

Latest COVID-19 Measures

(updated on 05 October 2021)

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Please always consult info-coronavirus.be for the latest information before traveling

1. Travel restrictions from Japan to Belgium

Since September 4, 2021, Japan is classified as a **red zone** by the Belgian authorities. On September 10, 2021, Japan was removed from the **European Union's "white" list** of third countries for which travel restrictions should be lifted ([Re-open EU](#)).

Non-essential journeys to Belgium are prohibited for most travelers from Japan (see point 3) and specific measures apply to travelers from Japan (see point 2).

Attention! It is prohibited for persons who at any time during the past 14 days were in the [countries classified as very high risk](#), to travel directly or indirectly to the Belgian territory, provided they do not have Belgian nationality or do not have their main residence in Belgium. For details on the measure and its exceptions: [International Travels](#)

2. Mandatory sanitary measures for travelers from Japan

The following measures apply to all travelers from Japan:

a. Public Health Passenger Locator Form (PLF)

- **Mandatory** for all travelers: see [Public Health Passenger Locator Form](#)
- The PLF must be filled within 6 months of your scheduled arrival in Belgium.
- All travelers must complete and keep with them proof of the Public Health Passenger Locator Form (PLF) during the entire journey to their final destination in Belgium and for the 48 hours that follow.
- A mobile phone number must be entered in the PLF. This can be a Belgian or a foreign number. It must be entered starting with the country code, as in the example ("32498xxxxxx").

More information:

- [FPS Public Health: PLF](#)

b. PCR test before departure (in Japan)

- Resident in Belgium: **Not mandatory** for travelers who have their primary residence in Belgium
- Non-resident in Belgium:
 - **With [approved vaccination certificate](#)** (see point 4): Not mandatory
 - **Without approved vaccination certificate or recovery certificate**: Mandatory from the age of 12. The test should be done no earlier than 72 hours before arrival in Belgium.

More information:

- Specifications of the PCR test: [FAQ](#) > “When should I test certificate to travel to Belgium?”
- [Exemptions from testing and quarantine](#)
- Register of Medical Institutions Issuing COVID-19 Testing Certificates on the [TeCOT](#) website

c. PCR test after arrival (in Belgium)

- Resident and non-resident in Belgium:
All travelers to Belgium from Japan, with or without approved vaccination certificate have to get tested on day 1 or 2 AND day 7.

Note: Children under the age of 12 do not have to get tested, but will be quarantined when the parents are tested, pending the test results.

More information:

- [Exemptions from testing and quarantine](#)
- Directory of PCR testing centers in Belgium on the website of the Federal Crisis Center: [Covid-19 Testing > Where can you get tested?](#)

d. Quarantine

- Residents and non-resident in Belgium:
 - **With approved vaccination certificate**: Mandatory until you get your negative result. If the result of your PCR test on day 1 or 2 after arrival is negative, you can end quarantine (a 2nd PCR test on the 7th day is still required).
 - **Without approved vaccination certificate**: Mandatory quarantine for 10 days. The quarantine may be shortened if the second test on day 7 is negative.

Note: Children under the age of 12 do not have to get tested, but will be quarantined when the parents are tested, pending the test results.

More information:

- [Exemptions from testing and quarantine](#)
- [Quarantine and Isolation](#)

3. Essential Travel

Non-essential journeys to Belgium are prohibited for travelers from Japan **EXCEPT** for:

- Travelers who hold an [approved vaccination certificate](#) (see point 4)
- Travelers who have the nationality of an EU/Schengen Member State OR have their main residence in an EU/Schengen Member State

What is essential travel?

The travels considered as essential are listed on this website:

- [International Travels > Essential and permitted travels](#)
- [Specifications of certain categories of travel which are considered essential](#)

To prove the essential nature of the journey, an **“essential travel certificate”** is required, **except in the following cases:**

- Travelers with an [approved vaccination certificate](#) (see point 4)
- Travelers holding a valid D visa, issued by a Belgian authority after 18/03/2020
- Travelers in possession of a valid C visa delivered after 18/03/2020 by a Belgian (or EU Member State) diplomatic post, if the essential nature of the journey is demonstrated by the official documents in his possession
- Travelers in possession of official documents which demonstrate the essential nature of the journey

How to apply for an essential travel certificate?

Any request for an essential travel certificate must be submitted to the following address: tokyo.visa@diplobel.fed.be.

- The e-mail must be written in **Dutch, French, or English**
- The application must be sent **no later than 2 weeks before the intended date of departure**

The text of the email must mention the following information:

1. Name, first name, date of birth of the traveler.
2. Dates of the planned trip (departure from and return to Japan).
3. The main reason for travel (with a description of the reasons for travel).
4. (Mobile) telephone number.
5. Vaccination status, and type/country of vaccination (certificate)

The documents that must be attached to the email are as follows:

1. Scanned copy of passport.
2. Scanned copy of supporting documents proving that the trip falls under 1 of the categories of essential travel.
3. An electronic copy of the departure and return airline tickets (if already in the possession of the traveler).

Note:

- **Password-protected files or links to data storage websites (such as Google Drive) will not be accepted. If the total size of your attached supporting documents is too large, please compress the files, and/or send multiple e-mails.**
- **Groups: If multiple travelers are participating in the same event/research trip/business trip, etc., please choose 1 representative to apply on behalf of all travelers.**

The issuance of an essential travel certificate is free.

When the essential travel certificate is issued, the ORIGINAL document will need to be picked up from the Visa Desk by the applicant or a representative.

4. **Vaccination certificate**

A vaccination certificate proves that you are fully vaccinated against COVID-19. You are fully vaccinated when your last injection is **at least 2 weeks old** and the vaccine is **EMA-certified or Covishield**.

A vaccination certificate from non-EU countries, regardless of the travel goal, can be accepted in Belgium if it is considered equivalent by the EU or by Belgium (on the basis of bilateral agreement). It can also be accepted under certain conditions of content.

See [recognised vaccines and certificates](#).

- **The Japanese vaccine certificate (issued by the municipal office on behalf of the Japanese Ministry of Health, Labour, and Welfare) fulfils the conditions mentioned on the page above. The Japanese vaccine certificate can therefore be accepted as valid proof of vaccination for Belgium. The original document must be presented.**

More information: visit the website of the Belgian Immigration Office: [International Travels](#) > Vaccination certificate

5. **Visas**

C visas

- ❖ Japanese citizens are [exempted from a C visa](#)
- ❖ C visas are compulsory for the short stay travels (less than 90 days) of nationals who are not exempted from a Schengen C visa

D visas

- ❖ D visas are compulsory for the long stay travels (90 days or more) of all non-EU nationals

6. **Useful Links**

- FPS Public Health: [Covid-19 FAQ](#) ("Transport & International")
- FPS Public Health: [Colour codes by country](#)
- FPS Public Health: [Travels](#)
- Brussels Airport: [Travelling in Covid-19 times](#)
- Immigration Office: [International Travels](#)