

LATINCONNECT CORONA UPDATE

CALENDAR WEEK 51 / 2020

Country	DMC	General entry for tourists from EU and Switzerland has been possible since/probably from	Current official requirements of the visited country BEFORE entry	Current official measures of the visited country UPON entry	Current restrictions on tourist spots/activities/regions	Airports open to passenger traffic	Currently/expected to be operating airlines from the EU and Switzerland	Current cancellation conditions of the agency	Related Links
Argentina	Latventure Argentina	It is not yet officially known when exactly the entry for EU citizens will be possible again. Since the beginning of November, tourists from neighboring countries have at least been allowed to enter via the Buenos Aires Ezeiza airport.	The future entry regulations for EU citizens are currently still unclear. Travellers from neighboring countries have to fill out an online declaration until 48 hours before entry, including the result of a PCR test and information about a health insurance company that will cover treatment and quarantine because of COVID-19 (without limit or restrictions).	Tourists from neighboring countries are subjected to a health check upon entry (temperature measurement) and must take certain measures BEFORE entering the country (see left).	Attractions are partly open only for regional tourism.	In Buenos Aires only Ezeiza International Airport (EZE) is open, as are most regional airports in the country.	Currently KLM/LH/LEVEL/AR/LATAM/AF/IB/BA/TK; from November on also Edelweiss.	During the transition period (currently from October to February) we can offer free cancellations for new bookings and changes in bookings up to 15 days before the start of the trip.	argentina.gov.ar/turismoy-deportes/protocolos-covid-turismo-deportes argentina.travel
Belize	Tierra Maya Tours	Entrance to the country is possible since October 1 st , but only via Int. Belize City Airport (Phase 3). Entry across the national borders of Mexico or Guatemala is set for January 1 st , 2021 (phase 4).	Only certain state-checked and recognized hotels, transport and tour guides can be booked. Download the "Belize Health" app and provide personal information no later than 72 hours prior to arrival. Do the PCR COVID-19 test (less than 72 hours before entry).	Present the PCR COVID-19 test upon entry (test not older than 72 hours). Follow the instructions and guidelines of the local health authorities (mask in the airport, frequent hand washing, distance 1.5 m). Randomly selected health checks upon entry, thus possible second COVID-19 test at the expense of the traveler (USD 50.00 per person).	Most of the archaeological sites and tourist activities are open. However, all activities can only be visited with state-certified and recognized transport companies and tour guides. Self-drive trips are currently not possible, they can be carried out again from January 1, 2021 (phase 4).	Belize City International Airport has been open since Oct 1st, as are most of the country's domestic airports.	Daily flights from USA to Belize City. Flights from Cancun to Belize City in October to mid-November twice a week, from mid-November then daily. Flights from Flores, Guatemala to Belize City daily starting mid-November.	In Belize, more stringent cancellation conditions apply, which will be communicated on a case-by-case basis depending on the service provider.	travelbelize.org/health-safety
Costa Rica	ARA Tours	Since 1 st of August 2020	<p>Requirements to enter Costa Rica don't include a PCR test anymore, only the following two conditions apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Insurance that covers up to \$ 50,000 medical costs and \$ 2,000 quarantine costs in the event of COVID-19 disease. For the quarantine costs of USD 2,000, ARA Tours can issue a takeover guarantee exclusively for its customers, which is accepted by the authorities upon entry (see our newsletter). Completion of an online health form 48h before departure with uploaded of insurance documents (all insurance information should be uploaded as 1 document!), afterwards reception of a QR-Code. 	Check of the QR-Code received after filling in the online health form, eventually individual clarification of the insurance cover and health status in case of showing symptoms.	Most relevant hotels open until mids of December 2020. The beaches are currently open from 5:00 a.m. to 10pm on weekdays and 8pm on weekends, the most important national parks are open and operate at 50% of their capacity.	SJO, LIR	<p>Iberia: MAD-SJO: Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays, from January 2nd 2021 also Saturdays</p> <p>Lufthansa: FRA-SJO-FRA on Wednesdays and Saturdays.</p> <p>Edelweiss: ZRH-SJO-ZRH December 23rd and 30th, during January and February on Thursdays, during March on Tuesdays and thursdays, from April: Tuesdays, Fridays and Sundays</p> <p>Air France: 3-4 flights per week</p> <p>KLM: 3-4 flights per week</p> <p>British Airways: not confirmed yet</p> <p>Condor: not confirmed yet*</p>	For the period of the pandemic there are no cancellation costs up to 15 days before arrival. Individual exceptions will be communicated with the booking confirmation.	More information can be found on: aratours.com
