17.09.2020

Land border arrivals from Bulgaria are allowed through Promachonas border station. Entry from other border stations with Bulgaria are allowed for essential travel only. With regards to Albania, North Macedonia and Turkey, entry is allowed for essential travel only. Before entering the country, all travellers must complete their Passenger Locator Form.

All travellers entering Greece through Promachonas border station, including Greek citizens, permanent residents of Greece and travellers for essential professional reasons, are obliged to present, upon arrival, a negative molecular test result (RT-PCR) for COVID-19, performed up to 72 hours before their entry to Greece. Travellers should be laboratory tested with RT-PCR of oropharyngeal or nasopharyngeal swab.

For the land border crossings of Kakavia, Krystallopigi, Evzoni, Nymfaia, Ormeni and Kipi, if the conditions are met, the crossing is possible only between 07:00-23:00. Only essential arrivals are permitted. Moreover, land border from Kakavia now limits essential arrivals to 750 persons/day and Krystallopigi limits essential arrivals to 300 persons/day.

Protocols for arrivals at land borders in Greece

For latest information also check travel.gov.gr

Driving abroad

Travelling to Greece

Entry from EU countries and from Norway, Switzerland, Iceland and Liechtenstein, as well as Andorra, Monaco, Vatican City State and Republic of San Marino, is allowed without restrictions, with the exception of Belgium, Bulgaria, Hungary, Malta, Romania, and Spain (details under “Rules and Exceptions”).

Third-country nationals:

Travellers from Australia, Canada, Georgia, Japan, New Zealand, Rwanda, South Korea, Thailand, Tunisia, Uruguay and China (subject to confirmation of reciprocity) are allowed to enter Greece without restrictions. Furthermore, as far as visitors from Russia are concerned, upon arrival they have to perform a negative rt-PCR test certificate in English and the hotel reservation, or any other proved address of their temporary stay in Greece. Permanent residents of other third countries are allowed to travel to Greece only for essential reasons (not for tourism). Before entering the country, all travellers must complete a Passenger Locator Form

Protocols for air arrivals in Greece

For latest information also check travel.gov.gr/

Travelling from Greece or returning to Greece

No specific measures.

Rules and Exceptions

Arrivals by airplane: Passengers of flights from Bulgaria, Romania, U.A.E., Malta, Belgium, Hungary, Spain, Albania and the Republic of North Macedonia will be required to have a negative molecular test result (PCR) for COVID-19, performed up to 72 hours before their entry to Greece. This does also apply to Greek citizens, permanent residents of Greece and travellers for essential professional reasons. Travellers should be tested with RT-PCR of oropharyngeal or nasopharyngeal swab.

Remarks from the International Road Transport Union

12.08.2020

On August 10th 2020, Ministerial Decree with ref. number 1 / 50676 / 10-8-2020 (‘3346), “Application of temporary restriction of the land connections of Greece, in order to limit the spread of COVID-19” (see attached document available in greek only), according to which “as of 17.8.2020 a negative molecular control test (PCR test) will be mandatory for anyone entering the country at land borders. The test must also have been performed up to 72 hours before entering Greece The obligation includes Greek citizens and holders of residence permits. The test must have been carried out in the country of departure or transit and not in Greece. Additionally, persons entering Greece for professional reasons during the validity period of this Decree and then exit, will not be allowed to re-enter the country until 31.08.20. Especially, for Greek citizens and permanent residents, re-entering Greece will be allowed only with a pre-notification by submitting the form on travel.gov.gr upon exit from the country.”

The decree enters into force on 17.08.20 and will be valid until 31.08.20

Greek land BCPs:

1.Kakavia (GR-ALB), only for goods transport, operating daily hours 07:00-23:00
2.Krystallopigi (GR-ALB), only for goods transport, operating daily hours 07:00-23:00
3.Evzoni (GR-MD), only for goods transport, operating daily hours 07:00-23:00
4.Promachona (GR-BUL), goods and passenger transport, operating on a 24/7 basis
5.Ormenio (GR-BUL), only for goods transport, operating daily hours 07:00-23:00
6.Nymfaia (GR-BUL), only for goods transport, operating daily hours 07:00-23:00
7.Kipi (GR-TUR), only for goods transport, operating daily hours 07:00-23:00

OFAE has made an intervention to the Greek government highlighting the fact that such provisions cannot be applied to international transport workers, otherwise it will disrupt the flow of goods.

