

# Serbia



Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs - Republic of Serbia

31.07.2021

## COVID-19 – Entry Conditions

### ENTRY REGIME FOR CITIZENS OF THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA, STAFF OF FOREIGN DIPLOMATIC-CONSULAR MISSIONS AND OFFICES OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND FOREIGN CITIZENS WITH REGULATED STAY IN THE REPUBLIC

Citizens of the Republic of Serbia, staff of foreign diplomatic and consular missions and offices of international organizations (including members of their families who are holders of special identity cards or identification documents) and foreign citizens who have been granted temporary residence or permanent residence in the Republic of Serbia, when entering the Republic of Serbia, need to attach one of the following documents:

1. **Negative RT-PCR test** for the presence of SARS-CoV-2 virus or a **negative Antigen FIA Rapid test, if the person comes from the United States of America**, not older than **48 hours** from the date of issue of the results (if there is a delay in entering the Republic of Serbia, which cannot be attributed to the passenger's fault, but is a consequence of an external event that could not have been foreseen, avoided or eliminated – delay of the flight, the departure of buses, trains, etc, then the test cannot be older than 72 hours when entering the Republic of Serbia);
2. **Certificate of complete vaccination** issued by the competent health institution of the Republic of Serbia, i.e. the competent authority of the foreign state in which the person was vaccinated;
3. **Certificate of overcome COVID-19 disease** – a certificate or other public document stating that the holder of the document has overcome the disease caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus, i.e. that this person has been diagnosed with the SARS-CoV-2 virus, provided that no less than 14 days or more than six months may elapse from the first test, issued by the Institute of Public Health established for the territory of the Republic of Serbia, i.e. the competent authority of the state with which the Republic of Serbia has **concluded an agreement or de facto reciprocity** on the recognition of such documents (CROATIA, GERMANY, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, SWITZERLAND, DENMARK, LUXEMBOURG, SPAIN, AUSTRIA, BULGARIA, GREECE, ANDORA, SAN MARINO, SLOVENIA, TUNISIA, TURKEY, ROMANIA).

Persons who do not have any of the above documents, during passport control, are given a written notice – a health warning about the obligation to comply **with the measure of quarantine at home for 10 days**, from the date of crossing the state border, and are reminded of the obligation to report to the competent COVID clinic or territorially competent public health institution within 24 hours from the hour of crossing the state border (via an electronic application on the website: [www.e-zdravlje.gov.rs](http://www.e-zdravlje.gov.rs)).

The specified restrictions do not apply to:

### Remarks from the International Road Transport Union

17.08.2020

Non-nationals coming from North Macedonia, Bulgaria, Romania and Croatia will only be permitted to enter Serbia if they have a negative PCR COVID-19 test, not older than 48 hours, issued by the health authorities in their country of residence or the country from which they are entering Serbia.

The conditions for entry into Serbia shall not apply to Serbian nationals coming from the abovementioned countries or to non-nationals who :

- Are in transit through Serbia, if they are:

(1) crew of freight motor vehicles performing international road transport. Those involved in the international transport of goods by road in transit may spend a maximum of 12 hours in Serbia;

(2) the crew and cabin crew of aircraft of which the final destination is Serbia and crew and passengers transiting through international airports in Serbia.

- Are accredited members of the staff of foreign diplomatic and consular missions and offices of international organisations, as well as the members of their families who have special identity cards (identification documents issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the General Secretariat of the Government).

- Are children up to 12 years of age, if their accompanying parent or guardian has a negative test.

- Have temporary or permanent residence in Serbia.

Source: Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Serbia (CCIS)

30.06.2020

As of 30 June, all COVID-19 related entry restrictions are lifted for both Serbian and foreign citizens. It is no longer necessary to have a negative PCR test or special permit to enter Serbia. The government also abolished self-isolation requirements upon entry. Travellers should be prepared for restrictions to change with little notice. The [website](#) of the government provides regular information on these measures.

Intercity, urban and suburban bus and rail transport operations have resumed; face masks are mandatory when using public transport in Belgrade.

Source: Serbian government

26.05.2020

On 20 May, the Serbian government announced the end of their state of emergency and the reopening of all border crossing points, with effect from 21 May. There will be no restrictions in place for people entering the country; the border force will however provide hand written guidance on how to prevent the occurrence and the spreading of Covid-19.

Source: Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Serbia

03.04.2020

In order to limit the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) into the territory of the Republic of Serbia, the Government has taken measures through different decree (unofficial translation [here](#)).