Dominican Republic	Caribbean Tours	<p>Tourist flights to and from the Dominican Republic have been resumed on July, 1.</p> <p>The Ministry of Tourism and the Dominican Civil Aviation Authority, in coordination with the private sector, worked to establish protocols for the country's tourism industry to protect tourists' and staff's health. The Dominican Republic is now no longer on the list of risk countries for Switzerland, i. e. returnees to Switzerland are no longer required to undergo quarantine.</p>	Travellers should check directly with the airline whether they need to carry out any tests or have any other requirements for visiting the Dominican Republic. Travellers can now register for an electronic ticket for entering and leaving the country at this link: https://eticket.migracion.gob.do	<p>In addition to the immigration and customs forms, passengers must complete and submit an official declaration on the health of the traveller, which is provided by the airline or the Dominican authorities upon arrival.</p> <p>At the airport and other ports of entry, temperature controls and other checks are carried out to monitor all arriving passengers. Starting on September 15th at arrival, rapid tests, such as the diagnostic breath test for COVID-19, will be performed for selected travelers.</p>	Since July 1 st , all airports and tourist activities in the Dominican Republic are operational again.	All airports have been open since July 1 st , including the reactivation of air routes from Europe, Latin America, Canada and the United States.	Swiss, Edelweiss, Air Canada, Iberia, Air France, Aeromexico	We can discuss the various options with tour operators and agencies and start on the simple basis of a 14-day free cancellation before check-in. We will make sure to be as flexible as possible.	drtravelcenter.com

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Ecuador	Latventure Ecuador	Possible since 14.08.2020.	A negative PCR-COVID 19 test must be conducted in the country of departure.	<p>Entering Ecuador:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proof of a negative PCR-COVID-19 test, which was performed max. 10 days before entry • Submission of the health declaration (the document will be distributed in the plane) • Temperature measurement <p>Entry Galapagos:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For persons over 18 years: Proof of a negative PCR-COVID-19 test, performed no more than 96 hours before departure, a test from Europe is accepted. Alternatively, a test can be performed on site (cost: approx. 80 USD). • Proof of international health insurance. • Submission of the health declaration. • The following documents are required: Galapagos Transit Control Card, "Salvoconducto" (issued by a local agency) and return flight ticket. 	<p>Many tourist attractions in Ecuador are open, and safety protocols must be observed (temperature measurement, disinfection, mask requirement, etc.).</p> <p>The national parks on the mainland are only open from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. and closed on Mondays.</p> <p>All train journeys are suspended until further notice.</p>	All airports are open again.	KLM, LATAM, Air Europa, Iberia.	<p>On the mainland, we offer following cancellation policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • until 15 days prior to departure: gratis • 14-12 days prior to departure: 35% • 11-8 days prior to departure: 50% • 7-01 days prior to departure: 75% • 00 days prior to departure or no-show: 90% <p>On Galapagos, different conditions apply and depend on the product, for example cruises.</p>	micequito.ec/2020/11/01/covid-19-reporte-semanal/