The Greek Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport has submitted an amendment proposal to exempt international transport workers from such provisions, which is currently being discussed by the Ministry of Health. Awaiting for official information about its approval, we will update the information accordingly, hopefully by tomorrow.

Source: OFAE

14.07.2020

As of 06:00 on 15 July, all travellers entering Greece for non-essential reasons through the Promachonas border crossing point will be obliged to present the proof of a negative test upon arrival. The certificate should be dated within 72 hours of taking the test.
Only travellers who carry a certificate of a negative RT-PCR test result will be allowed by the border authorities to enter the country. The certificates should be written in English and bear the name and passport/national ID number of the traveller.

The accepted laboratories that perform the RT-PCR testing can be:
- National Reference laboratories
- National Public Health Laboratories
- Private laboratories which are accredited from the respective national accreditation authorities (not necessarily specifically for COVID-19).

Certificates that do not fulfill the above criteria will not be accepted.

Children under 10 years old are not subject to the obligation to a PCR test.

The same requirement will apply to all visitors entering Greece via its land borders. This applies to ALL travellers including Greek citizens, permanent residents of Greece and travellers for essential professional reasons.

In addition to this, all visitors arriving by air, land or sea transport will be subject to random tests upon arrival. After being tested, travellers will be allowed to move to their final destination. In the event of a positive result, they will be contacted and placed on 14-day quarantine, with expenses covered by the Greek state.

Mandatory Travel Documentation
Before entering the country, all travellers must complete a Passenger Locator Form.

Find out more:
Travel.gov.gr
Air passenger rights.

Updated info on air travel regulations may be found at the IAT A website.

Arrivals by sea by ferry ships are allowed only in Patras, Corfu and Igoumenitsa ports, while arrivals of cruise ships in Greece are allowed until 15/09/2020, provided that they come from countries for which no special restrictive measures apply. Before entering the country, all travellers must complete their Passenger Locator Form.

A confirmation email will be sent upon its submission. An electronic or hard copy of the PLF confirmation should be presented to the designated crew members before embarkation onboard a ship at any Italian port. Travellers will also receive the PLF with a QR code on the day of their scheduled arrival in Greece (at midnight) and will be notified via email (the QR code will be provided in a link in the confirmation email).

No such restriction applies on yachting.

All visitors from air, land or sea, will be subject to random tests upon arrival. Upon being tested, travelers move to their final destination. In the event of a positive result, they will be contacted and placed on 14-day quarantine, with expenses covered by the Greek state.

Protocols for sea arrivals in Greece

For latest information also check travel.gov.gr/
Ship passenger rights.

Only travellers who have such proof will be allowed to enter Greece by the border authorities. The certificate should be written in English and bear the name and passport/national ID number of the traveller.

The Laboratories that perform the RT-PCR testing should be:
1. National Reference laboratories
2. National Public Health Laboratories, or
3. Private laboratories which are accredited from the respective national accreditation authorities (not necessarily specifically for COVID-19).

Certificates that do not fulfill the above criteria will not be accepted. Certificate forgery is punished by Greek Law.

Travellers will still have to complete and submit their PLF form and may be subject to random testing upon arrival at the Greek border.

In order for these changes to be implemented, the PLF system will be made available for travel through Promachonas until 00:01 of 14 July. Travellers who had already issued their PLF forms will still be able to cross the Promachonas border crossing, but travellers without a PLF form will not be allowed to enter and should reschedule their trip for Wednesday 15 July.

The other land border stations remain closed for non-essential travel.

Further information can be found here.

Source: OFAE

10.07.2020

On 1 July, the Greek Customs issued a Decree implementing temporary measures for the facilitation of international trade during the Covid-19 pandemic, including some provisions on the validity of the certificate of vehicle approval for TIR operations. It reads, in particular: “Customs authorities at the entrance, exit or destination may allow the continuation of the TIR transport, even if the period of validity of the Certificate of vehicle Approval has expired for the road vehicle or the container for the transport of goods by customs sealing. In this case, the holder must be able to prove that he has submitted request for renewal of the certificate to the competent authority of his country (eg via e-mail, letter, official reference to the certificate or TIR card, etc.).