1. Citizens of the Republic of Serbia, staff of foreign diplomatic and consular missions and offices of international organizations and foreign citizens with regulated residence in the Republic of Serbia, coming from: **the Republic of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Bulgaria, the Republic of Northern Macedonia, Hungary, the Republic of Croatia and Montenegro;**
2. Persons from the border area who perform agricultural work and have agricultural land in the border area of the Republic of Serbia, i.e. the border area of a neighboring state, and who are obliged to have proof of ownership over agricultural land when crossing the state border, in order to perform agricultural work on that land, or a statement of the owner of the agricultural land that the person is performing agricultural work on his land;
3. Persons who are residents of the border area and who are employed on the territory of the Republic of Serbia, i.e. the neighboring state, to whom the employer from the Republic of Serbia, i.e. the neighboring state, has issued a document on employment;
4. Crew and cabin crew of the aircraft whose final destination is the Republic of Serbia;
5. Crew of a transport vehicle when performing international air, road, rail and water traffic;
6. Humanitarian convoys contracted through diplomacy;
7. Minors up to 12 years of age;
8. Persons who stayed outside the territory of the Republic of Serbia for less than 48 hours, and have a negative RT-PCR test for the presence of SARS-CoV-2 virus issued by a reference laboratory in the Republic of Serbia, not older than 48 hours before the first exit from the Republic of Serbia.

## ENTRY REGIME FOR FOREIGN CITIZENS

**Foreign citizens are allowed to enter the Republic of Serbia provided that they have one of the following documents:**

Among the different measures, it is stated that foreign nationals shall be temporarily banned from entering the Republic of Serbia. These measures do not apply to the following categories, among others:

- **the crew of freight motor vehicles while performing international transport by road.** In case of international transit freight transport by road, the same shall be limited to a period not longer than 12 hours from the moment of entering the territory of the Republic of Serbia.

**Police escort for trucks in transit through Serbia has been abolished as of 2 April 2020**, which will enable faster transportation of goods to end customers. Trucks in transit can stop only at **designated resting points and fuel stations** marked with a TRANSIT sign. Drivers will receive a map of the dedicated resting points at the border crossing points. Stopping or parking out of these specific points is strictly forbidden and will be subject to sanctions. Drivers must wear protective masks and gloves.

Please note that 45 borders are now temporarily closed (list [here](#)) and that international road freight operations should be redirected to the open borders.

**Source: CCIS-AT**

1. **Negative RT-PCR test** for the presence of SARS-CoV-2 virus or a **negative Antigen FIA Rapid test, if the person comes from the United States of America**, not older than **48 hours** from the date of issue of the results (if there is a delay in entering the Republic of Serbia, which cannot be attributed to the passenger's fault, but is a consequence of an external event that could not have been foreseen, avoided or eliminated – delay of the flight, the departure of buses, trains, etc, then the test cannot be older than 72 hours when entering the Republic of Serbia);
2. **Certificate of complete vaccination** issued by the Republic of Serbia, i.e. a foreign state with which the Republic of Serbia has concluded **an agreement on the recognition of vaccination** (GREECE, HUNGARY, ROMANIA, SLOVENIA\*, TURKEY, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, CZECH REPUBLIC) or with which there is de facto reciprocity in the recognition of the vaccination certificate;(CROATIA, SLOVAKIA, GEORGIA, MOROCCO, CYPRUS, LEBANON, MOLDOVA, SAN MARINO, TUNISIA, ARMENIA);
3. **Certificate of overcome COVID-19 disease** – a certificate or other public document stating that the holder of the document has overcome the disease caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus, i.e. that this person has been diagnosed with the SARS-CoV-2 virus, provided that no less than 14 days or more than six months may elapse from the first test, issued by the Institute of Public Health established for the territory of the Republic of Serbia, i.e. the competent authority of the state with which the Republic of Serbia has **concluded an agreement or de facto reciprocity** on the recognition of such documents (CROATIA, GERMANY, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, SWITZERLAND, DENMARK, LUXEMBOURG, SPAIN, AUSTRIA, BULGARIA, GREECE, ANDORA, SAN MARINO, SLOVENIA, TUNISIA, TURKEY, ROMANIA).

\*Beside a vaccination certificate, all tests for the presence of SARS-CoV-2 are recognized (negative PCR-test or HAGT, not older than 48 hours). Citizens of Republic of Slovenia that have been infected with Covid 19 virus within the last 180 days, as well as those who received the first dose of the vaccine against COVID-19 within a maximum of eight months after infection, are allowed to enter the Republic of Serbia provided they hold a certificate of recovery from COVID-19. Furthermore, minors of up to 15 years of age are allowed to enter the Republic of Serbia without quarantine or a negative PCR test if they are accompanied by a close family members who meet the criteria for entering the country without quarantine.

