

6. SAFETY PROCEDURE AT FACILITY QUARANTINE



TEST	Cost (Nu.)
Rapid Antigen test	1000
Rapid Antibody test	1000
TR - PCR test	3000

Test timing	Target	TEST method	TEST METHOD		ACTIONS
			RT-PCR	RAPID - ANTIBODY	
At the point of entry on arrival (Day 0)	Individuals with signs & symptoms on arrival)	RT-PCR	Negative	Not Applicable	Continue quarantine
			Positive		Move to isolation ward/facility as per the protocol. Quarantine roommate for 21 days from the last day of contact with confirmed case (Day 0)
Day 6-7	All quarantined individuals	Rapid antibody test & RT-PCR	Negative	Negative	Continue quarantine
			Negative	Positive	Continue quarantine. Separate roommate (not applicable if vaccinated)
Day 13-14	All quarantined individuals	RT-PCR	Positive	Negative / Positive	Move to isolation ward/facility as per the protocol. Quarantine roommate for 21 days from the last day of contact with confirmed case (Day 0)
			Negative	Not Applicable	Continue quarantine
Day 21	All quarantined individuals	RT-PCR	Positive	Not Applicable	Move to isolation ward/facility as per the protocol. Quarantine roommate for 21 days from the last day of contact with confirmed case (Day 0)
			Negative	Not Applicable	Release

- An accommodation certified by the Tourism Council of Bhutan as “clean and safe” will be allowed to provide accommodation services to the tourist.

- All staff of the accommodation providers and restaurants shall be trained in the health and safety protocols.

- Only 80% of the rooms can be occupied. Separate isolation rooms should be identified for guests with COVID-19 signs and symptoms.

- Restaurants must operate at 80% of the total capacity to ensure safe distancing

- All accommodation providers and restaurants shall adhere to the Standard Operating Procedures adopted by the Tourism Council of Bhutan

- Use the Druk Trace mobile app or the manual registry



USE FACE MASK



CLEAN & DISINFECT



WASH YOUR HANDS FREQUENTLY



AVOID TOUCHING EYES, NOSE OR MOUTH



KEEP DISTANCE FROM OTHERS

7. SAFETY PROCEDURE FOR ACCOMMODATION PROVIDER AND RESTAURANTS

8. ATTRACTION SITES AND HANDICRAFTS



- Hand sanitizers or hand washing facilities and physical distancing barriers will be placed at attraction sites and handicraft shops.

- Tourists are discouraged from touching “high touch areas” such as prayer wheels, railings, doorknobs, while visiting monuments and attraction sites. Such areas will be disinfected regularly.

- Crowd management measures and visitor timing will be put in place for compliance by visitors.

- All visitors are encouraged to use digital mode of payment.

9. TREKKING



- Trekking will be organized in the designated trek routes and trekkers will use designated campsites

- In case of any signs and symptoms, tourists should inform the guide so that help can be sought from the nearest health facility or flu clinic.

- Trekking service providers such as horse contractors, porters and cooks will be briefed on the health and safety protocols by the guide.

- Guides will ensure that the trekking team does not mingle with the public, communities and other trekking groups.



10. VACCINATION CERTIFICATION INFORMATION

The certificate should contain the following information in English:

- Name of the vaccination certificate holder and his or her passport or national identification;
- Name of the vaccine and manufacturer; and
- Number of doses administered and date(s) of vaccination.

The following COVID-19 vaccinations are recognized:

- AstraZeneca (Covishield/Vaxzevria): 2 completed doses
- Comirnaty (Pfizer-BioNTech): 2 completed doses
- Mordena (Spikevax): 2 completed doses
- Sinopharm: 2 completed doses
- Janssen (Johnson & Johnson): 1 completed dose

The vaccines other than the above listed should be either listed by the World Health Organisation or authorized by Stringent Regulatory Authorities (SRAs) listed by WHO (<https://www.who.int/initiatives/who-listed-authority-reg-authorities/SRAs>).

Any eligible individual who has received two authorized COVID-19 vaccines within the acceptable intervals between doses, and upon completion of two weeks after the 2nd dose, are considered fully immunized for COVID-19.

Every certificate should contain a unique machine-readable QR code through which it is possible to securely verify the authenticity, integrity and validity of the certificate.

The vaccination certificate is intended for an individual holder only, not for group use.

11. INSPECTION AND MONITORING

PROCEDURES FOR HEALTH AND SAFETY OF TOURIST



Tourism Council of Bhutan and other relevant agencies will conduct necessary monitoring and seek feedback from tourists as well as the service providers on the established procedures for health and safety of tourists.