Source: OFAE

09.07.2020

On 8 July, the Ministry of Citizen Protection withdrew the exemption initially granted to international transport workers from filling out the Passenger Locator Form.

Therefore, drivers travelling to Greece have to submit the duly filled out form and get a QR code: a dedicated check box for drivers has been included in the document, which allows the submission at any time before the date of arrival (whereas, passengers travelling to Greece must submit the form within 48 hours before their arrival).

Source: OFAE

07.07.2020

On 6 July, the Greek Ministry of Transport clarified that international transport workers are exempt from the obligation to fill in the online Passenger Locator Form.
Land border arrivals from Bulgaria are allowed through Promachonas border station. Entry from other border stations with Bulgaria are allowed for essential travel only. With regards to Albania, North Macedonia and Turkey, entry is allowed for essential travel only. Before entering the country, all travellers must complete their Passenger Locator Form.

As of 15/07/2020 at 06:00 am (GMT-3), all travellers entering Greece for non-essential reasons through Promachonas border station are obliged to present, upon arrival, a negative molecular test result (PCR) for COVID-19, performed up to 72 hours before their entry to Greece. Travellers should be laboratory tested with RT-PCR of oropharyngeal or nasopharyngeal swab.

Protocols for arrivals at land borders in Greece

For latest information also check travel.gov.gr/#

Driving abroad

Arrivals by sea by ferry ships are allowed only in Patras, Corfu and Igoumenitsa ports. Before entering the country, all travellers must complete their Passenger Locator Form.

A confirmation email will be sent upon its submission. An electronic or hard copy of the PLF confirmation should be presented to the designated crew members before embarkation onboard a ship at any Italian port. Travellers will also receive the PLF with a QR code on the day of their scheduled arrival in Greece (at midnight) and will be notified via email (the QR code will be provided in a link in the confirmation email).

No such restriction applies on yachting. All visitors from air, land or sea, will be subject to random tests upon arrival. Upon being tested, travelers move to their final destination. In the event of a positive result, they will be contacted and placed on 14-day quarantine, with expenses covered by the Greek state.

Protocols for sea arrivals in Greece

For latest information also check travel.gov.gr/#

Ship passenger rights

Arrivals by airplane:

Travelling from EU countries is allowed without restrictions, with the exception of Bulgaria, Romania and Malta.

Travelling to and from Norway, Switzerland, Iceland and Liechtenstein, as well as Andorra, Monaco, Vatican City State and Republic of San Marino, is allowed without restrictions.

From 17 August, it has been announced that visitors arriving from Sweden, Belgium, Spain, the Netherlands and the Czech Republic will need to provide a negative test for COVID-19 to gain entry. The required test cannot be older than 72 hours prior to entry. The same requirement will apply to all visitors entering Greece via its land borders, including Greek citizens returning home.

Travelling from Greece or returning to Greece

It has been announced that, from 17 August, all visitors entering Greece via its land borders, including Greek citizens returning home, will need to provide a negative test for COVID-19 to gain entry. The required test cannot be older than 72 hours prior to entry.

Rules and Exceptions

Travellers entering Greece for non-essential reasons through the Promachonas border station are obliged to present, upon arrival, a negative test result (PCR) for COVID-19, performed up to 72 hours before their entry to Greece (RT-PCR of oropharyngeal or nasopharyngeal swab test).

Drivers entering Greece by ship are subject to random health checks and are also asked to fill in a health status questionnaire: whilst onboard, drivers must wear masks. The health form is available in English, and is also provided by the ferry operator on site.

Source: OFAE

02.07.2020

From 1 July until 31 August, new procedures are in place for travellers arriving in Greece. All individuals entering the country must fill in a Passenger Locator Form (PLF) upon arrival. Passport and customs controls are carried out and each person’s unique quick response (QR) code is checked on their mobile phone screen or on the printed form with their QR code. Depending on their code, arriving travellers are directed by security personnel either to the screening area or are allowed to continue their trip to their final destination in the country. They will be given instructions from the border personnel concerning, in particular, required action in case they develop symptoms of respiratory infection, in which case they must immediately contact the National Public Health Organization (EODY) Operations Centre. If arriving travellers plan to have multiple stop-overs in Greece, they must declare this and report their initial destination and their travel itinerary for the next 7 days. EODY Mobile Health Units (KOMY) operate around the clock at land border checkpoints.

