United Arab Emirates

Source: World Tourism Organization UNWTO
10.11.2022

Further information: https://www.unwto.org/tourism-data/unwto-iata-destination-tracker-easy-travel

Source: The United Arab Emirates' Government portal
25.07.2022

Travelling to the UAE

Vaccinated travellers to the UAE are not required to present a negative result of RT-PCR test for COVID-19 at the airport of departure. However, those who are not vaccinated must either present a valid, negative result of an RT-PCR test conducted within 48 hours before arrival or a recovery certificate (containing a QR code) from COVID-19 issued within 30 days before departure, if they were infected with the virus.

- Rules for international travellers- as of 26 February 2022
- Travelling to Dubai - rules as of 19 May 2022
- Travelling to Abu Dhabi

Rules for international travellers- as of 26 February 2022

The following rules apply at the airport of departure for all international travellers to the UAE:
1. Those who are vaccinated against COVID-19, must present the vaccination certificate containing a QR code. They are not required to present a negative result of RT-PCR test for COVID-19 at the airport of departure.

2. Those who are not vaccinated against COVID-19, can either present a valid, negative result of an RT-PCR test conducted within 48 hours before arrival, or present a recovery certificate (containing a QR code) from COVID-19 issued within 30 days before departure, if they were previously infected with the virus.

Text sourced from the website of The National Emergency Crisis and Disasters Management Authority (NCEMA).

Travelling to Dubai - rules as of 19 May 2022

Rules for Dubai residence visa holders, visitors and tourists

All UAE residents, visitors and tourists can travel to Dubai without an approval from GDRFA or ICP. However, visitors and tourists have to meet the visa requirements before travel, if they are not eligible for visa on arrival. Check visa requirements to visit the UAE.

Requirements

Passengers travelling to Dubai from all countries, including the Gulf Cooperation Council countries (GCC), must fulfil one of the below requirements at the airport of departure:

- present a valid COVID-19 vaccination certificate, reflecting that the passenger is fully vaccinated with a vaccine approved by the World Health Organisation (WHO) or the UAE. The certificate must contain a QR code.
- present a valid negative COVID-19 test certificate that should be based on a molecular diagnostic test intended for the qualitative detection of nucleic acid for SARS-CoV-2 viral RNA. The certificate must be issued within 48 hours from the time of sample collection by an approved health service provider and must contain a QR code.
- present a valid medical certificate from the relevant authorities that the passenger has recovered from the novel coronavirus COVID-19, issued within one month before the date of arrival. The certificate must contain a QR code.

If you are arriving from India, Pakistan, Nigeria, Bangladesh or Egypt, you must get your certificate from one of the labs listed in the designated laboratories (PDF, 150 KB).

Exemptions for the COVID19 PCR test and the vaccination certificate

The following people are exempt from presenting a COVID-19 test or a vaccination certificate at the departure airport:

- all UAE nationals returning to Dubai from any country
- non-UAE nationals accompanying a first-degree UAE national family member
- domestic workers accompanying a UAE national sponsor.
The following people are exempt from being tested for COVID-19:

- children below 12 years of age
- passengers with moderate to severe disabilities.

Note:

- Moderate or severe disability includes neurological disorders and intellectual or developmental disabilities. For example: Acute spinal cord injury, Alzheimer's disease, Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), Ataxia, Autism spectrum, Bell's palsy, Brain tumours, Cerebral aneurysm, Cerebral palsy, Down Syndrome, Epilepsy and seizures.
- All other passengers, including those who are visually impaired, have a hearing impairment or are physically challenged, must hold a negative COVID19 RT-PCR test certificate as per the requirements.
- There may be specific test exemptions in your country of origin and final destination. Please check the requirements before you travel.

Transiting through Dubai

- Transiting passengers are not required to present a COVID-19 RT-PCR test certificate unless it is mandated by their final destination.
- Passengers booked with Dubai Connect/Stopover packages must follow the same PCR test requirements as applicable for passengers arriving /entering Dubai.

Information sourced from the website of Emirates Airline.

Read more:

- Rules for travelling to and through Dubai
- Travel requirements by destination
- Quarantine guidelines for travellers to Dubai.

Travelling to Abu Dhabi

You do not need a negative result of an RT-PCR test for COVID-19 if:

1. you are fully vaccinated or
2. you are under 16 or
3. you hold a recovery certificate (containing a QR code) from COVID-19 issued within 30 days before departure.

