



**ADVISORY NO. 15
Series of 2022**

NEW ZEALAND BORDER REOPENING

The New Zealand government recently announced the implementation of the 5-step plan to re-open its borders beginning on 27 February 2022:

The plan includes the following key points in the re-opening of New Zealand's borders:

- Border will reopen to vaccinated New Zealand citizens and residents travelling from Australia at 11.59pm 27 February
- Reopens to New Zealand citizens and residents in the rest of the world on 13 March
- Managed isolation and quarantine (MIQ) removed for most travelers in phased reconnection, replaced by self-isolation and tests on-arrival
- Unvaccinated travelers, and those who do not meet New Zealand's vaccination requirements, who are eligible to enter New Zealand will continue to enter MIQ.
- Five-step plan prioritizes returning New Zealanders and brings forward the reopening of key visa categories from 13 March in order to address worker shortages.
- Further visa categories reopen throughout the year to help accelerate economic recovery

STEPS

STEP	TIMING	TRAVELLERS
STEP 1	From 11.59pm, Sunday 27 February 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reopen to New Zealanders and other eligible travelers under current border settings (e.g. people with border exceptions) from Australia
STEP 2	From 11:59 pm, Sunday 13 March 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reopen to New Zealanders and other eligible travelers under current border settings from the rest of the world • Open to skilled workers earning at least 1.5 times the median wage

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STEP	TIMING	TRAVELLERS
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open to Working Holiday Scheme visas
STEP 3	From 11:59 pm, Tuesday 12 April 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open to current offshore temporary visa holders, who can still meet the relevant visa requirements, • Open to up to 5000 international students for semester two • Further class exceptions for critical workforces that do not meet the 1.5 times the median wage test will be considered
STEP 4	By July 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open to anyone from Australia • Open for visa-waiver travel • The Accredited Employer Work Visa will open, meaning the skilled and health worker border exception can be phased out
STEP 5	October 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Border fully reopens to visitors from anywhere in the world, and all visa categories fully reopen.

Step 1 – From 11:59pm 27 February 2022

The following fully vaccinated people can enter New Zealand from Australia and self-isolate upon arrival:

- New Zealand citizens and residents
- Other eligible travelers under current border settings.

Unvaccinated New Zealand citizens, and those who do not meet New Zealand's vaccination requirements for self-isolation, who are eligible to enter New Zealand will continue to enter managed isolation and quarantine (MIQ).

If you travelled to Australia from another country (excluding New Zealand), you must spend 14 days in Australia before you travel to New Zealand.

Step 2 – From 11:59pm 13 March 2022

The following fully vaccinated people can enter New Zealand from anywhere in the world and self-isolate upon arrival:

- New Zealand citizens and residents

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- Other eligible travelers under current border settings.
- Skilled workers earning at least 1.5x the median wage.
- Travelers on a working holiday scheme.
- Partners and dependent children of New Zealand citizens and residents, provided they meet the usual visa and vaccination requirements. A family group does not need to travel to New Zealand together.

Unvaccinated New Zealand citizens, and those who do not meet New Zealand's vaccination requirements for self-isolation, who are eligible to enter New Zealand will continue to enter managed isolation and quarantine (MIQ).

Step 3 – From 11:59pm 12 April 2022

The following fully vaccinated people can enter New Zealand from anywhere in the world and self-isolate upon arrival:

- Current offshore temporary visa holders with a valid visa who can still meet their visa requirements.
- Up to 5,000 international students for semester 2

Step 4 – From July 2022

The following fully vaccinated people can enter New Zealand and self-isolate upon arrival:

- All travelers from Australia.
- Visitors from countries who do not need a visa (visa waiver visitors)
- Travelers arriving under the Accredited Employer Work Visa categories.

Step 5 – From October 2022

All visa categories will reopen from October 2022, including visitor and student visas.

To check who is eligible to travel under current border settings: <https://www.immigration.govt.nz/about-us/covid-19/border-closures-and-exceptions/entry-to-new-zealand/border-entry-requirements>

To check visa waivers countries and territories: <https://www.immigration.govt.nz/new-zealand-visas/apply-for-a-visa/tools-and-information/general-information/visa-waiver-countries>

Details on the Accredited Work Employer Visa: <https://www.immigration.govt.nz/employ-migrants/new-employer-accreditation-and-work-visa>

Self-isolation requirements

Self-isolation is only available for fully vaccinated travelers who are eligible to enter New Zealand.

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Travelers must self-isolate for 10 days in New Zealand. If New Zealand's self-isolation period changes, such as a drop to 7 days, the self-isolation period for travelers will also change.

Travelers will be provided three rapid antigen tests at the airport, one for use on day 0/1, and one for use on day 5/6, with one extra for backup.

Anyone who tests positive will need to take a PCR test at a Community Testing Centre or GP for whole genome sequencing in order to quickly identify and respond to new variants coming across the border.


Vaccination requirements for travel to New Zealand:
<https://covid19.govt.nz/international-travel/travel-to-new-zealand/vaccination-requirements-for-travel-to-new-zealand/>

Health requirements

While travelers do not have to enter MIQ at each step, travelers must meet some health requirements, including:

- must provide a negative pre-departure test.
- must meet vaccination requirements.
- will self-isolate for a period of time after arriving.
- must do 2 rapid antigen tests (RATs) during self-isolation period on day 0/1 and day 5/6 and declare the results.

For the information and guidance of all concerned.


for **BERNARD P. OLALIA**
Administrator

7 February 2022

Source: Official Website of New Zealand Government - https://www.beehive.govt.nz/release/border-reopen-stages-27-february?fbclid=IwAR2BeVLEuXTI89ELtz4R0zqBmYS4Nx4KcsOEhhWz5PdZb8fmlIT_ulInNMqZo

COVID-19 New Zealand - <https://covid19.govt.nz/international-travel/travel-to-new-zealand/vaccination-requirements-for-travel-to-new-zealand/>

Immigration New Zealand (INZ) - <https://www.immigration.govt.nz/>

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