Arriving travellers who test positive for Covid-19 are obliged to self-isolate at the address of their final destination as declared on their Passenger Locator Form (PLF). Their data is entered into the EODY information system, which is linked to the Covid registry to facilitate contact tracing in the event someone tests positive. Upon completion of the screening, and after having received instructions concerning self-isolation and until the results of their screening are announced, they can enter the country.

All passengers must follow all necessary preventive hygiene measures (use of masks and physical/social distancing). Masks or face coverings are mandatory in public transport, taxis, lifts, hospitals, clinics and diagnostic centres. Masks are recommended in supermarkets, hair salons and other enclosed spaces. Those violating the rules may be fined 150 Euros. Physical distancing measures are in effect until further notice.

The Greek-Bulgarian Promachonas-Kulata border crossing point is open; travellers are subject to random testing and NO quarantine requirements. The land borders with Albania, North Macedonia and Turkey remain closed until further notice.

Goods transport is not subject to restrictions nor quarantine provisions. Members are advised that the health check protocol is meant to apply only to passengers; however, enforcement authorities appear to have misinterpreted the new rules and have started to request that drivers also complete. IRU and OFAE are awaiting clarification from the Ministry of Transport and the Ministry of Health, which will be shared as soon as possible. In the meantime, drivers arriving in Greece by sea are advised to fill in the form to avoid unnecessary fines.

Source: OFAE

05.06.2020

Passenger Transport:

From 1 to 15 June: Random testing on arriving passengers applies, and anyone who is allowed to enter Greece from abroad (i.e. people travelling by air from airports NOT deemed to have “high risk of transmission”, as listed by the EU Aviation Safety Agency) must self-isolate for 7 days, even if they have tested negative. Those testing positive must isolate for a further 7 days, bringing the total time of isolation to 14 days.
Travellers from Bulgaria, Romania and Malta (from 17 August also from Sweden, Belgium, Spain, the Netherlands and the Czech Republic), will be required to have a negative molecular test result (PCR) for COVID-19, performed up to 72 hours prior to their entry to Greece. This does not apply to Greek citizens, permanent residents of Greece and travellers for essential professional reasons. Travellers should be tested with RT-PCR of oropharyngeal or nasopharyngeal swab. The certificates should be written in English and bear the name and passport/national ID number of the traveller. All visitors arriving by air, land or sea transport will be subject to random tests upon arrival. After being tested, travellers will be allowed to move to their final destination. In the event of a positive result, they will be contacted and placed on 14-day quarantine, with expenses covered by the Greek state.

**Mandatory Travel Documentation**

Before entering the country, all travellers must complete a [Passenger Locator Form](https://reopen.europa.eu/en/map/GRC).

**Links to relevant national sources**

- Travel.gov.gr
- Protocols for air arrivals in Greece
- Protocols for sea arrivals in Greece
- Protocols for arrivals at land borders in Greece
- Air passenger rights.
- Updated info on air travel regulations may be found at the IAT A website.


---

From 15 to 30 June: no travel restrictions apply on individuals entering Greece from abroad, but random testing still applies. However, people travelling by air from airports in areas deemed to have “high risk of transmission”, as listed by the EU Aviation Safety Agency, will have to stay overnight in a designated hotel for testing. If they test negative, they must quarantine for seven days; if positive, they will be quarantined under supervision for 14 days.

**Goods Transport:**

On 29 May, the Greek Government extended the quarantine rules for international truck drivers until 15 June. The number of days to be spent in isolation however has been reduced from 14 to 7.

**Facilitation measures:**

Greece has signed these ADR Multilateral Agreements: M324 on driver training certificates and safety adviser certificates, and M325 on periodic or intermediate inspections of tanks and certificate of approval for vehicles.

**Source:** OFAE

---

**28.05.2020**

On 28 May, the Greek Government advised that the relaxation of driving and rest time rules will not be renewed after 31 May. Therefore, Regulation (EC) 561/2006 will apply from 00:00 on 1 June.

