COVID-19

What you need to know before travelling to Brussels

update: 28.01.2021
Updates are marked in yellow

Welcome to Brussels!

In this document you will find information on which safety measures apply in Belgium and Brussels. If you travel from abroad, you will need to arrange a few things in advance. So be sure to read everything carefully a few days before your departure.

BEFORE DEPARTURE

Information about the applicable coronavirus measures

The Belgian authorities have imposed several measures such as a quarantine obligation and COVID-testing for certain people travelling to Belgium from abroad. Please note that these measures may change rapidly.

- For general information about the covid situation in Belgium:
  - → www.info-coronavirus.be/en/
  - → brik.be/en/corona/

- Read the most recent travel advice on the website of Federal Public Service 'Foreign Affairs':
  - → diplomatie.belgium.be/en

- Make sure to check the website of your country's foreign affairs office for specific information. If you have any questions, ask your embassy in Belgium. They will be best qualified to answer them.

IMPORTANT

The safety measures are updated frequently whenever the situation changes. So please check for updates shortly for departing.

PCR test before departure

A negative COVID-19 PCR test, taken no more than 72 hours before travelling to Belgium, is mandatory for all non-residents (this includes exchange students coming to Belgium). You should be able to present proof to the carrier.

Passenger Locator Form

Anyone travelling to Belgium is required to fill out the electronic **Passenger Locator Form (PLF)** within 48 hours before arrival.
- ⊙ travel.info-coronavirus.be/public-health-passenger-locator-form

- After filling out the form you will receive a confirmation email with QR-code. You should be able to show this when boarding and at border control upon arrival.
- If you are travelling from a red zone (see below) you should receive an text message, with a 16 digit-code that you can use to take a PCR-test.

Sworn statement. (update 28/01)

Since 27 January 2021 all non-essential travel to Belgium is forbidden for non-residents. Travelling for study purposes is considered as essential. Incoming students need to fill out a 'sworn statement' and should carry this with them, either digitally or on paper during their trip.
- ⊙ https://travel.info-coronavirus.be/essential-travel-sworn-statement
- ⊙ Sworn statement (pdf download)

UPON ARRIVAL

Face masks

Since 26 October 2020, wearing a face mask is mandatory throughout the territory of the Brussels-Capital Region. Everyone aged 12 years or older is obliged to wear a mouth mask that covers the nose and mouth in all public places and private places accessible to the public.

Curfew

A curfew is in place between 22:00 and 6:00 throughout the territory of the Brussels-Capital Region. It is forbidden to be out between these hours (except for essential and non-deferrable journeys).

Colour zones

Belgium applies colour codes for each country or region abroad: red, orange and green. Below you will find all the steps you need to take that belong to your colour zone. You can find the map on the website of Federal Public Service 'Foreign Affairs':
- ⊙ diplomatie.belgium.be/en

Quarantine & testing

(update 28/01) All non-residents travelling to Belgium – regardless of the colour zone – need to get tested on day 1 after their arrival. Barring the exception for a few countries this may be done via a either a PCR test or a rapid antigen test.

Red Zone
You are considered a 'high risk contact'.
- You are required to enter **quarantine** for at least **7 days** upon arrival. You should go immediately to the place where you will pass the quarantine. Contact with other people must be completely avoided.
- You must get tested **on day 7** after arrival.
- Once you have received a negative test result, you can end the quarantine.

- If the test is positive, you must isolate yourself. Please inform Brik in the latter case.
- If you fail to take a test on day 7, the quarantine ends on **day 10** after your arrival.

(update 28/01) Additional measures for travelers coming from United Kingdom, South Africa and South America:
- Quarantine is always 10 days.
- An additional **PCR test** on day 1 of your arrival is mandatory.

Orange Zone
- Authorities recommend to enter quarantine and to pay attention to your state of health.
- If you think you have had contact with someone who has or had the coronavirus, you can have yourself tested or contact a doctor.

Green Zone
As long as you don't show any symptoms, a test or quarantine is not necessary. But pay close attention to your health condition and strictly apply the hygiene measures: wear a mouth mask where necessary, keep social distance, wash your hands frequently.

IMPORTANT
- The colour of your zone may change. Be careful to check for an update shortly before departing.
- Inform Brik about your colour zone in advance. We will make preparations.
- When you are sharing a room, you may need to pass the quarantine in another location. Brik will provide accommodation for that period (subject to availability!).

Practical information about how and where to get tested will be provided upon arrival.

Quarantine: what does it mean?

Quarantine means staying indoors in a single place. This can be a private address, or another place to stay (e.g. a hotel). During this period, contact with other people must be completely avoided, also with people in the same house. Always keep a distance of 1,5m to others. Going outside is only allowed for essential trips and provided that you wear a face mask.

Upon arrival you will receive a guide with practical guidelines on how to pass the quarantine period and testing.

If you have any questions about this, you can contact Brik.

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