Restrictions

French authorities are allowing non-French professional drivers and French drivers operating international transport to use the form provided by Annex 3 of the EC communication on green lanes - Template of Certificate for International Transport Workers – to enter France. These measures are however not applicable for national transport.

On 20 March 2020, the French Government published a number of additional requirements for passenger transport by bus, coach and taxi, and road freight transport:

- Bus and coach
  - Vehicles must be disinfected once per day.
  - The front door of multi-door vehicles can no longer be used by passengers, unless the driver is completely protected by a transparent barrier.
  - The social distancing rules must be displayed on the vehicle.
  - Tickets are no longer sold on board.

- Taxi
  - Passengers can no longer sit next to the driver.
  - The driver can refuse passengers with visible symptoms of the COVID-19 virus.

- Road freight transport (conditions are applicable to drivers and staff at loading and unloading points)
  - Social distancing rules must be observed.
  - Where there is no access to water, disinfectant gel must be made available.
  - No personal contact is allowed when signing contracts.
Goods can only be delivered at the place indicated on the transport document.
- Home delivery is only possible by leaving the goods at the door. No physical contact with the customer is permitted.
- Delays for complaints about the delivery have been set.

FNTR and other French transport associations published guidelines on best practices that workers of goods transport and logistics companies must follow to ensure the continuation of activities whilst preventing the spread of Covid-19 virus. Guidelines can be downloaded and consulted here.

Relieves

Following considerable disruption on the road encountered by road freight transport and logistics operators following the announcement of the lockdown, the French Government has issued new measures to facilitate freight transport.

These include guarantees for access for freight transport and logistics workers to their workplace and to loading and unloading places, extra protection for freight transport and logistics workers and a derogation to keep stores, restaurants and sanitary facilities open at service stations.

The text of the announcement can be found here. On 23 April, APRR provided updates and details on the activities of some rest areas in France that are open to truck drivers. Details can be found here and here. A map showing restaurants that are open is also available online.

On 25 March, AFTRI has shared a communication and a map on the situation of some service and rest areas in Brittany and Pays de la Loire.

According to a decree published on 20 March and an official e-mail answer seen by the IRU and following the confirmation by IRU’s Member Associations in France, FNTR and AFTRI, we inform that a crew of two drivers in the cabin is allowed in France (but not a crew of three), as long as the minimum distance of 1 meter is respected.

On 10 June, FNTR received the following clarifications from national authorities: drivers do not have to present a declaration that certifies the absence of Covid-19 symptoms, nor the lack of contact with a positive case. The Decree of 31 May sets...
out a declaration of lack of symptoms which is only mandatory for air passengers, and optional for sea and inland waterway passengers. Moreover, road transport workers are not obligated to obtain a declaration from the client that certifies that their work cannot be postponed.

On 25 June, SFTRF and SITAF decided to amend the rules on access to the Fréjus Road Tunnel for Euro 3 and Euro 4 goods vehicles over 3.5 tonnes. It was decided at first to ban these vehicles from using the tunnel as of 1 July 2020. However, in the context of the current Covid-19 pandemic, there is now a derogation of this rule.

From 1 July until 30 September 2020, Euro 3 and Euro 4 goods vehicles over 3.5 tonnes can still drive through the Fréjus Road Tunnel provided that the vehicle owners have already ordered replacement greener vehicles (Euro 5 or Euro 6). A declaration has to be filled out (in Italian, French or English).

**SOURCE:** AFTRI, FNTR and CONFETRA