**Source:** OFAE

---

**25.05.2020**

The previous truck movement restrictions at the Customs office of Evzoni (BCP Greece-North Macedonia) have been lifted. The Customs office of Evzoni is now back to 24/7 operations for all types of goods transport.

**Source:** OFAE

---

**20.04.2020**

The validity of the self-isolation measure in Greece, as described below, has been prolonged until 15th May 2020.

On 2 April, the Greek government published a new Ministerial Decree on the quarantine routine that people entering Greece from abroad must follow. Art. 2 of the decree sets out specific provisions for truck drivers, as follows:

Workers of all nationalities engaged in international transport operations (land, air or maritime) must, upon entering Greece and without any delay, either transit through the country or reach their final destination within the country. After having reached the final destination in Greece, drivers must commence a temporary isolation period of 14 days. Trucks drivers travelling from Italy to Greece by ship are requested to fill in the following form.

Exemptions to this rule apply in the following cases:

- When there is a need to start a new international transport operation (e.g. bilateral transport). In this case, mandatory quarantine can be lifted at any time, even the day after it began;

- When there is a need to make a national transport operation (within Greek territory). In this case, the driver must spend at least 7 days in isolation, starting from the day he entered the country. Because of the mandatory week spent in isolation, cabotage operations will not be possible.

The measure now applies from 2 April to 15 May, with a fine of EUR 5,000 to be imposed in the case of any violations.
15.07.2020

Temporary restrictions with Bulgaria

Greece extends the already imposed restrictions on all rail and road connections from Bulgaria and a ban on entry to all passengers from Bulgaria with the exception of border crossing point of Promachonas. The ban of entry does not include Greek citizens and holders of residence documents and the entrance of persons for absolutely necessary business trips verified by the appropriate documentation. The transit of lorries for carriage of goods is allowed. The persons entering -and not belonging to the abovementioned excluded categories- must have undergone a laboratory check (PCR method) for CoVID-19 and will have to be negative to it.

The test has to be done the last 72 hours before their arrival to Greece, in a reference laboratory of the country of origin or transit, or in a public or a private laboratory which has to be certified from the competent certification authority of the country. Similarly, they must have an attestation of the above diagnosis, in English, which will include their name and passport or ID number.

Source: OFAE

09.04.2020

On 31 March, the Greek Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport decided to suspend traffic bans on the movement of trucks from 16 April until 21 April (Orthodox Easter). The suspension will also apply from 30 April until 3 May (weekend of Labour Day). The same derogations apply to international transport operations in Greece, that are conducted under the provisions of AETR (1970).

Source: OFAE

04.04.2020

On 2 April, the Greek Government published a new Ministerial Decree on the quarantine routine that people entering Greece from abroad must follow. Art. 2 of the decree sets out specific provisions for truck drivers, which are the following:

Workers of all nationalities engaged in international transport operations (land, air, maritime) must, upon entering Greece and without any delay, either transit through the country or reach their final destination within the country. After having reached the final destination in Greece, drivers must commence a temporary isolation period of 14 days.

Derogations to this rule apply in the following cases:

- When there is a need to start a new international transport operation (e.g. bilateral transport). In this case, mandatory quarantine can be lifted at any time, even the day after it started.
01.07.2020

Temporary entry ban to third-country nationals

Greece has issued a temporary entry ban to all third-country nationals from any point of entry into the country, by any means of transport, extended on all sea, rail and road connections. The above restriction does not apply to nationals of member states of the EU as well as nationals of countries of the Schengen agreement including their spouses or couples in civil partnership and their minor children. From the scope of this restriction are excluded citizens of the following countries: Algeria, Australia, Georgia, Canada, Japan, Democracy of Serbia, Montenegro, Morocco, New Zealand, Rwanda, South Korea, People’s Republic of China, Thailand, Tunisia and Uruguay. Citizens of the abovementioned countries are exempted from the sample laboratory checks. In order to prove their place of residence, citizens of third countries may supply a residence permit, or a work permit, or their ID provided that it shows their place of residence, or a driving licence or other documents. From the temporary entry ban to all third-country nationals from any point of entry into the country, by any means of transport are excluded:

