



# TRAVEL PROTOCOLS

## Domestic Travel Protocols

1. Every person traveling within The Bahamas is required to apply, and be accepted for a Bahamas Travel Health Visa prior to travel. This document is to be presented to airline agents/pilots and boat captains/operators before boarding takes place.
2. **Unvaccinated Travelers** departing from New Providence, Grand Bahama, Bimini, Exuma, Abaco, North and South Eleuthera (including Harbour Island) to any other island; are required to upload a Negative RT-PCR Test result during The Bahamas Travel Health Visa trip application process. Traveling from any other island does not require a RT-PCR test for travel.  
**Fully Vaccinated Travelers** departing from New Providence, Grand Bahama, Bimini, Exuma, Abaco, North and South Eleuthera (including Harbour Island) to any other island; will be required to upload their Vaccination Card and either a negative RT-PCR Test result or a Rapid Antigen Test result during The Bahamas Travel Health Visa trip application process. Traveling from any other island does not require a vaccination card and COVID-19 test result for travel.
3. All children between the ages of 2 - 11 years old will be required to upload a negative COVID-19 test result (Rapid Antigen or PCR), within 5 days before travel when departing from New Providence, Grand Bahama, Bimini, Exuma, Abaco, North and South Eleuthera (including Harbour Island) to any other island.
4. Children younger than 2 years old, or pilots and crew of a commercial airline who are not staying more than one night in The Bahamas are exempt from the RT-PCR COVID-19 test/Vaccination Card upload requirement.
5. A person with a domestic Travel Health Visa will be allowed to visit multiple islands during the period of travel indicated on their Travel Health Visa.
6. **Unvaccinated Travelers** departing from New Providence, Grand Bahama, Bimini, Exuma, Abaco, North and South Eleuthera (including Harbour Island) to any other island; will not be required to take a new RT-PCR test to return, as long as travel is within a 5 day period of the RT-PCR test validity (RT-PCR tests are valid for a period of 5 days from the date the test was taken).
7. A person traveling inter-island for an emergency which is documented by written confirmation from a health officer or the Royal Bahamas Police Force or as the employee of an aircraft or vessel transporting freight and passengers shall not be required to obtain a Travel Health Visa.
8. All persons traveling are required to wear face masks.
9. If you do not wear a mask during your trip, present a Travel Health Visa or present a written confirmation in case of emergency from a health officer or Royal Bahamas Police Force, and do not produce a negative RT-PCR COVID-19 test when asked to do so by an officer of the Royal Bahamas Police Force, Royal Bahamas Defence Force or the COVID-19 enforcement unit, you commit an offence and are liable to a fine of one thousand dollars.
10. A person will not be permitted to travel from an island on which an emergency order lock-down or 24-hour curfew has been imposed. Additional measures and restrictions may apply.

## International Travel Protocols

1. Every person traveling to The Bahamas is required to create a profile, submit an international trip application, be accepted, then purchase the Travel Health Visa in order to receive the approved Health Visa for their trip to The Bahamas. This document is to be presented to airline agents/pilots

and boat captains/operators before boarding takes place.

2. **Unvaccinated Travelers** are required to take a RT-PCR COVID-19 test that has been administered by an accredited lab, within 5 days of the arrival date, to apply for an International Trip Application. **Fully Vaccinated Travelers** will be required to upload their Vaccination Card along with a negative RT-PCR Test result or a Rapid Antigen Test result during The Bahamas Travel Health Visa trip application process. They can submit their vaccination card once they have received the required doses of the COVID-19 Vaccine administered to them. Travelers must also be past the 2 week immunity period to apply using a vaccination card.
3. All children between the ages of 2 - 11 years old, who will be entering The Bahamas, will be required to upload a negative COVID-19 test result (Rapid Antigen or RT-PCR), within 5 days before travel.
4. Children younger than 2 years old, or pilots and crew of a commercial airline who are not staying more than one night in The Bahamas are exempt from the RT-PCR COVID-19 test/Vaccination Card upload requirement.
5. A traveler entering The Bahamas by sea must have a valid international Travel Health Visa issued by The Bahamas Travel Health Visa Website and must stop at the port of entry at the intended island destination and give the local authority a copy of their negative RT-PCR COVID-19 test or proof of full vaccination.
6. A Travel Health Visa is valid for 5 days from the day you arrive in The Bahamas.
7. The results of a RT-PCR COVID-19 test is valid for a period of 5 days from the date the test was taken.
8. A Travel Health Visa is not required to depart from The Bahamas to a foreign country.
9. Any person traveling by sea whether on a commercial or personal vessel for a period of longer than 5 days must prove at their point of entry into The Bahamas that their RT-PCR COVID 19 test result was valid at the time of their departure and that the trip was direct with no prior stops.

## **SECONDARY TESTING**

1. Any person who is not fully vaccinated and enters The Bahamas or travels inter-island from New Providence, is required to undergo a rapid antigen test on the 5th day after their arrival.
2. A person who is out at sea on the 5th day of their stay, is required to undergo their Day-5 rapid antigen test at the first port of call.
3. A person that tests positive on their Day-5 rapid antigen test, will be required to take a RT-PCR COVID-19 test and must “vacation in place” until the results of the RT-PCR COVID-19 test are returned. If the RT-PCR COVID 19 test also returns a positive result, then the traveler must submit to a mandatory 14-day quarantine or until the traveler tests negative with a RT-PCR COVID 19 test. Exemptions are made only for critical medical emergencies.
4. A person who fails to undergo a COVID-19 rapid antigen test is committing an offence and is liable to a fine of \$1000 or one month imprisonment.

## **SYMPTOMATIC TESTING**

1. Persons who have entered The Bahamas that exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 within 14 days of their arrival will be required to undergo a COVID 19 rapid antigen test.
2. If a person displaying symptoms tests positive with a rapid antigen test, that person will be required to take a RT-PCR COVID 19 test.
3. A person who refuses to take a rapid antigen test when displaying symptoms of COVID-19 or refuses to be tested further with a RT-PCR COVID-19 test, commits an offence and is liable to a fine of \$1000.

## **QUARANTINE**

1. If a traveler is required to submit to mandatory quarantine, they must follow the protocols issued to them by the Travel Compliance Unit. The traveler will either be instructed to quarantine in place or, if appropriate, at a facility determined by the Ministry of Health for a period of 14 days or until the traveler tests negative with a RT-PCR COVID 19 test. A traveler under mandatory quarantine may be

subject to additional protocols established by the Ministry of Health.

Note: a hotel room is an appropriate facility for quarantine.

## **CONDITIONS OF ENTRY**

1. As a condition of entry into The Bahamas, all travelers agree to the completion of a daily health survey for a period of 14 days or for the duration of that travelers stay in The Bahamas if the trip is less than 14 days. Travelers under mandatory quarantine also agree to monitoring by the COVID-19 Enforcement Unit which is comprised of health officers, officers of the Royal Bahamas Police Force as authorized by the competent authority, and by unscheduled visits by the Royal Bahamas Police Force.