

Zagreb, 10 July 2020

Recommendations and instructions of the Croatian Institute of Public Health for persons crossing the state border of the Republic of Croatia

The Decision on the temporary ban of transit through border crossings of the Republic of Croatia (OG 74/20) prohibits or restricts persons from crossing the border which does not apply to:

1. Citizens of the EU (regardless of place of residence), Schengen Area and Schengen associated countries, as well as their family members, and third-country nationals who are long-term residents under Council Directive 2003/109/EC of 25 November 2003 concerning the status of third-country nationals who are long-term residents and persons who are entitled to reside under other EU directives or national law or persons who hold national long-term visas.

2. The temporary ban on entry into the Republic of Croatia from third countries, with the exception of persons referred to in point 1, does not relate to:

2a. - Healthcare professionals, healthcare researchers and associates, senior care professionals, and persons requiring urgent medical treatment.

2b. - Cross-border workers.

2c. - Freight carriers and other transport personnel to the extent necessary.

2d. - Diplomats, police officers in the performance of their duties, civil protection services and teams, personnel of international organizations and international military personnel in the performance of their functions.

2e. - Transit passengers.

2f. - Persons who are traveling for tourism or other business reasons or who have some other economic interest, as well as persons traveling for study purposes.

2g. - Persons who are traveling due to urgent personal reasons (i.e. they own real estate in the Republic of Croatia or who have some other urgent personal reason).

Instructions for conducting health surveillance of persons entering the Republic of Croatia from third countries:

a) Health surveillance and a 14-day quarantine/self-isolation period is mandatory for all persons entering the Republic of Croatia from third countries under the exception from the ban on crossing the border listed **under item 2g.**

The quarantine/self-isolation period may be reduced to seven days if the person in question undergoes a nose and throat swab, at his own expense, seven days after entering Croatia and receives a negative PCR test result for SARS-CoV-2.

b) The obligation to self-isolate for persons entering the Republic of Croatia from third-countries **does not apply to persons referred to in points 2a., 2b., 2c., 2d., and:**

2e. Transit passengers:

After the entry of transit passengers is approved, the border police will verify whether they have left the territory of the Republic of Croatia within 12 hours.

The abovementioned rule can only be applied if the exit from the Republic of Croatia was to a neighboring country that allowed them entry.

2f. - Persons who are entering the Republic of Croatia for tourism or other business reasons or who have some other economic interest, as well as persons traveling for study purposes.

These persons can enter Croatia without the obligation to self-isolate by presenting a negative PCR finding of a nose and throat swab for SARS-CoV-2, which is not older than 48 hours (from when the swab was taken until arriving at the border crossing), or with the obligation to undergo quarantine/self-isolate for 14 days if they don't have the abovementioned negative PCR test result.

Persons who are entering Croatia without the obligation to self-isolate are obliged to adhere to the following measures in the first two weeks of their stay in Croatia:

- During the first 14 days after entering the Republic of Croatia, leaving the accommodation is limited to the following: business, if business purpose was given as the reason for entry into the Republic of Croatia, conducting necessary activities with continuous intensified implementation of hygiene measures.
- When leaving the accommodation due to essential reasons, it is recommended to use a face mask or a covering that covers your nose and mouth, maintain physical distancing from other people (no less than 1.5 m) and maintain hand hygiene.
- Wash hands as often as possible with warm water and soap, and/or use hand disinfectant which should be thoroughly rubbed between the palms. Avoid touching your face, mouth, nose and eyes.
- Avoid using public transportation. In a means of transport, it is preferable for the person to be alone or exclusively with persons who are sharing the accommodation.
- Groups and public gatherings should be avoided.
- Meet as few people as possible during business meetings, ensure a physical distance of 1.5 meters with disinfectant being readily available and avoid unnecessary meetings.
- Payment is done through contactless payment or *on-line* services.
- Body temperature should be measured each morning, and if it is higher than 37.2 C, the measurement has to be repeated after 10 minutes, and if it is still higher than 37.2 C it is necessary to stay at home/accommodation and notify the doctor at the tourist or COVID-19 infirmary or the territorially competent epidemiologist.
- In the event that symptoms of acute respiratory infection occur (cough, sore throat, elevated body temperature, shortness of breath/trouble breathing, loss of smell and taste), it is necessary to stay at home/accommodation and notify the physician at the tourist or COVID-19 infirmary or the territorially competent epidemiologist.
- In the event that severe life-threatening symptoms suddenly occur, the person should contact the urgent medical services by dialing 194.