

LATINCONNECT CORONA UPDATE

CALENDAR WEEK 22 / 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.	Authorized travellers are subjected to a health check upon entry (temperature measurement) and must take certain measures BEFORE entering the country (see left).	Attractions are 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/LA-TAM/AF/IB/BA/TK/Edelweiss.	Currently we are offering 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 via Belize City Int. Airport and across the national borders of Mexico or Guatemala is now also possible, borders are all open again.	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 is open, as are most of the country's domestic airports.	Daily flights from USA to Belize City. Flights from Cancun to Belize City currently six times a week. At the moment there are also flights from Belize City to Guatemala City five times a week.	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: several flights per week on changing weekdays Lufthansa: FRA-SJO-FRA on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. Edelweiss: ZRH-SJO-ZRH: during June one weekly flight arriving on Saturdays and leaving on Sundays, from July 2 weekly flights on Tuesdays and Fridays and from November 3 weekly flights on Tuesdays, Fridays and Sundays. Air France: currently one weekly flight on Wednesdays KLM: 3 weekly flights AMS-SJO-LIR during July and August 2021	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

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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 if the traveller can not present a vaccination certificate (BioNtech/Pfizer, Astrazene-ca, Sinovac, Covax or Sputnik).	<p>Entering Ecuador:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proof of a negative PCR-COVID-19 or rapid test performed no more than 72 hours prior to entry. OR • Presentation of a vaccination certificate with the complete vaccination against COVID-19 (Pfizer-BioNTech, Sinovac, Covax, Sputnik or AstraZeneca). • 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 from 18 years on: 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>	<p>All airports are open again.</p> <p>Flights to Coca take place only on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.</p>	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 Brazil, Great Britain, Northern Ireland and South Africa are only allowed to enter Guatemala if they go into a 10-day quarantine. This also applies to travelers who have stayed in one of these countries during the last 14 days or whose flight connection was via these countries. 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.	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 (4x week), KLM via Panama (daily)	FIT's: No cancellation fee until 15 days prior to arrival. Groups: No cancellation fee until 30 days prior to arrival.	visitguatemala.com

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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.	
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 tourists from Switzerland, meaning no self-isolation is needed after visiting Cuba. In Germany, Cuba was placed on the list of risk countries on 03.01.2021. There are quarantine regulations for returnees here (10 days of domestic isolation).</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 from the home country upon entry, additional mandatory PCR-test at the airport in Cuba (regardless of the negative test result from the country of departure for all passengers.) The result will be sent to the accommodation normally after approx. 24 hours. It is not allowed to leave the accommodation before receiving a NEGATIVE test result. During this period, the mask must also be worn at the accommodation.</p> <p>Conditions only for tourists who have booked a roundtrip package (rental car or private roundtrip) with a local Tour Operator, such as Caribbean Tours:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In Varadero (and other beach destinations at the all-inclusive beach-resorts): The traveler can move freely in all common areas of the accommodation (pool, bar, beach, etc.) within the first 24 hours of arrival while waiting for the negative result. After receiving the negative result, the traveler can freely explore and enjoy the city and travel to other provinces. In Havana (or other cities of Cuba): The traveler has to stay in the hotel room until receiving the negative test result. <p>Conditions for all travelers who are travelling on their own, who do not have a roundtrip package after their first hotel in Cuba or those who want to visit their family (applies to Cuban and international travelers):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Travelers have to stay at least 5 nights/6 days in the first hotel. On the 5th day they are required to take a second PCR test in Cuba at the hotel and are free to leave the hotel after receiving the negative test result of the second Cuban PCR test. (During this time same conditions as mentioned above, in the beach resorts they can move freely throughout the resort, in Havana and other cities, they are required to stay in their hotel room). 	<p>During travel – Current situation Cuba – Update 03/09/2021.</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 a safe travel destination.</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>	No restriction for tourists.	Condor, Edelweiss, Iberia, Air France	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)				<p>Tourists must fill out a health declaration upon entry, indicating the address in Cuba (accommodation: hotel) 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>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> <p>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.</p>				
Mexico	Tierra Maya Tours	Currently possible without restrictions	No special official requirements before entering the country	<p>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.</p>	<p>Most of the country's tourist attractions are open. In the south-east of the country (Quintana Roo, Yucatan, Campeche, Chiapas) the most important and best-known archaeological sites are open, such as Tulum, Coba, Ek Balam, Chichen Itza, Uxmal, Palenque, Calakmul. Most of the museums and archaeological sites in central Mexico are now open again, some with a limited number of visitors and changed opening times.</p>	All airports in the country are open.	<p>Edelweiss currently flies twice a week, in July-August even three times a week from Zurich to Cancun. Lufthansa and Condor currently fly direct from Frankfurt to Cancun three times a week. Air France currently flies direct from Paris to Cancun three times a week. Lufthansa currently flies several times a week directly from Frankfurt to Mexico City.</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>Video about arrival at Cancun; youtu.be/OFPaiAwHsL8</p>
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 negativ PCR test, not older than 72 hours. They need to inform their adress and local phone number in Nicaragua. The local authorities will then give a follow-up to assure there are no symptoms nor any medial attention is required.	Some hotels are still closed, although they are officilally allowed to operate throughout the country.	International airport Managua MAG and regional airport Corn Island.	<p>Avianca SAL-MGA (4x per week)</p> <p>Avianca MIA-MGA (2x per week)</p> <p>Copa PTY-MGA (2x per week)</p>	no current bookings	