**The specified restrictions do not apply to:**

1. Citizens of **the Republic of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Bulgaria, Hungary, the Republic of Northern Macedonia and Montenegro**, when entering the Republic of Serbia from those countries which they are citizens of;
2. Persons who **are not citizens** of the Republic of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Bulgaria, Hungary, the Republic of Northern Macedonia and Montenegro, and **have been granted temporary residence or permanent residence in those countries**, are allowed to enter the Republic of Serbia, provided that they submit a negative RT-PCR test or antigen test for the presence of the SARS-CoV-2 virus, issued by the reference laboratory of the Republic of Serbia, to the territorially competent public health institution within 48 hours from the time of crossing the state border;
3. Foreign citizens in transit through the Republic of Serbia – a period not longer than 12 hours from the moment of entry into the territory of the Republic of Serbia;
4. Crew and cabin crew of aircraft whose final destination is the Republic of Serbia or who are in transit, or transfer, via international airports of the Republic of Serbia;
5. Minors up to 12 years of age;
6. Members of foreign military, police and other security services who are in transit through the territory of the Republic of Serbia or come to the Republic of Serbia to perform official tasks with prior notice;
7. Citizens of the Republic of Croatia who are full-time or part-time students at higher education institutions in the Republic of Serbia, and who prove their status with a public document issued by a higher education institution of the Republic of Serbia – student's book (index);
8. Crews of cargo motor vehicles during international road transport, for taking over or unloading goods or for transporting persons in or through the Republic of Serbia, crews of cargo ships transporting goods to one of the domestic ports during transport in international waters; bus crews in regular and international passenger transport, both in transit and in the case when the final or departure destination is the Republic of Serbia; crews of railway vehicles and train staff during the performance of international transport in railway traffic; aircraft crews performing international air transport services and crews, personnel and escorts of humanitarian convoys contracted through diplomacy;
9. Citizens of neighboring countries from the border area who perform agricultural work and have agricultural land in the territory of the Republic of Serbia, and who are obliged to have proof of ownership of agricultural land or a statement of the owner of agricultural land that the person is performing agricultural work on his land, in order to perform agricultural work on that land, subject to reciprocity;
10. Citizens of neighboring countries who are residents of the border area and who are employed in the territory of the Republic of Serbia, to whom the employer from the Republic of Serbia has issued a document on employment, subject to reciprocity.

## IMPORTANT

**Minors** (domestic or foreign citizens) aged **12 to 18**, may enter the Republic of Serbia without a negative RT-PCR test for the presence of SARS-CoV-2 virus or a negative FIA Rapid Antigen test, i.e. without a vaccination certificate or a certificate of overcome disease, if they, within 48 hours from the time of crossing the state border, submit to the territorially competent public health institute in the Republic of Serbia, either a RT-PCR test or an antigen test for the presence of SARS-CoV-2 virus, issued by the reference laboratory of the Republic of Serbia.

## ENTRY REGIME FROM COUNTRIES OF SPECIAL RISK

All travelers, no matter their nationality, that are arriving to Serbia from countries of special risk of spread of Covid-19 virus (INDIA) are allowed to enter Serbia if they present one of the following documents:

- 1. Negative PCR test result** for presence of SARS-CoV-2, not older than 48 hours from the date of issuing by a competent national laboratory in country from which they are arriving from (if there is a delay in entering the Republic of Serbia, which cannot be attributed to the passenger's fault, but is a consequence of an external event that could not have been foreseen, avoided or eliminated – delay of the flight, the departure of buses, trains, etc., then the test cannot be older than 72 hours when entering the Republic of Serbia).
- 2. Certificate of completed vaccination** issued by the Republic of Serbia, i.e. a foreign state with which the Republic of Serbia has concluded an agreement on the recognition of vaccination or with which there is a de facto reciprocity in the recognition of the vaccination certificate.
- 3. Certificate of overcome COVID-19 disease** – a certificate or other public document stating that the holder of the document has overcome the disease caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus, i.e. that this person has been diagnosed with the SARS-CoV-2 virus, provided that no less than 14 days and no more than six months may elapse from the first test, issued by the Institute of Public Health established for the territory of the Republic of Serbia, i.e. the competent authority of the state with which the Republic of Serbia has concluded an agreement or de facto reciprocity on the recognition of such documents.

