

LATINCONNECT CORONA UPDATE

CALENDAR WEEK 09 / 2021

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. At the moment it is not possible to enter Argentina for tourism (except for Citizens and Residents).	The future entry regulations for EU citizens are currently still unclear. Authorized travellers 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). Upon entry a 10 day quarantine has to be completed no matter the test result.	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/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.gob.ar/turismoy-deportes/protocolos-covid-turismo-deportes argentina.travel argentina.gob.ar/salud/coronavirus/ingresar-egresar-argentina/requisitos-para-iniciar-viaje-argentina
Belize	Tierra Maya Tours	Entry possible since October 1 st , but only via Int. Belize City Airport (Phase 3). Entry across the national borders of Mexico or Guatemala is still not possible.	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 now possible again.	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 currently five times a week. There are currently no flights from Flores, Guatemala to Belize City, date of opening not known.	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	Requirements to enter Costa Rica don't include a PCR test anymore, only the following two conditions apply: <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 since mids of December 2020. The beaches are currently open from 5:00 a.m. to 18:00pm (restriction applies until February, 28st), the most important national parks are open and operate at 100% of their capacity.	SJO, LIR	Iberia: MAD-SJO: Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays Lufthansa: FRA-SJO-FRA on Wednesdays and Saturdays. Edelweiss: ZRH-SJO-ZRH: during March each Thursday, from March 29 th to end of April: on Mondays and Fridays Air France: Offers 2 flights per week on Thursdays and Saturdays KLM: Offers a flight on Friday and Sundays to/from Amsterdam. The Airline is not taking passengers from Costa Rica to Amsterdam for the moment. British Airways: not confirmed yet Condor: not confirmed yet	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	Tourist flights to and from the Dominican Republic have been resumed on July, 1. 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.	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	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. At the airport and other ports of entry, temperature controls and other checks are carried out to monitor all arriving passengers. Starting on September 15 th at arrival, rapid tests, such as the diagnostic breath test for COVID-19, will be performed for selected travelers.	Since July 1 st , all airports and tourist activities in the Dominican Republic are operational again. Apart from most all-inclusive hotels, most national parks and beaches have also opened. There is a curfew until mid-March. Monday to Friday 7.00pm to 5.00am, Saturday and Sunday 5.00pm to 5.00am. However, you have 3 hours after the start of the curfew to get home.	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 our 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 • At the airport, a random rapid test is performed on persons over 14 years of age. • 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 12 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>It is recommended on the Ecuadorian mainland to do tours with private guide only, as many operators do not offer group excursions at this time.</p> <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 Note: in both cases only nasopharyngeal tests are accepted, no blood or saliva tests! Important: Travelers from Great Britain and South Africa are not allowed to enter Guatemala, neither are travelers who have been in Great Britain or South Africa during the last 14 days or whose flight connection was via a British airport. 2) Submission of the health declaration 3) Mask requirement (compulsary for all travellers age two years or older) 4) Temperature measurement 5) Travelers who have already been vaccinated must show the certificate of both vaccination doses upon entry. The second vaccination must have been received at least 14 days before the start of the trip. Vaccinated people do not need to submit any further tests to enter Guatemala 	All archaeological sites and national parks are 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. All Easter processions for 2021 have been cancelled.	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. Since 04 th January a negativ PCR Covid test not older than 96 hours is required.	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. Since 04 th January a negativ PCR Covid test not older than 96 hours is required.	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. They will take your temperature at your arrival at the airport. Since 04 th January a negativ PCR Covid test not older than 96 hours is required.	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.	

