Sweden

Remarks from the International Road Transport Union
Travelling to Sweden

EU citizens and their family members, and people with Swedish residence permits, are allowed to enter Sweden without restrictions.

Citizens from Norway, Iceland, Switzerland and Liechtenstein are allowed to enter Sweden without restrictions.

Travelling from Sweden or returning to Sweden

The Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs has issued an advisory against non-essential travel to many countries. No such advice is in place for the following countries: Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Croatia, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Monaco, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Switzerland, Spain and the Vatican.

The reasons for the advice against non-essential travel to some countries are the spread of the new coronavirus and the uncertainty that currently applies to foreign travel.

Rules and Exceptions

There is no quarantine requirement for travellers to Sweden.

Mandatory Travel Documentation

Airline operators may require passengers to show a health statement but this is no general requirement for entering Sweden.

Third-country nationals

Sweden has imposed a temporary entry ban to non-essential travels to Sweden across an external border, meaning from other countries than the EU/EEA, except the UK or Switzerland. The decision is currently in effect until 31/10/20 (inclusive).

The ban does not apply to Swedish citizens, nor does it apply to travels inside the EU/EEA area.

There are also several other exceptions, like foreigners who reside in the following select countries: Australia, Georgia, Japan, Canada, New Zealand, Rwanda, South Korea, Thailand, Tunisia and Uruguay.

Citizens of other countries who have particularly urgent needs or who are to carry out essential functions in Sweden can also still be allowed entry. The latest change even includes exemption for students and highly skilled professionals, amongst others.

For more information, please visit polisen.se

Source: DTL

26.05.2020

On 25 May, it was confirmed that relaxations of driving and rest times rules currently in place in Sweden will not be extended further. Therefore, as from 00:00 on 1 June, normal driving and rest time periods will apply.

More information can be found here.

Source: DTL

09.04.2020

The Swedish Transport Agency states that Sweden plans to adopt a temporary and limited relaxation on the enforcement of driving and rest times for the drivers of vehicles transporting all types of goods and transport of passengers.

This temporary relaxation applies from 15 April 2020 and will run until 31 May 2020. This relaxation is granted pursuant to Article 14 (2) of the EU Regulation 5612006. It will apply to all drivers, irrespective of their nationality, when operating on the Swedish territory.

For the above-mentioned category of drivers, the following provisions will be temporarily relaxed as follows:

- Derogation to Article 6(1) of Regulation 561/2006: replacement of the maximum daily driving limit of 9 hours with one of 11 hours.
- Derogation to Article 6(2) of Regulation 561/2006: replacement of the maximum weekly driving limit of 56 hours with one of 60 hours.
- Derogation to Article 6(3) of Regulation 561/2006: replacement of the maximum fortnightly driving limit of 90 hours with one of 120 hours.
- No derogation to Article 7 of Regulation 561/2006.
- Derogation to Article 8(1) of Regulation 561/2006: reduction of the regular daily rest requirements from 11 to 9 hours.
- Derogation to Article 8(6) of Regulation 561/2006: reduction of the regular weekly rest period from 45 hours to 24 hours.
- Derogation to Article 8(8) of Regulation 561/2006: possibility for the driver to take the regular weekly rest shorter than 45 hours in the vehicle, as long as it has suitable sleeping facilities for each driver and the vehicle is stationary.

Source: Transportföretagen

16.03.2020

The Sweden government has taken measures introducing social distancing to prevent the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19). For eight transport activities within, to and from Sweden are not impacted by these measures.

As of March 16th, the Swedish Transport Agency is granting a temporary tolerance concerning the enforcement of driving and resting times rules for freight operations according to EU Regulation No. 561/2006. Exemptions in Sweden apply to daily rest time (minimum 9 hours), weekly rest time (minimum 24 hours) and driving time as long as breaks are taken after a maximum of 4.5 hours driving time. Exemptions are valid for 30 days and are valid for all types of transports (i.e. goods, bus and coach), provided that road safety is not affected [be impaired] when transport companies make use of these exemptions.

Sources: SA and Stoneridge Electronics
Information based on the recommendations of the Public Health Agency is spread throughout the organisation on a regular basis. This include to stay at home if you have any symptoms and to wash your hands with soap and water regularly. Employees that have duties that can be done from home are to work from home. Swedish Customs has taken measures to ensure that there is adequate protective equipment for customs officers in stock, should the situation require the use of such equipment. Information about new regulations and possible regulatory initiatives has been communicated to customs officers, and the internal guidelines regarding the correct use of protective equipment has been updated. All business travels are to be cancelled/postponed except for those essential (which is to be decided by management).

So far, Swedish Customs has not encountered any unexpected challenges, the organization is adjusting to the new situation and we have crisis teams at both national and regional level that coordinate the work. Neither are we experiencing any disruptions caused by shortage in personnel, due to sick leave, so far.

Web-links to any relevant documents:

The website of Swedish Customs is updated with the information directly relating to customs matters: www.tullverket.se

Most relevant Swedish weblinks for information concerning covid-19 would be
- Public Health Agency of Sweden: https://www.folkhalsomyndigheten.se/the-public-healthagency-of-sweden/
- Swedish Government Offices: https://www.government.se/
- Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency: https://www.msb.se/en/

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

Sweden notified a temporary and limited relaxation of the enforcement of driving and rest times. This relaxation is granted pursuant to Article 14(2) of Regulation (EC) No 561/2006. It will apply to those drivers involved in domestic and international transports.

Start date: 16.03.2020
End date: 14.04.2020

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

Ban on non-essential travel from third countries

Following a call by the European Council and European Commission the Swedish Government has banned non-essential travel to Sweden from all countries except European Union Member States, the United Kingdom, Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Switzerland. This do not apply on Swedish citizens, third-country nationals, travellers with an essential function or need etc.

Start date: 17.03.2020
End date: 30.06.2020

More info: https://www.government.se

Source: https://ec.europa.eu/transport/coronavirus-response_en