Additionally, you will not need to quarantine when you arrive in Abu Dhabi.

On the other hand, you must present a negative result of an RT-PCR test for COVID-19 done 48 hours before your flight to Abu Dhabi if:

- You are not fully vaccinated and do not hold a COVID-19 recovery certificate
- You are transiting in Abu Dhabi and a test is required at your final destination.
If you are required to take a PCR test and unable to present proof of your negative COVID-19 PCR test, you will not be permitted to travel.

**On arrival at Abu Dhabi**

It is no longer mandatory to undergo an RT-PCR test upon arrival in Abu Dhabi. However, one may undergo the test to keep his/her ‘Green Pass’ active on the Al Hosn app in order to get access to public places in Abu Dhabi.

The test costs AED 40. Additionally, passengers do not need to quarantine themselves on arrival.

Find out in this guide everything you need to know before you fly to Abu Dhabi including testing, transit and quarantine information.

Remember that You must be fully vaccinated to enter most public places in Abu Dhabi.

**Transiting in Abu Dhabi**

You do not need a COVID-19 test certificate or a vaccination for transiting the UAE, unless your final destination requires it.

**Note**

Children under 16 are exempt from the vaccination and testing requirements to fly to Abu Dhabi neither on arrival nor during transit; unless the same is required for final destination.

**Travelling from Abu Dhabi to Dubai and other emirates**

You can travel to Dubai or any other emirate in the UAE after arriving at Abu Dhabi International Airport. Abu Dhabi accepts pre-arranged visas issued by other emirates in the UAE.

You can travel to Dubai by any means of transport. No test or app is needed to travel from Abu Dhabi to Dubai.

Learn more about travelling to Dubai and other emirates via Abu Dhabi.

Read more:

- [Abu Dhabi travel information](#) - Etihad Airways
- [Travel guidelines and regulations](#) - Etihad Airways
- [COVID-safe travel to and from Abu Dhabi](#) - Visit Abu Dhabi

Find out [quarantine guidelines for travellers to Abu Dhabi](#).

For further information on travelling to the UAE, visit the following websites:
Response to Covid-19 outbreaks and Business Continuity Plans

The Federal Customs Authority (FCA) and the local Customs Administrations have been following the recommendations of the Government, the National Emergency Crisis and Disaster Management Authority (NCEMA), the Ministry of Health and Community Protection and the relevant health authorities in order to contain the outbreak of the novel covid-19 pandemic. The FCA is a member of the NCEMA team, which allows the customs to be part of the decisions made by the crisis team and hence ensuring the continuity of customs tasks and procedures while taking the precautionary measures.

The UAE recognizes the importance of maintaining the global trade and the international supply chain, while taking all the necessary precautions and preventive measures put forth by the concerned authorities. Economic incentives by the government have been put in place to ensure the safeguard of the economy from being gravely affected by this outbreak. Customs plays a vital role in this matter, ensuring the flow of legitimate trade and by implementing some customs initiatives to traders.

General Preventive Measures as per the Recommendations of NCEMA and the Ministry of Health:
- Ensure that disinfection and sanitization operations are carried out through the application of standards, instructions and requirements issued by NCEMA and the Ministry of Health or under the supervision of a specialized medical staff periodically in the office space, facilities and the premises.
- Implementing remote work for all administrative jobs as per the decision of the Government (Federal Authority for Government Human Resources); noting that Customs is implementing alongside the decisions and recommendations of the Government, the ISO 22301 regarding Business Continuity.
- Providing the necessary equipment to scan and detect high temperature of employees and customers in the inspection department.
- Raising awareness through various communication channels on how to reduce the spread of diseases and epidemics within the Customs Community.
- Take precautionary measures for inspectors by using set procedures such as wearing masks and gloves to carry out their tasks as well as providing all vehicles and offices with hand sanitizers and surface disinfectants.
- Take precautionary measures during inspection by reducing physical inspection, and instead using technology and x-ray equipment.

**Further details can be found on the following websites:**

- Federal Customs Authority (www.fca.gov.ae)
- National Emergency Crisis and Disaster Management Authority (https://www.ncema.gov.ae/)
- Ministry of Health and Community Protection (www.mohap.gov.ae/)
- Federal Authority for Government Human Resources (www.fahr.gov.ae)

Further information: [http://www.wcoomd.org...natural-disaster/covid_19/uae.....](http://www.wcoomd.org...natural-disaster/covid_19/uae.....)

**SOURCE: WCO/Dubai Customs**

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