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Cuba	Caribbean Tours	<p>Cuba has opened its borders to international tourism from July 2020 in certain regions (e.g. Cayo Coco, etc). As of October 15, the beach destination of Varadero has been reopened to international tourism and as of November 15, Havana Airport has also reopened and traveling around the island is possible.</p> <p>The Cuban Ministry of Tourism (MINTUR) has updated the hygiene protocol to reduce the risk of contracting COVID-19.</p> <p>Cuba is not a "risk area" for German tourists, meaning no self-isolation is needed after visiting Cuba.</p>	<p>Since January 10, 2021, International travellers must present upon entry a certificate with a negative result of a PCR-RT test for SARS Cov-2 (in English language) prepared by a certified laboratory in the home country and performed within 72 hours prior to arrival on the island.</p> <p>An insurance with COVID-19 coverage is mandatory. If an insurance has not been obtained in the home country or its proof is not available upon entry, a Cuban health insurance must be obtained at the Cuban airports upon entry for the duration of the stay.</p>	<p>In addition to the PCR test that must be available from the home country upon entry, a mandatory PCR test at the airport in Cuba will be realized (regardless of the negative test result from the departure country for all passengers). The result, is usually transmitted to your accommodation after 24 hours. You are not allowed to leave your accommodation until you get a NEGATIVE result of the PCR test. During this time, the mask must also be worn in the accommodation. However, the traveller can move around in all common areas of the accommodation (pool, bar, beach, etc.) during these 24 hours after arrival while waiting for the test result. 24 hours, after receiving his negative test result, the traveller can freely explore and enjoy the city and travel to other provinces.</p> <p>Tourists must fill out a health declaration upon entry, indicating the address in Cuba (accommodation – hotel or casa particular) where the traveller can be reached during the first days after entry.</p> <p>If a passenger has a temperature higher than 37.5° C, he or she will not be able to board the plane.</p> <p>Wearing a mouth-nose protection/mask (in Cuba: called "nasobuco") is mandatory at the airport and in public places throughout Cuba. Exceptions apply in hotel areas, such as the beach or pool, where compliance with the distance rules (recommended minimum distance of 1.5 m) can be ensured. In restaurants, the mask must be worn when entering and leaving the restaurant, as well as in the buffet area and when ordering at the bar. Mask protection is also mandatory in restrooms. However, once you have taken a seat in the restaurant or café, the mask may of course be removed at the table.</p> <p>The minimum distance of 1.5 m between 2 people must always be respected.</p>	<p>During travel – Current situation Cuba – Update 01/20/2021.</p> <p>The Covid 19 situation in Cuba has worsened somewhat in some provinces in recent weeks, which lead the government to implement some stricter measures to contain the pandemic. Nevertheless, compared to the infection outbreaks in North America or Europe, the case numbers remain relatively low. Furthermore, Cuba continues to be considered a safe travel destination that has not been classified as a risk area according to the risk country lists.</p> <p>Entry into Cuba via the international airports (Havana and Varadero), as well as other provinces, is still possible for international tourists without restrictions.</p> <p>Some hotels and private accommodations are open in all provinces and international travellers can move from one province without any restrictions. Guests are allowed to stay in official accommodations (hotels and casas particulares) without any restrictions.</p> <p>Beach vacations in the most famous beach destinations like Varadero, Cayo Santa Maria or Cayo Coco are possible without restrictions and can be booked at very attractive conditions.</p> <p>Touristic round trips are basically possible and top spots like Viñales, Trinidad and Cienfuegos are accessible for the travellers.</p> <p>Round trips by rental car or cab to other provinces are possible. Public interprovincial bus service (such as Viazul) is not working at the moment.</p> <p>In the provinces or isolated districts of some provinces that are in "Phase 0" (phase with the greatest restriction, e. g. currently Havana), all tourist services (museums, galleries, nature reserves, nightlife, etc.) and also restaurants are closed and only offer delivery service or takeaway food. Nevertheless, sightseeing tours with a guide or on your own through the city as well as, for example, vintage car panorama tours can still take place in these parts of the country.</p>	Cayo Coco, Cayo Largo del Sur, "Abel Santamaria" in Santa Clara, Varadero, Havana. Soon also Holguin.	Condor, Edelweiss	We can discuss the various options with tour operators and agencies basing on our GTC and cancellation policy before check-in. We will make sure to be as flexible as possible.	mintur.gob.cu

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Cuba (continuation)					We currently do not recommend any travel to the eastern part of the island (especially Guantanamo and Santiago de Cuba). Long distances, lack of transportation alternatives and insufficient alternative infrastructure makes it difficult for us to guarantee a carefree journey to the guests.				
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 south-east of the country (Quintana Roo, Yucatan, Campeche, Chiapas) the most important and best-known excavation sites are open, such as Tulum, Coba, Ek Balam, Chichen Itza, Uxmal, Palenque, Calakmul. Most museums and archaeological sites in central Mexico are currently closed. Exceptions are the archaeological sites of Monte Alban and Mitla in the state of Oaxaca.	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 the end of March, Condor is expected to fly directly to Cancun several times a week from Frankfurt. Air France currently flies four times a week direct from Paris to Cancun. From mid-February, TUIfly will be flying direct from Brussels to Cancun four times a week. Lufthansa currently flies several times a week 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.	Avianca SAL-MGA (4x per week) Avianca MIA-MGA (2x per week) Copa PTY-MGA (2x per week)	no current bookings	
Panama	GAPA Travel	12 Oct 2020	Negative COVID PCR or antigen test taken no more than 48 hours prior to their department. Prior to check-in, all incoming travelers will be required to complete an Electronic Affidavit (sworn statement) which will be available on https://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 department. If the passenger cannot provide a negative test, a mandatory rapid COVID test will be taken 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.	Travel is subject to certain restrictions depending on the region. From March 6th, most of the economic activities will be reactivated and curfews lifted. As of March 6th, there will only be a nationwide daily curfew between 10 p.m. and 4 a.m. Checkpoints have been set up along the Panamericana. Tourists are allowed to pass these after presenting a valid hotel room reservation. National parks are open and are subject to a maximum number of daily visitors. Tickets for the national park visit must be booked online at least 3 days in advance. Beaches are accessible daily from 6 a.m. to 5 p.m. Around 50 % of the hotels are already open again. In the interior of the country, almost all tourist activities are open. In Panama City, the restrictions primarily relate to activities around the Panama Canal (train ride, canal boat trips, canal visitor centers closed) and San Blas.	Airports are reopened (except of San Blas Airport).	Air France, Iberia, Turkish Airlines and Air Europa have already re-established flights to Panama City. Lufthansa and KLM are expected to reestablish flights in the first quarter of 2021.	15 days prior to arrival free of charge.	visitpanama.com/information/travel-guide-lines/