days, you are not required to submit another passenger locator form when you arrive in Wales as this will have already been submitted upon arrival in the UK.

Should your address or contact details change whilst you are in managed quarantine then you must update this as and when required by submitting a new passenger locator form.

**Amber and red list countries and territories**

The red list may change with countries and territories being added or removed following Welsh Ministers decisions on the potential health risks of travellers.
arriving from those destinations.

You must check the list of exempt countries and territories before departure on both the outward and return journeys.

Red list countries and territories as at 29 January 2021

• Angola (added from 04:00 15 January 2021)
• Argentina (added from 04:00 15 January 2021)
• Azores (added from 04:00 15 January 2021)
• Bolivia (added from 04:00 15 January 2021)
• Botswana (added from 04:00 15 January 2021)
• Brazil (added from 04:00 15 January 2021)
• Chile (added from 04:00 15 January 2021)
• Colombia (added from 04:00 15 January 2021)
• Denmark (added 04:00 6 November 2020) (removed from 04:00 28 November 2020)
• Democratic Republic of Congo (added 04:00 22 January 2021)
• Ecuador (added from 04:00 15 January 2021)
• Eswatini (added from 04:00 15 January 2021)
• French Guiana (added from 04:00 15 January 2021)
• Guyana (added from 04:00 15 January 2021)
• Lesotho (added from 04:00 15 January 2021)
• Madeira (added from 04:00 15 January 2021)
• Malawi (added from 04:00 15 January 2021)
• Mauritius (added from 04:00 15 January 2021)
• Mozambique (added from 04:00 15 January 2021)
• Namibia (added from 04:00 hours 19 December 2020)
• Paraguay (added from 04:00 15 January 2021)
• Peru (added from 04:00 15 January 2021)
• Portugal (added from 04:00 15 January 2021)
• Republic of Burundi (added from 04:00 29 January 2021)
• Republic of Cabo Verde (added from 04:00 15 January 2021)
• Republic of Panama (added from 04:00 15 January 2021)
• Republic of Rwanda (added from 04:00 29 January 2021)
• Seychelles (added from 04:00 15 January 2021)
Updates to the amber and red lists

The Welsh Ministers are keeping the list of amber and red list countries and territories under review. For example, if the public health situation in a country or territory worsens, we may reintroduce isolation requirements.

Travellers leaving Wales

You may leave Wales to travel to another country. Whilst in Wales you must follow the guidance in place at the time. If you travel to England, Scotland, Northern Ireland or Ireland to get to an airport or ferry post you must follow the guidance in place at the time in each country.

If you have travelled from an ‘amber list’ or ‘red list’ country for a short visit and you are required to isolate whilst you are here you may leave isolation to return to that country.

Transit stops

A transit stop is a stop where passengers can get on or off. It can apply to aircraft and ships and ferries. Your ticket should show if a stop is a transit stop.

If your journey involves a transit stop in an ‘amber list’ country or territory you will need to isolate on your arrival in Wales if:
• you disembark the aircraft or ship/ferry and get back on
• new passengers get on

You do not need to isolate if during your transit stop in an ‘amber list’ country or territory if:

• no new passengers get on
• you do not disembark the aircraft or ship or ferry
• passengers get off but do not get back on

If you travel by private vehicle through an ‘amber list’ country or territory and arrive in Wales then you are required to isolate, even if you did not stop and get out of the vehicle during that journey.

**Categories of persons exempt or excepted from isolation**

**Categories that do not complete a Passenger Location Form and do not isolate**

Requirements; where appropriate a Letter of Authorisation should be issued by the relevant UK Department, foreign government or international organisation to state that the travel is essential. This includes travel for rest breaks taken in the UK or other countries abroad.

• Diplomats
• Consular Posts
• Officers of International Organisations
• Experts employed by International Organisations
• Representatives of International Organisations
• Representatives at international or UK conferences
• Official staff of International Organisations
• Diplomats, consuls, representatives and official staff of International Organisations that are transiting through the UK or returning to their own country
• Representative of a foreign country or territory conducting official business in the UK
• Representative of the government of a British overseas territory
• Diplomatic or consular courier
• Member of the family forming part of the household of any of the above
• Crown servant or government contractor who is required to undertake essential border work within 10 days of arriving in the UK
• Crown servant or government contractor who is required to undertake essential border work outside of the UK but returns temporarily and will depart within 10 days of arriving in the UK
• Crown servant, government contractor or a member of a visiting force required to undertake work necessary for the delivery of essential defence activities
• Crown servant, government contractor or a member of a visiting force that has travelled on a vessel or aircraft operated by, or in support of, Her Majesty’s armed forces or by, or in support of, a visiting force that has not been in an AMBER list country
• Crown servant, government contractor or a member of a visiting force that has travelled on a vessel or aircraft operated by, or in support of, Her Majesty’s Naval Service or by, or in support of, a visiting force that has not been in an AMBER list country
• Foreign Government official required to travel to the United Kingdom to undertake essential border security duties, or a contractor directly supporting these essential border security duties
• Transit passengers passing through the UK without entering the UK

Categories that must complete a Passenger Location Form but do not need to isolate

Requirements; where appropriate a Letter of Authorisation should be issued by the relevant UK Department, foreign government, international organisation or employer to state that the travel is essential. This includes travel for rest breaks taken in the UK or other countries abroad.

