



Press Release:

**Ministry of Tourism, Environment, Fisheries and Marine Affairs, Culture and Heritage,
Agriculture, Religious Affairs and Gaming**

Changes to Turks and Caicos pre-arrival protocols -1st September 2021

The Ministry of Tourism wishes to update and remind the traveling public that as of September 1st, all visitors 16 years and over will have to upload to the TCI Assured Portal- proof of being fully vaccinated and a negative COVID 19 approved test within 3 days of arrival including insurance which covers COVID19 medical cost, full cost of hospitalization, prescriptions, doctors' visits, medical evacuation and **quarantine**.

The accepted types of tests include:

- A Reverse Transcription Polymerase Chain Reaction Test (RT-PCR)
- A Nucleic Acid Amplification test (NAA)
- An RNA or molecular test
- An Antigen Test

Fully Vaccinated visitors are those who have been fully vaccinated with an accepted COVID-19 vaccine: received the complete series or a combination of accepted mRNA or Adenovirus vector vaccines as accepted by the TCI; with the second shot taken at least 14 days prior to arrival.

If a visitor took the Janssen/Johnson and Johnson; JnJ, Ad26.COVS.S single shot, then that shot would have had to have been taken at least 14 days or two weeks prior to arrival.

Here is how we break this down:

1. Fully Vaccinated- Fully vaccinated means persons who would have had their second shot taken over two weeks and no less. If a traveler is coming and only had the second shot 10 -13 days prior, they should not be allowed to board.
2. If the person had the Johnson and Johnson- one shot regime- same applies- it must have been taken at least 2 weeks prior to arrival.

Vaccines that are accepted:

Vaccine Developers	Vaccine Aliases	Doses
Pfizer/Biotech	Cormintary; BNT162b2	2
Astrazeneca	Astrazeneca, Vaxzevria, Covishield , AZ; AZD1222 (ChAdOx1)	2
Moderna	Moderna; Spikevax	2
Janssen	Janssen/Johnson and Johnson; JnJ, Ad26.COVS.2	1

Who is exempt:

8. Only those visitors with clear proof from a doctor that they are medically exempted from taking the vaccine. In this case they **MUST** still provide proof of a negative COVID 19 test taken within 3 days before arrival.
9. Exemptions for religious reasons **will not** be considered for entry.

Younger visitors:

- All visitors **10- years and older** must have COVID 19 negative test result and insurance – no vaccination needed (10-15 years old).
- Younger visitors below 10 years age: - No vaccination or COVID 19 test requirement. However, must provide evidence of insurance which covers COVID19 medical cost, full cost of hospitalization, prescriptions, doctors' visits, medical evacuation and **quarantine**.

Who is exempt from testing and vaccines?

Only visitors under 10 will not require a COVID test nor vaccine however must provide proof of insurance; which covers COVID19 medical cost, full cost of hospitalization, prescriptions, doctors' visits, medical evacuation and **quarantine**.

The TCI Assured Portal will accept as proof of vaccination the following:

Proof of vaccination- Proof of vaccination should be uploaded to the TCI Assured as part of the pre-arrival authorization process. This should be in the form of:

- e-certificate/digital certificates e.g. CVS, Walgreens, NHS
- certification by Doctor or Government Entity
- vaccination cards/certificates accepted by national authorities: e.g. EU, US, UK (i.e. CDC, NHS)

- a vaccination letter signed by a medical professional (physician or registered nurse) on official letterhead with contact details -doctors registration or licensed # should be included with details of the first and second dose (date, country and vaccine you received)
- or Authorized Government Entity or printed record from an electronic vaccination database

TESTING POSITIVE:

11. Any fully vaccinated visitor testing positive in the Turks and Caicos Islands would be required to quarantine at their **own expense** for a period of **10 days** and undergo a COVID 19 mandatory test on day 7 prior to release. They will be required to do so with accompanying persons (family or travel group)

UNVACCINATED RESIDENTS:

12. All unvaccinated returning residents to TCI will be required to provide a negative COVID19 test and quarantine for a period of 7 days and undergo a mandatory test (required to be negative) on day five (5) prior to being released. (with their entire household)
13. All unvaccinated **must** accept and agree to a mandatory quarantine order, prior to receipt of approval through the TCI Assured Portal for entry.

❖ Please note:

Any returning resident that has been partially vaccinated (received one dose) or not vaccinated is required to submit a negative COVID 19 test and quarantine for a period of 7 days - including Household.