



Pre-arrival testing, mask mandate lifted in latest COVID-19 regulations

Grand Cayman, Saturday, 25 June 2022 – The Cayman Islands Government today announced a number of much-anticipated changes to longstanding COVID-19 regulations.

From 30 June 2022, Government will:

- lift the mandate requiring indoor mask wearing by persons in public spaces
- remove the requirement for inbound travelers to conduct pre-arrival COVID-19 testing, regardless of vaccination status
- abolish the requirement for unvaccinated Caymanians and legal and ordinary residents (living in Cayman for six months or more) to quarantine when returning to the islands.
- eliminate the exit test requirement for unvaccinated visitors

Categories of unvaccinated visitors who can visit the islands will remain limited to the following:

- *an unvaccinated person who is a Caymanian or resident;*
- *an unvaccinated person who has close ties to the Islands;*
- *an unvaccinated person who is a child and travels with an accompanying person who is vaccinated*
- *an unvaccinated person who is the child of a person with close ties*

Unvaccinated persons wishing to travel to the Islands will still be required to have a travel authorisation to be allowed entry. Any unvaccinated persons that are not Caymanian or legal and ordinary residents who have been living on the islands for more than 6 months, will have to quarantine.

Request for travel authorisation by unvaccinated persons must be submitted to Travel Cayman at least 5 days prior to planned arrival to the Cayman Islands. Vaccinated persons are required to complete a travel declaration at least 72 hours prior to planned arrival to the Cayman Islands.

While the mandatory wearing of masks indoors is being removed, the owner or operator of a health care facility, residential home care facility, prison or place of detention, or any other place specified by the Medical Officer of Health, may still require the wearing of masks for persons visiting these places.

Hon. Premier G. Wayne Panton noted that the decision to implement these changes was a practical one based on the community's combined social, psychological and economic need to move beyond the restrictions imposed to combat the COVID-19 pandemic over the past two years.

"COVID-19 has not gone away, and we cannot wish it away. We will continue to learn to live with it. We believe that now is the appropriate time, and that science supports the decision of allowing our people to keep themselves, and their families, safe", said the Premier.

"Although we are on the road to normalcy, we can't get ahead of ourselves," explained Minister for Health and Wellness, Hon. Sabrina Turner. "We still need to be careful."

"Today's announcement does not eliminate the need for vigilance. Be mindful of your vaccination coverage, and continue to practice proper hand hygiene and other habits such as proper diet and exercise. These things together will offer you the best immunity against all forms of infectious disease," Minister Turner concluded.

The new regulations will expire on 31 August 2022.

Interested persons can read the newly published regulations on the Cayman Islands Gazette website:

[Control of Covid-19 \(Travel\) \(No. 3\) Regulations, 2022 \(LG23, S1\)](#)

[Control and Management of Covid-19 \(No. 3\) \(Amendment\) Regulations, 2022 \(LG23, S2\)](#)