• Road haulage worker or road passenger transport worker
- Masters and seamen
- Merchant shipping pilot
- Inspector or surveyor of ships
- Aircraft crew
- Civil aviation inspector
- Drivers and crews on shuttle services and on services for the carriage of passengers or goods by way of the tunnel system
- Crown servant or government contractor undertake essential policing or essential government work in the UK
- Person certified by the relevant Department returning from undertaking essential state business outside of the United Kingdom
- Person certified by the relevant Department returning to the United Kingdom where this is necessary to facilitate the functioning of a diplomatic mission or consular post of Her Majesty or of a military or other official posting on behalf of Her Majesty (including official rest breaks)
- Person certified by the relevant Department returning from undertaking essential or emergency work outside of the UK necessary to facilitate essential government work or essential state business
- Person repatriating prisoners
- Person escorting a person under extradition
- Representative of any territory travelling to the UK as a custody officer
- Person who lives abroad but regularly travels to the UK for work (usually at least once a week)
- Person who lives in the UK but regularly travels abroad for work (usually at least once a week)

Categories that must complete a Passenger Location Form and must isolate but can leave isolation for work purposes

Requirements: The responsibility to demonstrate that a sectoral exemption or exception applies rests with the person who is travelling supported, as appropriate, by either their employer or the company they are going to do work for.
It is recommended that the employer or contracting company provide a letter stating that the person is travelling for work purposes under a specific category of exemption or exception.

This will help the person to complete the Passenger Locator Form correctly.

- Worker engaged in essential or emergency works for water supplies and sewerage services
- Worker engaged in essential or emergency works carried out by, for, or on behalf of a water undertaker, sewerage undertaker, water supply licensee, sewerage licensee or local authority
- Worker engaged in essential or emergency works relating to flood and coastal erosion risk management on behalf of the Environment Agency
- Worker engaged in essential or emergency works relating to flood and coastal erosion risk management on behalf of Natural Resources Wales
- Worker engaged in essential or emergency works relating to flood and coastal erosion risk management on behalf of a lead local flood authority in Wales
- Worker engaged in essential or emergency works relating to flood and coastal erosion risk management on behalf of a lead local flood authority in England
- Worker engaged in essential or emergency works relating to current or former mining operations on behalf of the Coal Authority
- Worker engaged in essential or emergency works relating to current or former mining operations on behalf of a council for a county or county borough in Wales
- Worker engaged in essential or emergency works relating to current or former mining operations on behalf of Natural Resources Wales
- Worker engaged in essential or emergency works related to a generating station, an electricity interconnector, a district heat network, communal heating system, automated ballast cleaning and track relaying systems on a network or the commissioning, maintenance and repair of industrial machinery for use on a network
- Worker engaged in essential or emergency works carried out by, for or on behalf of a national system operator, a person holding a transmission licence, a person holding a distribution licence, a person holding a licence
under the Gas Act or a person holding a railway network licence

• Nuclear personnel, and who is essential to the safe and secure operation of a site in respect of which a nuclear site licence has been granted

• Nuclear emergency responder
• Nuclear agency inspector
• Chemical Weapons inspector
• Person carrying out a critical function at a space site
• Spacecraft controller responsible for command and control of a launch vehicle or spacecraft for nominal operations, collision avoidance or anomalies
• Person employed by, or contracted to provide services to, a person who operates or maintains space situational awareness capabilities
• A specialist aerospace engineer, or a specialist aerospace worker, where the engineer or worker has travelled to the United Kingdom in the course of their work
• A person engaged in operational, maintenance or safety activities of a downstream oil facility that has a capacity in excess of 20,000 tonnes, where the downstream oil facility is engaged in a specified activity carried on in the United Kingdom in the course of a business, and contributes (directly or indirectly) to the supply of crude oil based fuels to consumers in the United Kingdom or persons carrying on business in the United Kingdom, and the activities are required to ensure continued safe operation of the facility
• Worker required to undertake or commence within 10 days of arrival any of the following activities;

(a) activities on or in relation to an offshore installation,

(b) activities on or in relation to upstream petroleum infrastructure,

(c) critical safety work on an offshore installation or well that is being decommissioned or preserved pending demolition or reuse, or

(d) activities for the provision of workers, goods, materials or equipment or other essential services required to support the safe operation of the activities referred to in paragraphs (a) to (c).