Guatemala	Expedición Panamundo	General entry possible since September 18 th 2020	Conducting a PCR-COVID-19 test or an antigen test in the country of departure and filling in of the online health passport. (Pase de salud/health pass) (https://sre.gt)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Proof of a negative PCR-COVID-19 test or proof of a negative antigen test not older than 72 hours prior to arrival. This is mandatory for all travellers who are 10 years of age or older 2) Submission of the health declaration 3) Mask requirement (compulsary for all travellers age two years or older) 4) Temperature measurement" 	Tikal is the first archaeological site open to welcome visitors with a maximum group size of 15 Pax. The Museum of Archaeology in Guatemala City also opened again. Beaches, rivers and lakes are also open since the beginning of October. The other archaeological sites and national parks reopened gradually during the last weeks.	Both international airports in Guatemala City and Flores are open since 18 th September 2020	Currently operating airlines: United Airlines via Houston, American Airlines via Miami, American Airlines via Dallas, Lufthansa via Mexico City, Iberia from Madrid (3x week)	FIT's: No cancellation fee until 15 days prior to arrival. Groups: No cancellation fee until 30 days prior to arrival.	visitguatemala.com
Colombia	Neptuno	The entry to Colombia is allowed since September. A negativ PCR Covid test currently is not necessary.	You have to do the migration control online 24 h before your arrival and one has to download the Coronaapp and indicate your state of health. Currently a negativ Covid Test is not necessary.	You have to do the migration control online 24 h before your arrival and one has to download the Coronaapp and indicate your state of health. Currently a negativ Covid Test is not necessary. They will take your temperature at your arrival at the airport.	Since 1 st September it is posible to travel in Colombia. All important Hotels, Restaurants and attractions are opened again. Step by step the few providers left, are starting up again. All of them adhere to strict health and hygiene regulations. It is mandatory to wear a mask in the whole country and also outside.	All mayor airports in the country are opened again.	Avianca (Madrid, Barcelona, London), Iberia, KLM/Air France, Turkish Airlines, Air Europe. Starting from 03rd November, Lufthansa will have 3 connections weekly Bogotá - Frankfurt - Bogotá, flights will operate on Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays.	Cancellation without cost until 15 days before arrival. Exceptions are being mentioned with the confirmation.	
Cuba	Caribbean Tours	Cuba has reopened its borders to international tourists as of July 2020. In Havana, phase 3 and transition to "new normality" will be effective immediately (October 12): restaurants, cafes, museums, galleries will be open again with 50% capacity for visitors. The beaches of Havana Playas del Este have also reopened with more space between the sunbeds. Beach destination Varadero is open again for international tourists as of October 15. The International Airport in Havana reopened for regular flights on Nov. 15. Cuba is no longer "risk area" for German tourists, meaning no self-isolation is needed after visiting Cuba.	Travellers must keep in mind that a medical travel insurance (covering eventual Covid-19 related problems) is compulsory to enter the country. Clients can choose the one that most suits their needs according to the length of stay and other factors. Should a passenger have a temperature of more than 37.5° C, he or she cannot enter the aircraft. It is advisable that clients are recommended to carry out a PCR a couple of days before departure, as they will not be able to enjoy their holidays in case of a positive PCR.	Tourists must fill a Health Declaration form, all tourists are tested for possible infections by temperature measurement and Covid-19 PCR tests on arrival. All luggage get disinfected after arrival. Tourists must stay in their hotel or accommodation until they receive their test result (generally after 24 hours). After a negative result is confirmed, they are legally allowed to go out and enjoy their holidays.	Tourist destination Varadero is open again for international tourists as of October 15. Flights to Havana are now allowed again. Interprovincial visits are now allowed by all known means of transport, with the exception of the provinces of Pinar del Rio and Ciego de Avila. The province of Sancti Spiritus is now open again. All other provinces are already in the phase of "nueva normalidad" due to the even lower number of cases, without neglecting the important safety protocols, such as wearing masks in all places, keeping a minimum distance and calling on the population to see a doctor immediately in case of any symptoms.	Cayo Coco, Cayo Largo del Sur, "Abel Santamaría" in Santa Clara, Varadero, Havana. Soon also Holguin.	Condor, Edelweiss	We can discuss the various options with tour operators and agencies and start on the simple basis of a 14-day free cancellation before check-in. We will make sure to be as flexible as possible.	mintur.gob.cu

