



Ministry of Health & Medical Services

Kiritimati Hospital

London, Kiritimati

Government of Kiribati



Phone: +686 75381242

Fax:

website: health.gov.ki

email: secretary@health.gov.ki

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KIRITIMATI ENTRY: INFORMATION AND HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

Pre-departure Briefing:

Provided herein is the information for individuals who will be travelling to Kiritimati Island. It is a national requirement from Ministry of Health & Medical Services (MHMS) Kiritimati, Kiribati that this pre-travel information is comprehensively understood, accepted and agreed to by all travelers' prior arrival in Kiritimati. At the end of this briefing is the agreement section (page 6) and health declaration (page 7), for each traveler to sign to comply with Kiritimati, Kiribati Covid safety procedures. The signed agreements will need to be returned to the email address; covid19@mlpid.gov.ki at MHMS (Kiritimati), for approval and endorsement of entry to Kiritimati. This health information is subject to change as new Covid updates become available through WHO and ongoing country risk assessments.

Background:

Kiribati declares an outbreak of Covid-19 in Tarawa Island on the 16th January 2022 since the arrival of repatriated nationals and expats on the 14th of January 2022. Genome sequencing in Australia confirms Omicron (B1) as the culprit. Recent genome sequencing confirmed the co-transmission of B1 and B2.

Kiritimati Island is currently free of Covid19 since the declaration from WHO of Covid 19 global pandemic of international concern in January 2020. Kiritimati has been preparing for covid 19 by conducting drills and wider community awareness. The first flight from Tarawa arrived on the 10th of April 2022 that also included the covid-19 team to assist Kiritimati for covid preparation and response. There were two other flights from Tarawa to Kiritimati on Solomon Airways and again there were no one on these flight found to have a positive test for covid-19. As such we will continue to work together with our laboratory in Tarawa together with Air lines to ensure those with sign and symptoms or a positive PCR test would not be allowed to board the plane.

On the 22nd June 2022, the Kiritimati Mother Committee members were invited to give ideas and proposal whether to open the border or remain close it. All members agreed to open it and the task force set the date of the border opening to be on the 1st August 2022 in line with cabinet's decision. There would be no quarantine but travelers are required to strictly adhere to pre departure procedures.

Kiritimati will continue to pull in its greatest efforts of frontline Covid health team and key ministry stakeholders to work together in accordance with the established procedures to mitigate the risk of

inadvertent importation of SARS COV2 into the Island and to protect Kiritimati Islanders from the catastrophic health and economic consequences of Covid19 importation.

It is mandatory for all travelers to comply with the Covid-19 safety procedures of entering Kiritimati. For protection of the Island and in accordance with *Public Health Infectious Diseases Regulation 2020*, an individual who breaches the procedures spelled out in this SOP will be liable to 1 year imprisonment OR \$2 000 AUD cash penalty. All incoming travelers are deemed as potential Covid19 exposures thus the Covid safety processes and procedures should be followed at pre-departure and on arrival in Kiritimati as below.

***WHO December 2020; Covid19 symptoms: Suspected Covid19 case definition:**

1. New onset of Fever AND cough.....OR

2. New/acute onset of any 3 or more of the following:

Fever, cough, general weakness/fatigue, headache, sore throat, coryza, difficulty breathing, anorexia/nausea/vomiting, diarrhea, altered mental status, change of taste.

Pre-departure checklist

Before you travel to Kiritimati it is a mandatory requirement to provide the listed documents to covid19@mlpid.gov.ki for verification and to be presented to the airline prior to boarding and carried with the passenger in electronic or paper format for presentation upon arrival. If you have symptoms consistent with Covid-19 or a PCR positive test for covid 19 within 24 hours prior travelling, please refrain from travelling to protect other passengers.

English language or certified translation

- 1) Negative COVID-19 test result from a sample collected (WHO EUL PCR test for SARS-CoV-2) within 24 hours of departure. Certified laboratory results must include the followings;
 - Full name**
 - Date of birth**
 - Passport number and country of passport**
 - Type of sample/swab**
 - Time and date of sample collection**
 - Time and date of result report**
 - Name of testing facility**
 - Type of assay or test (including manufacturer, platform, test specification)**
 - Certifying officer name, designation, qualifications, date of certification, signature**
 - Laboratory supervisor or director with contact detail**
- 2) Full vaccination certificate for WHO EUL vaccine (2nd dose received at least 14 days before travel, below 18 years are exempted from vaccination until further notice)
- 3) Signed Quarantine agreement (page 5).
- 4) Health Declaration (free of Covid symptoms recent 14 days), page 6.

Pre-Departure procedures for all travelers

- You are required to test within 24 hours prior departure. Individuals must continue mask wearing, social distancing, and regular hand hygiene during pre-departure quarantine until departure.