where they have travelled to the UK in the course of their work
• Postal operator
• Worker with specialist technical skills, where those specialist technical skills are required for essential or emergency works or services (including commissioning, maintenance and repairs and safety checks) to ensure the continued production, supply, movement, manufacture, storage or preservation of goods
• Worker with specialist technical skills, where those specialist technical skills are required for essential or emergency works or services (including commissioning, installation, maintenance and repairs and safety checks) to fulfil contractual obligations or warranty specification in, or in connection with, waste management facilities used for the management, sorting, treatment recovery or disposal of waste (including energy from waste) where the worker have travelled to the UK in course of their work.
• A person who has travelled to the United Kingdom for the purpose of transporting material which consists of, or includes, human cells or blood and which is to be used for the provision of a health service by a provider of health services
• Inspector of Human Medicines
• Person who has travelled the UK to;

(i) conduct a clinical trial within the meaning of conducting a clinical trial in regulation 2(1) of the Medicines for Human Use (Clinical Trials) Regulations 2004 F77,

(ii) undertake such activities as are necessary or expedient to prepare for the conduct of a clinical trial, or

(iii) carry out any necessary compliance activity in relation to a clinical trial that cannot be conducted remotely

• Person who has travelled the UK as a Qualified Person under the Clinical Trials regulations
• Person who has travelled the UK to as a Sponsor under the Clinical Trials regulations
• Person who has travelled to the United Kingdom to conduct a clinical investigation within the meaning of the Medical Devices Regulations 2002, or to undertake such activities as are necessary or expedient to prepare for
the conduct of a clinical investigation or carry out any other necessary compliance activity in relation to a clinical investigation that cannot be conducted remotely.

- Person who is a qualified person, a responsible person or an appropriately qualified person responsible for pharmacovigilance as defined by the Human Medicine regulations
- Person who has travelled to the UK for the purposes of their work in essential infrastructure industries involved in essential maintenance and repair of data infrastructure required to reduce and resolve outages, or in the provision of goods and services to support these activities
- Person who has travelled to the UK for the purposes of their work in essential infrastructure industries who is an information technology or telecommunications professional (including information technology consultant, quality analyst, software tester, systems tester, and telecommunications planner), whose expertise is required to (i) provide an essential or emergency response to threats and incidents relating to the security of any network and information system, and (ii) ensure the continued operation of any network and information system
- A person who is engaged in urgent or essential work;

(a) that is necessary for the continued operation of (i) electronic communications networks and services as defined in section 32 of the Communications Act 2003 or

(ii) the BBC’s broadcasting transmission network and services,

(b) in supply chain companies that maintain the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of the electronic communications networks and services and the BBC transmission network and services

- Person habitually resident in the UK an elite athlete who participated in an overseas elite competition (where the person travelled to the UK from competition or training camp overseas)
- Person habitually resident in the UK an elite athlete who provided coaching or other support to an elite athlete at an overseas elite competition (where the person travelled to the UK from competition or training camp overseas)
- Person habitually resident in the UK an elite athlete who officiated at, or was
involved in running, an overseas elite competition (where the person travelled to the UK from competition or training camp overseas)

• Person habitually resident in the UK who is an elite athlete who attended an overseas training programme for the purpose of training or preparing for participation in an elite competition (where the person travelled to the UK from competition or training camp overseas)

• Person habitually resident in the UK who provided coaching or other support to an elite athlete at an overseas training programme for the purpose of training or preparing that elite athlete for participation in an elite competition (where the person travelled to the UK from competition or training camp overseas.

• Person (a) who is engaged in the installation, maintenance or repair of subsea fibre optic telecommunications infrastructure (b) whose role directly supports the installation, maintenance or repair of subsea fibre optic telecommunications infrastructure, (where they have travelled to the United Kingdom in the course of their work)

Reasons for leaving a place of isolation

• to travel for the purpose of leaving Wales in the manner described by paragraph (3);

• to obtain basic necessities (including for other persons at the premises or any pets at the premises), where it is not possible or practicable—

• to seek medical assistance, where this is required urgently or on the advice of a registered medical practitioner;

• to receive a health service provided by a registered medical practitioner, where the provision of the service was arranged before P’s arrival in the United Kingdom;

• to assist a person receiving a health service, or to accompany that person if P is a child for whom the person has responsibility;

• where P is a child who does not live in the same household as P’s parents, or one of P’s parents, to continue existing arrangements for access to, and contact between, P and P’s parents, and for the purposes of this sub-paragraph, parent includes a person who is not a parent of P, but who has parental responsibility for, or who has care of, P
to access veterinary services where;

(i) they are required to examine, sample, treat or euthanase an animal, to protect its welfare or to protect animal or public health

(ii) the exempted travel may be for a veterinarian to travel to attend an animal, or for the animal keeper to take an animal to a veterinary premises for care

• to carry out specified activities in relation to edible horticulture, but only if the person is residing at the premises in connection with those activities;
  ◦ in relation to edible horticulture, means — (a) edible horticulture (garddwriliaeth fwytaidwy) means growing-(i) protected vegetables grown in glasshouse systems,(ii) field vegetables grown outdoors, including vegetables, herbs, leafy salads and potatoes,(iii) soft fruit grown outdoors or under cover,(iv) trees that bear fruit,(v) vines and bines, or (vi) mushrooms

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