12. IMPORTANT CONTACT NUMBERS

Health Help Centre (Medical Emergency)	: 112
COVID-19 hotline	: 2121
Disaster Communication Helpline	: 999
Fire	: 110
Police	: 113



TOURISM COUNCIL OF BHUTAN

PROCEDURES FOR HEALTH AND SAFETY OF TOURIST

“Welcome to the Kingdom of Bhutan”





Key Points

1. Stay in facility quarantine for 14 days if tourists have proof of full vaccination or 21 days if tourists have not taken the vaccination (or incomplete vaccination).
2. Sustainable Development Fee (SDF) and minimum daily package rate (MDPR) will be levied only upon completion of the quarantine period in line with the Tourism Rules and Regulations 2017.
3. Applicable Minimum Daily Package Rate (MDPR) for MDPR paying countries will be levied for the entire tour duration after quarantine.
4. Strictly follow COVID-19 protocols and guidelines issued by Tourism Council of Bhutan.
5. Require travel and COVID-19 insurance coverage.
6. Produce COVID-19 negative certificate for RT-PCR test taken by a certified laboratory not earlier than 72 hours before embarking or the initiation of a journey from the country of origin.
7. Entry will be facilitated only for those coming via air
8. Encouraged to have both the doses of COVID-19 vaccine and also to check for other travel requirements if transiting through another country.

1. ENTRY PROCEDURE



- Tourists must contact a licensed Bhutanese tour operator to arrange their tour to Bhutan. The list of licensed tour operators are provided at: <https://bhutan.travel/tour-operators>
- Applicable visa fee and MDPR or tour payments to be sent before submitting the online visa or e-permit application. Tour operators will guide the tourist in preparing a tour itinerary and also making other arrangements like accommodation,
- Tourist visa for MDPR paying tourist and e-permit for non-MDPR paying tourists will be applied online through Tashel Online system at tashel.gov.bt by a Bhutanese tour operator prior to the entry.
- Tourists are requested to discuss the cancellation & refund policies with the tour operator prior to travel.

2. AIRLINE PROCEDURE



Tourists can book their tickets with the two airlines flying into Bhutan through the following two links or through the help of tour operators and also check the airline requirement.

www.drukair.com.bt

www.bhutanairlines.bt

3. ARRIVAL PROCEDURE AT THE AIRPORT



- All tourists will follow COVID-19 protocols and other requirements as recommended by the airport authorities at the airport at all times. All tourists shall undergo thermal temperature screening. If signs and symptoms are detected, tourists will undergo a RT-PCR test and follow other procedures. Disinfecting procedures will be in place for all arrivals, luggage, and travel documents.
- All tourists will fill in the health declaration form and submit it to the health counters at the airport. The Immigration and Health officers will check all mandatory documents of tourists including visa, e-permit, RT-PCR report, travel and COVID-19 insurance as well as other requirements. For additional information please refer to the Ministry of Health website at www.moh.gov.bt.
- The Tourism Information Center at the arrival area with dedicated officials will provide relevant information and assistance to tourists, if required.

4. AIRPORT TRANSFER



- Designated escort vehicles with officials will transfer tourists from the airport to the designated facility quarantine. All airport transfer vehicles operate as per COVID-19 safety requirements.



5. TOUR OPERATOR OR OPERATION



1. Tour operators will communicate and brief tourists on safety and health screening procedures as well as COVID-19 control guidelines.
2. Tour operators will ensure that tourists take the necessary COVID-19 test before the departure as required by the destination country.
3. All tourists will be assigned a guide who are briefed on health and safety protocols and on dos and don'ts. And the guides in turn will provide the relevant information to tourists during the tour.
4. The tourist must inform the health conditions to the guide so that immediate assistance can be sought from the nearest health center or flu clinic in case of any signs or symptoms of COVID-19.
5. Tour operators will ensure that the designated vehicle is used for the same group for tour programs.
6. Drivers of the tourist vehicles must register in the Check Post Management System (CPMS) as required at <https://cpms.rbp.gov.bt>

6. SAFETY PROCEDURE AT FACILITY QUARANTINE



- All tourists will undergo mandatory facility quarantine as notified by the Royal Government, after arriving in Bhutan. Tourists are not allowed to leave the hotel or room except if allowed or instructed by the designated official at such facilities.
- Accommodation providers identified as facility quarantines will follow Guidelines and SOP on Quarantine for COVID-19 issued by the Ministry of Health.
- Tourists shall contact tour operators for information related to activities that are allowed while in facility quarantine.
- Cost for accommodation, meals, and other charges while in quarantine will be borne by the tourist.
- Tourists will undergo the COVID-19 test while in quarantine facility and after quarantine, as required by the Ministry of Health and shall bear the applicable cost for such test as provided below or as revised by the Royal Government from time to time: