



Fact Sheet for Travel to the Cook Islands at 12 August 2020

In response to the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak, as of 27 February 2020 the Cook Islands has established COVID-19 as a notifiable and dangerous condition under Schedule 2 of the Public Health Act (2004). Since this time and as at 12 August 2020, the Cook Islands have no confirmed cases of COVID-19. Our national approach to COVID-19 has therefore been one of preparedness, with key efforts centered on fortifying our borders (air and sea ports).

COVID-19 Travel Restrictions

Pursuant to Section 9A of the Entry Residence and Departure Act (1972) and as provided for under Schedule 2 of the Public Health Act (2004), the following restriction is in place for entry to the Cook Islands:

All persons are denied entry into the Cook Islands unless there is an exemption provided (in writing) by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Immigration.

Effective from 11.59pm Wednesday 12th August 2020 (CKT), the following people are exempted for entry into the Cook Islands, provided they additionally meet the entry criteria specified below;

- i. Cook Islanders (as verified via Cook Islands Status stamp)*
- ii. Permanent Residents of the Cook Islands*
- iii. Cook Islands work permit holders*
- iv. Cook Islands resident permit holders*

Entry criteria

- Must have spent the last 14 days in New Zealand prior to entry into the Cook Islands
- Must have confirmation of medical clearance from Te Marae Ora Ministry of Health (TMO), verifying negative COVID-19 test result within 72 hours prior to travel

There will be no exemptions to the announced travel restrictions except for essential medical personnel travelling to the Cook Islands specifically to contribute to the COVID-19 response.

All travellers must comply with any New Zealand Government issued border requirements and approvals for exit from New Zealand, which may include exit screening and pre-departure health risk declaration.

While not a requirement for entry, travellers should be aware of an additional mandatory requirement on arrival in to the Cook Islands, to undergo Supervised Quarantine and Medical Clearance for 14 days on and a COVID-19 testing regime in their homes, as managed by TMO.

For further clarification and guidance on securing medical clearance from TMO, travellers are encouraged to consult the Cook Islands COVID-19 information portal in the first instance at www.covid-19.gov.ck or to contact TMO directly at the following;

- Email: tmo.exemptions@cookislands.gov.ck
- Phone: +682 29 110

For further clarification and/or guidance on immigration entry criteria for the Cook Islands, please contact the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Immigration directly at the following;

- Email: chere.arthur@cookislands.gov.ck and immigration2@cookislands.gov.ck
- Phone: +682 29 347