



## Exemptions to the 14 day mandatory quarantine period for international travellers

The Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC) recognises that there should be some exemptions from quarantine requirements for specific industry groups, provided they adhere to specified risk mitigations measures. These specific exemptions are recommended because of the industry infection prevention requirements, training these groups have undergone, and the vital role of these industries in Australia.

While these are national recommendations, mandatory quarantine is enforced under state and territory public health legislation. Individual states and territories may choose to implement additional requirements at the point of arrival.

Some jurisdictions may also have additional quarantine requirements upon entry to the state or territory. Depending on the jurisdiction, this could mean that an international traveller is required to go into mandatory quarantine at the first point of arrival into Australia, and further quarantine upon entry to another jurisdiction.

The following groups are recommended to be exempt from the 14 day mandatory quarantine requirements when entering Australia. While these groups are exempt from mandatory quarantine, **all** arrivals into Australia **must** continue to practise social distancing, cough etiquette and hand hygiene. Other requirements, such as self-isolation, may still apply and are outlined below.

### Aviation crew

Aviation crew must not join an aircraft or travel domestically if they are experiencing any signs of illness and should seek medical assistance.

#### International flight crew (Australian residents/citizens)

- Are not required to undertake 14 days of mandatory quarantine on arrival.
- Are not required to complete the Isolation Declaration Card.
- Must self-isolate at their place of residence (or hotel) until their next international flight, or for 14 days, whichever is shorter.
  - Essential flight-related duties from a regulatory or safety perspective may be undertaken during this time (eg flight simulation training, safety and security training).

#### International flight crew (foreign nationals)

- Are not required to undertake 14 days of mandatory quarantine on arrival.
- Are not required to complete the Isolation Declaration Card.
- Must self-isolate in their hotel on arrival until their next flight.
- Must use privately organised transport to transfer to and from hotels between flights.
- May fly domestically to their next point of departure from Australia if required.

### Domestic flight crew

- Are subject to the normal self-isolation requirements of the relevant state or territory.

### Medevac and air ambulance crew

- Are subject to the same requirements as international flight crew.
- May request exemptions to return to duties beyond the essential flight-related duties already exempt.
  - A request for exemption must be made to the relevant state or territory.
  - Exemption requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

## Maritime crew (excluding cruise ships)

For the purposes of this factsheet, maritime crew are defined as anyone required to be part of a crew operating or providing services to support the operation of a commercial vessel (excluding cruise vessels) or a government vessel in Australian waters. This includes support staff such as livestock handlers and veterinarians.

Maritime crew must not join a vessel or travel domestically if experiencing any signs of illness and should seek medical assistance.

### International maritime crew travelling to Australia (via aircraft) to join a vessel

- Are not required to undertake 14 days of mandatory quarantine on arrival.
- Are not required to complete the Isolation Declaration Card.
- May be subject to additional screening by biosecurity.
- Must proceed directly to the vessel on arrival or self-isolate at their accommodation.
- May travel domestically and/or take a domestic flight to meet their vessel at the next point of departure if required, but must self-isolate at their accommodation for any layover time.

### International maritime crew travelling to Australia (by sea)

- Must complete their 14-day self-isolation period following the departure from their last international port of call.
- Time at sea counts towards the 14-day self-isolation period if no illness has been reported on-board. Crew signing off commercial vessels that have spent greater than 14 days at sea, with no known illness on-board, do not need to self-isolate on arrival.
- All crew signing off a vessel at an Australian port are permitted to transit and depart Australia via air or proceed to join another vessel in Australia. If this is within the 14-day period, crew must travel directly to the flight or vessel and must isolate in accommodation for any layover time.
- Australian crew can return to their normal place of residence in Australia. If this is within the 14-day period, crew must complete the remainder of their 14-day self-isolation period in their residence.

## Unaccompanied minors

Unaccompanied minors will be allowed to travel domestically after entering Australia to self-quarantine with a parent or guardian at their home.

## Transit passengers

- International transit passengers arriving into Australia are able to depart on another international flight if the following conditions are met:
  - If the individual has up to 8 hours until the departing international flight, they must remain at the airport and be permitted to onward travel, maintaining social distancing and hand hygiene.
  - If 8-72 hours before the departing flight, they must go to mandatory quarantine at the state designated facility until the time of the departing flight.
- No domestic onward travel is allowed, even if this is to meet a departing international flight. These people should go into mandatory quarantine at the state designated facility at the first point of arrival.

## Diplomats

- Australia has legal obligations under the Vienna Convention to ensure diplomats freedom of movement and travel, and protection from detention. Diplomats are not required to undertake 14 days of mandatory quarantine on arrival into Australia. They are therefore not required to complete the Isolation Declaration Card.
- Diplomats should self-isolate at their mission or in their usual place of residence on arrival for 14 days.
- Diplomats must continue to practise social distancing, cough etiquette and hand hygiene.

## Compassionate or medical grounds

Applications on medical or compassionate grounds should be submitted to the relevant state or territory who will consider requests on a case-by-case basis.

Contact details for state or territory public health agencies are available at [www.health.gov.au/state-territory-contacts](http://www.health.gov.au/state-territory-contacts).

## Where can I get more information?

For the latest advice, information and resources, go to [www.health.gov.au](http://www.health.gov.au).

Call the National Coronavirus Helpline on 1800 020 080. This line operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week. If you require translating or interpreting services, call 131 450.