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Panama	GAPA Travel	Since October 2020, entry for tourists has been possible again via Tocumen International Airport (Panama City). Since March 2021, it has also been possible to enter Costa Rica by land. It is possible to leave Panama for Costa Rica by land from April 5, 2021.	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	Temperature measurement on arrival in Panama. Presentation of a negative PCR COVID-19 or antigen test, not older than 48 hours before departure! If this cannot be presented, a Covid-19 rapid test will be carried out at the airport; the cost of this test must be covered by the traveler (50 USD). The test result of the rapid test is available about 30 minutes after the test; if the result is negative, the regular trip can be continued. A positive test results in a 14-day quarantine in a hotel organized by the state (Hotel Hospital). Mouth and nose protection must be worn while at the airport. Important: When transiting or entering from South America, South Africa and the United Kingdom (within the last 20 days) a PCR test must be submitted no older than 48 hours before departure to Panama. Furthermore, a further molecular Covid-19 test on arrival at the airport at cost of the travelers (85.00 USD), as well as a subsequent 3-day quarantine in a hotel is mandatory. The hotel must be booked in advance by the travelers and proof of booking must be presented. Current authorized hotels are: Westin Panama, Westin Playa Bonita, Sortis Hotel. After three days, the quarantine can be ended with a further negative test (at cost of the travelers).	Most of the economic blocs were reactivated, following the hygiene protocols of each economic bloc. Depending on the region, travel may still be subject to certain restrictions, which can also be changed at short notice and depending on the infection rate. The two provinces of Chiriquí, Coclé and Veraguas are currently subject to a daily curfew from 8:00 p.m. to 4:00 a.m.. A curfew applies nationwide between 00:00 a.m. and 4:00 a.m. National parks are open and are subject to a maximum number of daily visitors. Tickets for visiting the national park must be booked online at least 3 days in advance. Beaches are accessible daily from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Around 50% of the hotels are already open again. In the interior of the country, almost all tourist activities are possible again. In Panama City, the restrictions primarily relate to activities around the canal (train ride, canal trips, canal visitor centers closed) and San Blas.	Airports are reopened (except of San Blas Airport).	Air France, KLM, Iberia, Turkish Airlines and Air Europa have already reestablished flights to Panama City. Eurowings will offer flights between Frankfurt and Panama City from the first quarter of 2022.	15 days prior to arrival free of charge.	visitpanama.com/information/travel-guidelines/