

Measures introduced in Member countries related to COVID-19

Country: Bulgaria

Date: 12/08/2020

Measure related to:	Restriction period		Temporary exemptions (e.g. weekend bans, driving and rest hours, etc.)	
	From	To	Type	Period
<p>Goods:</p> <p>Goods vehicle drivers engaged in the international carriage of goods are allowed to enter or transit the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria.</p> <p>Transit is only allowed when immediate departure from Bulgarian territory is guaranteed.</p> <p>In case a goods vehicle driver carrying goods to a country other than Bulgaria is allowed to transit Bulgaria, but due to an entry ban imposed by a border country cannot leave Bulgaria, the Road Infrastructure Agency shall designate a place where the vehicle and driver must stay until the ban is lifted.</p> <p>Upon entry to Bulgarian territory goods vehicle drivers carrying out or completing an international transport operation of goods are not required to submit a document showing a negative result from a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test for the detection of Covid-19 and are not subject to 14-day quarantine.</p>	11 August 2020	31 August 2020		11 August 2020 – 31 August 2020

Passengers:				
<p>1. Temporary entry ban to all persons, irrespective of their nationality, through all border-crossing points, travelling by air, sea, railway and road transport.</p> <p>2. An exception to the entry ban is allowed for:</p> <p>(a) Bulgarian nationals, nationals of EU member states, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Schengen countries (incl. San Marino, Andorra, Monaco and the Vatican) and members of their families (incl. persons who are in a de facto cohabitation with them); nationals of the Commonwealth of Australia, Canada, Georgia, Japan, New Zealand, the Republic of Ruanda, the Republic of Korea, the Kingdom of Thailand, the Republic of Tunisia, the Eastern Republic of Uruguay, the United Arab Emirates, Ukraine, the Republic of North Macedonia, the Republic of Serbia, the Republic of Albania, Kosovo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, the Republic of Moldova, Israel and the State of Kuwait; persons with permanent or long-term residence status on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria and members of their families, persons holding a Bulgarian long-term residence visa type “D” as well as persons holding a residence permit in an EU member state, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland or in a Schengen country (incl. San Marino, Andorra, Monaco and the Vatican) and members of their families;</p>	11 August 2020	31 August 2020		11 August 2020 – 31 August 2020

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">(b) medical professionals, medical scientists and social workers, and their managers, where the purpose of their journey is related to their job;(c) workers involved in the supply of medicinal products, medical devices and personal protective equipment, medical equipment, including its installation and maintenance;(d) transport personnel engaged in the international carriage of passengers and goods, crews of aircraft, persons engaged in aircraft servicing and other transport personnel as necessary, including vessel crews and persons engaged in vessel maintenance;(e) foreign officials (heads of state, members of governments, etc.) and members of their delegations as well as diplomats, administrative and technical personnel of foreign representations, officials of international organizations, military personnel, security and public order services' officers and humanitarian workers when performing their duties as well as members of their families;(f) persons traveling for humanitarian reasons within the meaning of § 1 (16) of the additional provisions of the Law on Foreigners in the Republic of Bulgaria;(g) representatives of trade, economic and investment activities and persons directly involved in the construction, maintenance, operation and security of the strategic and critical infrastructure of the Republic of Bulgaria, implementation of projects certified under the Investment Promotion Act, analyses of potential investors' projects and other activities relevant to the country's economy, certified by a letter from the | | | | | | | | |
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Minister of Economy or another minister responsible for the respective activity, as well as persons involved in shipbuilding and ship repair, as well as members of their families. The letter from the respective minister shall be presented to the border control authorities;

- (h) seasonal workers in tourism and agriculture;
- (i) frontier workers;
- (j) persons traveling for training purposes to carry out activities related to the completion of the 2019/2020 school year as well as for practical training and practice examinations and for the preparation of the 2020/2021 school year, when remote implementation of these activities is impossible;
- (k) organisers and participants in international sports competitions – for the duration of the respective sports event, certified by a letter from the Minister of Youth and Sports, in which the names of the persons and the place (address) of stay in Bulgaria are specified. The letter shall be presented to the border control authorities;
- (l) foreign nationals, to receive a decree under the Bulgarian Citizenship Act, certified by a letter of the Minister of Justice.

3. An exception to the entry ban is also allowed in relation to transit through the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria to:

- (a) persons who are allowed to enter the Republic of Bulgaria under point 2;
- (b) nationals of the Republic of Turkey in order to return to the country of nationality.

4. Transit is only allowed when immediate departure from Bulgarian territory is guaranteed.

5. All persons who are allowed to enter the country under point 2 and who arrive from a starting-point of departure in an EU member state, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, a Schengen country (incl. San Marino, Andorra, Monaco and the Vatican), the Commonwealth of Australia, Canada, Georgia, Japan, New Zealand, the Republic of Ruanda, the Republic of Korea, the Kingdom of Thailand, the Republic of Tunisia, the Eastern Republic of Uruguay, the United Arab Emirates and Ukraine shall be admitted to the territory of the country without the need to present a document showing a negative result from a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test for the detection of Covid-19.

6. All persons who are allowed to enter the country under point 2 and who arrive from a starting-point of departure in all third countries other than those referred to in point 5 shall be admitted to the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria upon submission of a document showing a negative result from a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test for the detection of Covid-19 carried out up to 72 hours prior to their entry into the country as of the date of the testing entered in the document.

7. The document under point 6 must contain the full name of the person in accordance with the ID he/she is travelling with, details of the laboratory, which carried out the test (name, address or other contact details), date when the test was carried out, method of testing (PCR) and negative result (Negative)

written in Latin letters allowing for the document to be interpreted.

8. A country from which a person arrives shall mean the country that is the starting-point of their departure, regardless of their stay or transit through other countries along their journey.

9. An exception to the requirement under item 6 is allowed for:

- (a) Bulgarian nationals and nationals of other EU member states, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Schengen countries (incl. San Marino, Andorra, Monaco and the Vatican) who are persons under item 2 (f) and (g);
- (b) bus and coach drivers performing international passenger transport;
- (c) goods vehicle drivers carrying out or completing an international transport operation of goods upon entry to Bulgarian territory;
- (d) members of vessel crews who are Bulgarian nationals;
- (e) persons under item 2(b),(c),(e) and (i) irrespective of their nationality;
- (f) Bulgarian state administration officials posted for a short duration under the Regulation on posting and specializations abroad when performing their duties;
- (g) crew members of an aircraft flying to and from public-use airports within the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria and persons engaged in aircraft servicing;
- (h) persons transiting Bulgarian territory.

<p>10. Bulgarian nationals and persons with permanent or long-term residence status on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria and members of their families under point 6 that fail to submit a document showing a negative result from a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test for the detection of Covid-19 carried out up to 72 hours prior to their entry into the country are subject to 14-day quarantine either at home or at a place of residence designated by them under directions issued by the Director of the respective regional health inspectorate or a duly authorized official.</p> <p>11. The Director of the respective regional health inspectorate may revoke the issued directions for quarantine to the persons under point 10 upon submission of a document showing a negative result from a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test for the detection of Covid-19 carried out within 24 hours from their entry into the country.</p>				
<p>Useful links: https://www.mfa.bg/en/customnews/main/24737 https://www.mh.government.bg/en/ https://www.mtitc.government.bg https://www.rta.government.bg</p>				
<p>Contact: gvladimirova@rta.government.bg</p>				