**FOREIGN CITIZENS** must additionally present:

1. An e-mail received after registration via following link [www.e-zdravlje.gov.rs](http://www.e-zdravlje.gov.rs), section „Foreigners Surveillance Registration“, as a proof of successful registration prior to arrival to Serbia.
2. Filled in and personally signed [statement of consent](#) of acceptance of quarantine measures at home

SERBIAN CITIZENS after arrival to Serbia are obliged to immediately and without delay contact by phone their territorially competent Institute of Public Health established for the territory of the Republic of Serbia and Sanitary Inspection in order to be put in quarantine measures of home self-isolation.

All persons, after entry into Serbia, will receive mandatory quarantine measures for 7 days in home self-isolation with mandatory testing within the first 24 hours from entry and mandatory testing on the 7<sup>th</sup> day from the start of the measures. Testing will be done by the Institute of Public Health at the expense of the person being tested.

## ENTRY INTO SERBIA FOR BUSINESS REASONS

Domestic and foreign citizens entering the Republic of Serbia for business reasons, with prior notification of the Serbian Chamber of Commerce, are allowed to enter the Republic of Serbia provided that they submit a negative RT-PCR test or an antigen test for the presence of SARS-CoV-2 virus to the Serbian Chamber of Commerce, issued by the reference laboratory of the Republic of Serbia, within 24 hours of crossing the state border.

The Chamber of Commerce of Serbia will submit the announcement of crossing the state border without delay to the Ministry of Interior – Border Police Directorate, no later than 24 hours before the expected crossing of the state border.

If a negative RT-PCR test or antigen test for the presence of SARS-CoV-2 virus is not submitted within 24 hours of crossing the state border or if the test is positive for the presence of SARS-CoV-2 virus, the Serbian Chamber of Commerce will without delay inform the territorially competent public health institute about it.

Further information: <https://www.srbija.gov.rs/>

<https://www.mfa.gov.rs/en/citizens/travel-serbia/covid-19-entry-requirements>



**Source: WCO**

23.04.2020

### **1. Measures aiming to Facilitate the Cross-border Movement of Relief and Essential Supplies**

In the Western Balkan Region some crossing points at which customs and other inspection agencies are present, have been designated as the ones at which the traffic flow of all goods is guaranteed 24/7.

In addition to this, specific crossing points are determined to form so called "Green Corridor" in the Region. These crossing points ensure the traffic flow of all goods, giving priority to the essential goods. The single, previously agreed, List of the essential goods contains the food and feed essential products and the World Customs Organisation list of the medical supplies. Depending on the needs of the CEFTA Parties the list of the essential goods may be reassessed and modified. Prioritized movement of the above said essential goods is secured through electronic dissemination of pre-arrival information within the IT System named "System of Electronic Exchange of Data" (SEED) that is in use in whole Region. SEED notifications on the arrival of priority consignments are sent in advance to all agencies involved in clearance of goods, in order for the agencies to prepare in advance and give to those consignments a priority passage. Mixed consignments, transporting the essential products from the List and the ones out of List, are given priority treatment, as well.

Recognition of the essential goods is based on the input of tariff HS code at the level on 8 or 6 digits made in customs export/transit declarations.

Additional information on this initiative in Serbian language can be found at our official web site (<https://www.carina.rs/cyr/Stranice/CEFTACovid19.aspx>), and in English at the following links:

<https://cefta.int/news/the-system-of-electronic-exchange-of-data-upgraded-to-support-facilitation-of-transport-and-trade-of-essential-goods-amid-covid-19/>  
<https://cefta.int/covid-19/>  
<https://www.transport-community.org/covid-19-news/>  
[https://www.transport-community.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Joint-TCT-CEFTA-proposal-green-corridors\\_07042020.pdf](https://www.transport-community.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Joint-TCT-CEFTA-proposal-green-corridors_07042020.pdf)

## **2. Measures aiming at Supporting the Economy and Sustaining Supply Chain Continuity**

The Government of the Republic of Serbia has passed a number of Regulations, Conclusions and Decisions in this area, out of which we single out the following:

2.1. Regulation on usage of budget funds of the Republic of Serbia during a state of emergency due to COVID-19 caused by SARS-CoV-2 „Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia“, number 38 of 20 March 2020.

2.2. Regulation on tax measures for mitigation of economic consequences due to Covid-19 caused by SARS-CoV-2 „Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia“, number 38 of 20 March 2020.

2.3. Regulation on conditions and criteria on state aid compatibility to remedy adverse consequences caused by outbreak of COVID-19 infectious disease „Official Gazette of the RS“, number 54 of 10 April 2020.

2.4. Regulation on conditions and criteria on state aid compatibility to remedy a serious disturbance to the economy caused by outbreak of COVID-19 infectious disease „Official Gazette of the RS“, number 54 of 10 April 2020.