- a) medical and nursing staff, researchers and health professionals provided that they show at the points of entry in the country a certificate of professional competence or other documents that document their professional capacity and provided that their entry in the country is related with the exercise of their professional duties
- b) long term residents in member states of the EU and in member states of the Schengen agreement holding a residence permit in EU or Schengen agreement member states
- c) members of government missions
- d) members of diplomatic missions and consulates, members of international and European organizations, members of humanitarian organizations, military staff
- e) staff employed in the transport sector including naval staff, aircraft crews, crews and technical staff of leased aerial fire-fight transport modes, lorry drivers in transit, with the absolutely necessary staff for carriage of goods
- f) passengers in transit
- g) students
- h) people caring for older or disabled people
- i) seasonal workers in the agricultural sector.

Start date: 01.07.2020
End date: 15.07.2020
Further information: https://travel.gov.gr

Source: WCO/Directorate General of Customs and Excise, Independent Authority for Public Revenue (IAPR)
20.03.2020

COVID19 MEASURES

24.1.2020
The Regional Customs Authorities were given guidance so as to instruct the Customs Offices in their Region, to acquire masks and gloves.

24.2.2020
The Regional Customs Authorities were given guidance so as to communicate the hyperlink of the Ministry of Health, with the protective measures to be observed by all staff in the Customs Offices.

28.2.2020
The Directorate General of Customs & Excise requested the allocation of funds for the disinfection of passenger control areas within the Customs Offices, as well as for the provision of special protective suits, masks, eye glasses and boots.

5.3.2020
The Regional Customs Authorities were given guidance so as to instruct the Customs Offices in their Region, to take the necessary steps for the procurement of disinfection services and the coordination of their actions with other Agencies operating on the Border, in Ports and Airports.

9.3.2020
Survey on the implementation of the disinfection measures, the stocks of protective material available and communication of further instructions (Circular Order of the Governor of the Independent Authority for Public Revenue/IAPR).

9.3.2020
A Crisis Management Group for Customs was established under the Director General of Customs & Excise.

14.3.2020
Customs Offices were instructed to have their staff working in alternate shifts (following a Decision of the Governor of the IAPR) in order to prevent spreading of the infection and safeguarding the operation of the Customs Offices in case of an incident during a shift.

16.3.2020
Survey: import data on essential supplies and medicines from all Customs Offices.

- Currently, it remains unclear whether foreign transport operators/drivers will be required to have an attestation form from their employer (as in point 1 of Passenger Transport above). OFAE has requested further clarification from the Greek authorities on this point.

Relieves

Temporary relaxation of EU Regulation No. 561/2006 or AETR
Valid from 19.03.2020 until 18.04.20 (inclusive):

- Art. 6(1): replacement of the maximum daily driving limit of 9 hours with one of 11 hours.
- Art. 6(2): replacement of the maximum weekly driving limit of 56 hours with one of 60 hours.
- Art. 7: replacement of the minimum daily break requirements by imposing a break of 45 minutes after 5 and a half hours.
- Art. 8(1): reduction of the daily rest requirements from 11 to 9 hours.
- Art. 8(6): postponement of a weekly rest period beyond six 24-hour periods.

Source: OFAE
The Regional Customs Authorities were given guidance so as to instruct the Customs Offices in their Region, to observe the guidelines issued by the General Secretariat for Civil Protection on avoiding standing queues in Customs premises (for example by customs brokers) and have those Guidelines pinned up on the entrance doors of the Customs Offices.

Further information: http://www.wcoomd.org/-/media/wco/public/global/....

Advice to travellers (10.03.2020)
The risk for travellers is considered high. It is recommended that travellers avoid nonessential travel to areas with local transmission of COVID-19: https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/situation....

Start date: 10.03.2020
End date: not available


Temporary and limited relaxation of the enforcement of driving and rest times

The Hellenic Republic has notified a temporary relaxation of the enforcement of driving and rest times for all national and international freight transport on Greek territory with public and private use trucks of any nationality. This relaxation is granted pursuant to Article 14(2) of Regulation (EC) No 561/2006.

Start date: 19.03.2020
End date: 17.04.2020

Further information: https://ec.europa.eu/transport/sites/transport/files/temporary-relaxatio...