Covid- 19 safety measures information

- All travelers will wear face masks in departure terminal, in flight and at arrival in Kiritimati. If wet mask, change to new one. Masks must be always worn correctly, covering nose and mouth fully. They should only be briefly removed to drink or eat. Masks must be worn by all those over the age of 5 years. Children under the age of 5 years are exempted, or anyone with medical exemption.
- Frequent hand washing with water and soap or alcohol-based hand rub.
- Keep social distancing at check in terminal.
- All travelers must be sober on day of travel.
- Congregating in aisles is forbidden

Flight crews and pilots

- Full vaccination certificate.
- Negative Covid test results within 24 hours
- Health Declaration

Airline involved

- Needs to comply with IATA guideline on covid safety measures on cleaning, disinfection and cabin operation.

Arrival at Kiritimati Airport

- Passengers will disembark keeping to social distancing
- Disembarkation will be coordinated by ground health frontline team.
- Keep face mask on at all times.
- Hand hygiene with alcohol rub before entry to Immigration and customs sections
- All passengers will be presented to the Health Authority with Negative Covid19 test result certificate and Vaccination card proving the completed 2nd dose
- All passengers will undergo Immigration, customs and biosecurity processes and clearance upon arrival.
- Luggage and personal effect (belongings) will be taken and collected by passengers for customs clearance and biosecurity check.
- All incoming passengers will be tested with PCR early morning on the next day.

Immigration and Customs

- Staff should wear N-95 mask at all times
- Frequent hand hygiene
- Maintain 1 meter social distancing.

Home/Hotel

- All travelers are required to remain at home/hotel awaiting mandatory covid-19 test a day after arrival early morning.
- Avoid visiting multiple households and participating in social gatherings or high risk settings until the PCR result is negative
- Individuals with a positive PCR test will be notified and advised of measures immediately and to conduct home isolation, 10 days from day of positive result if symptomatic or 10 days plus 3 days without symptoms from onset of symptoms. Fishing tourist if positive would be allowed to go out fishing with guides, however guides should be in quarantine at the hotel until they are tested negative. Hotel Operator would be asked to strictly monitor incoming local guest to hotel.
- For the purpose of strain/variant surveillance, all positive samples will be stored and referred overseas for whole genome sequencing.
- All to observe infection prevention control measures, social distancing, mask wearing and regular hand washing with water and soap.
- Anyone developing suspected symptoms of Covid 19 should call Ronton hospital on 75381242.

Travelers/Seafarers coming by sea vessels from all countries/ports

- All to disembark for testing upon arrival with PCR. The health team will coordinate with agencies timing and sites for testing (Refer to advise under At Home section above for guidance)
- Full vaccination certificate (Covid test and Covid vaccination certificate requirements can be exempted to ships which are verified to be mainly at sea and do not frequent ports where vaccination is carried out- eg Fishing vessels.
- Signed declaration and agreement to the Health SOP -page 6
- Health Declaration form (free of covid symptoms recent 14 days) Page 7

For vessel clearance prior port entry

- All vessels need to provide the following pre-arrival documents 24hrs before entry;
 - Voyage memo
 - VMS report
 - Crew list
 - Maritime Declaration of Health
 - Nil List
 - Passenger list
 - Ship sanitation certificate
 - Ship particulars
 - Crew Temperature record for the last 14 days of arrival

Declaration and Agreement to the Health SOP for entry to Kiritimati Island

I hereby declare that the above pre-travel information is clear and well understood. I will abide by all the requirements under the *Infectious Disease Regulation 2020* and all the Covid safety protocols as above. I understand I will be liable to prosecution with a fine of \$2,000 AUD or imprisonment of 1 year if I breach any of the above terms.

Signature.....

MHMS Rep.....

Name.....

Name.....

Date.....

Designation/Date:.....





Ministry of Health & Medical Services
Republic of Kiribati
ARRIVAL DOCUMENT

Phone: 686 74028100

email: secretary@mhms.gov.ki



HEALTH DECLARATION FORM

Full name: _____ D.O.B _____ Sex: _____ Citizenship: _____
Arrival Date: _____ Port of departure: _____ Departure date: _____

1. Have you had the following symptoms within the past 7 days? Tick
Fever Yes No Cough Yes No Difficulty Breathing Yes No
Running nose Yes No Fatigue Yes No Nausea/vomiting Yes No
Headache Yes No Diarrhea Yes No Muscle cramp Yes No
Sore Throat Yes No Altered mental state Yes No

2. List countries with country states visited in the past 30 days:

3. Have you had any contact with a covid-19 infected person in the past 14 days? Yes No

4. I declare the above information to be accurate Signature: _____

This is a legal document and giving false information and failure to complete is a criminal offence