2.5. Regulation on determining the Programme of financial support to economic operators to maintain liquidity and working capital in hampered economic conditions due to COVID-19 pandemics caused by SARS-CoV-2 „Official Gazette of the RS“, number 54 of 10 April 2020.

2.6. Regulation on determining a guarantee scheme as a measure of support to the economy for mitigation of consequences of COVID-19 pandemics caused by SARS-CoV-2 „Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia“, number 57 of 16 April 2020.

2.7. Regulation on monetary aid to the farm households to mitigate consequences due to COVID-19 caused by SARS-CoV-2 „Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia“, number 57 of 16 April 2020.

2.8. Regulation on financial support to the farm households through facilitated access to utilization of loans in hampered economic conditions due to COVID-19 caused by SARS-CoV-2 „Official Gazette of the RS“, number 57 of 16 April 2020.

2.9. Regulation on fiscal benefits and direct benefits to the private sector economic operators and monetary aid to the citizens to mitigate economic consequences of COVID-19 „Official Gazette of the RS“, number 54 of 10 April 2020.

### **3. Measures aiming at Protecting Customs administrations' Staff**

The Government of the Republic of Serbia and its institutions has passed a number of Regulations, Decisions and Recommendations in this area, out of which we single out the following:

3.1. Regulation on organization of work of employers during a state of emergency „Official Gazette of the RS“, number 31 of 16 March 2020 (work from home, shift work, protective and disinfection products supply).

3.2. Decision on amendments to the Civil Servants Code (obligation of the supervisor to organize the work in a way that reduces the risk for employees, required communication is done over the telephone, via e-mails or conference calls, and when it comes to the meetings that must be held in the office, shaking hands is not allowed, the meetings are restricted to 20 minutes with the presence of maximum 4 persons, a room where the meeting is held shall be large enough to enable physical distance between the attendees).

3.3. Notification of the Ministry of Finance of the measures during coronavirus caused pandemic (increased hygiene measures, complying with measures stipulated in the above said Code, obligation of both the supervisors and the competent health authorities to report health issues and contacts with infected persons).

### **4. Measures aiming at Protecting Society**

The Government of the Republic of Serbia has passed a number of Decisions in this area, adjusting adopted measures to the current situation in the country, out of which we single out the following:

4.1. Decision on proclaiming COVID-19 disease caused by SARS-CoV-2 virus as infectious disease (“Official Gazette of the RS”, Nos. 23 /20...49/20)

4.2. Decision on closing border crossing points (“Official Gazette of the RS”, Nos. 25/20...47/20)

4.3. Decision on medicine export ban (“Official Gazette of the RS”, No. 28/2020)

4.4. Decision amending Decision on medicine export ban (“Official Gazette of the RS”, No.33/2020)



4.5. Decision on temporary ban of essential products export ("Official Gazette of the RS", No 28/2020) CEASED TO BE VALID ON APRIL 13, 2020

4.6. Decision amending and changing Decision on temporary ban of essential products export ("Official Gazette of the RS", No. 33/2020)

4.7. Decision amending Decision on temporary ban of essential products export ("Official Gazette of the RS", No. 37/2020).

4.8. Decision on medicine export ban („Official Gazette of the RS" no. 32/2020, 33/2020, 47/2020)

4.9. Decision on temporary ban of essential products export ("Official Gazette of the RS", No 54/2020) CAME INTO FORCE ON APRIL 10, 2020 AND APPLIED FROM APRIL 13, 2020

Further Information: [http://www.wcoomd.org/-/media/.....natural-disaster/covid\\_19/serbia\\_en.pdf?la=en](http://www.wcoomd.org/-/media/.....natural-disaster/covid_19/serbia_en.pdf?la=en)



Starting from Sunday (22 march), curfew has been extended for all citizens from 5 PM to 5 AM.

The Serbian Government has taken a decision to close all border crossings/entry points for passenger traffic from 8.00 AM (Friday 20 March). This includes air, road, railway and water border crossing/entry points. In accordance with this decision, only heavy vehicles for cargo transport are allowed to enter the territory of the Republic of Serbia.

Intercity bus and rail passenger traffic is suspended from 12.00 on Friday, but citizens are left with the possibility of travelling by private cars.

18 March.

The Serbian Government has taken a decision to close all border crossings/entry points for passenger traffic from 8.00 AM (Friday 20 March). This includes air, road, railway and water border crossing/entry points. In accordance with this decision, only heavy vehicles for cargo transport are allowed to enter the territory of the Republic of Serbia.

Intercity bus and rail passenger traffic is suspended from 12.00 on Friday, but citizens are left with the possibility of travelling by private cars.