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Mexico	Tierra Maya Tours	Currently possible without restrictions	No special official requirements before entering the country	Instructions and guidelines from the local health authorities must be followed (mask in the airport, frequent hand washing, distance 1.5 m). There are different hygiene protocols depending on the state, generally health checks are carried out on entry by means of temperature measurement and questionnaires.	Many archaeological sites / museums / activities have been open since September. In the southeast of the country (Quintana Roo, Yucatan, Campeche, Chiapas) the most important archaeological sites are open, for example Tulum, Coba, Ek Balam, Chichen Itza, Uxmal, Palenque, Calakmul). The Teotihuacan archaeological site is open in central Mexico. Museums in Mexico City are open, the number of people is limited, but the authorities can sometimes close them at very short notice.	All airports in the country are open.	Edelweiss currently flies directly from Zurich to Cancun once a week, and twice a week from 2021. Lufthansa currently flies three times a week directly from Frankfurt to Cancun. From mid-February, Condor is expected to fly directly to Cancun several times a week from Frankfurt. Air France is currently flying direct from Paris to Cancun three times a week, and four times a week from 2021. From January 20, 2021, TUIfly will be flying direct from Brussels to Cancun four times a week. Lufthansa currently flies daily directly from Frankfurt to Mexico City.	FIT bookings: up to 30 days before the start of the trip = USD20 per person / for families of at least 04 people = USD50 per booking. 29 to 15 days before the start of the trip = 20% of the total amount. 14 to 08 days before the start of the trip = 35% of the total amount. 07 to 01 days before the start of the trip = 75% of the total amount. No-show = 100% of the total. For group bookings, previously agreed cancellation conditions apply.	Video about arrival at Cancun; youtu.be/OFPaiAwHsL8
Nicaragua	ARA Tours	14 Jul 2020 entry possible via airport and border towards Costa Rica or Honduras. However, for now it's not possible to leave the country towards Costa Rica by land.	Entry by air: negative PCR test within 72 hours prior to the arrival in Nicaragua. The test result needs to be sent to the migration authorities until 36 hours prior departure by the airline, together with copy of the passport. Entry by land: negative PCR test, not older than 72 hours before entry to Nicaragua.	Travelers are required to present their negative PCR test, not older than 72 hours. They need to inform their address and local phone number in Nicaragua. The local authorities will then give a follow-up to assure there are no symptoms nor any medical attention is required.	Some hotels are still closed, although they are officially allowed to operate throughout the country.	International airport Managua MAG and regional airport Corn Island.	Currently, there are only connections via Miami or San Salvador available: Avianca flies twice per week Miami - Managua - Miami and 4 times per week San Salvador - Managua - San Salvador.	no current bookings	
Panama	GAPA Travel	12 Oct 2020	Negative COVID PCR or antigen test taken no more than 48 hours prior to their arrival time in Panama. Prior to check-in, all incoming travelers will be required to complete an Electronic Affidavit (sworn statement) which will be available on www.panamadigital.gob.pa/Registro	Travelers will be required to present a negative COVID PCR or antigen test taken no more than 48 hours prior to their arrival time in Panama! If a passenger's COVID test was taken more than 48 hours before arriving at the airport, they will be mandated to take a rapid COVID test at the airport, the traveler will have to cover the costs (50 USD). Surgical face masks are always required. Passengers are subject to temperature screening upon entering the airport.	International and national Airports, most of the Hotels and touristic sights like beaches and national parks are reopened. Touristic sights have to comply with a protocol of bio-security including temperature measurement, disinfection stations and the requirement of masks for all visitors. The borders to Costa Rica and some touristic sights like the visitors center of Miraflores locks and Agua Clara locks are still closed. There will be no Panama Canal Crossing Tour until January 2021. In Panama City and the province of Panama Oeste applies a curfew daily between 9:00 p.m. and 05:00 a.m.	Airports are reopened (except of San Blas Airport).	KLM, Air France and Iberia have already reestablished flights to Panama City. Turkish Airlines and Air Europa have announced flights by November/December 2020. Lufthansa is expected to reestablish flights in the first quarter of 2021.	15 days prior to arrival free of charge.	visitpanama.com/information/travel-guide-lines/