

Entry Requirements to Saba

Frequently Asked Questions

April 15th 2021

Q: What is Saba's strategy during this COVID19 pandemic?

- A. Saba has utilized a containment strategy during the pandemic in order to prevent the COVID19 virus entering the island. After a successful vaccine campaign, which has resulted in a high percentage of persons on island being vaccinated against COVID19, we will now enter a new phase, adopting a mitigation strategy as of May 1st, 2021. This means there will be a new entry policy to the island and with that comes a measured risk of introduction of COVID19 to Saba.

Q: Do I need approval to enter Saba?

- A. Yes, almost all travelers to Saba need to obtain approval before arriving to Saba. For now, approval can be requested at least 72 hours before arrival through info@sabagov.nl. Currently a new automated approval system is being developed and is intended to be in operation after May 1st. Once live, it will be announced on <https://www.sabagov.nl/>

The following persons are exempt from individual approval:

- Saban residents who were off island for a ZVK medical referral

Q. How are countries categorized?

- A. Depending on the country people travel from to Saba, different measures and requirements are in place. The following 3 categories are in place:
- *Banned countries:* These are countries with higher presence of COVID19 Variants of Concern. Currently these are mostly countries in Central and South America, and South Africa. For an up-to-date list of countries on the banned list, please see: [Ban on flights from South Africa and countries in Central and South America | Coronavirus COVID-19 | Government.nl](#)
 - *Low-risk countries:* These are countries with no local transmission of COVID19. Currently the following countries in the region are considered low risk:
 - Sint Eustatius
 - St Kitts and Nevis
 - Anguilla
 - British Virgin Islands
 - Montserrat
 - *High Risk countries:* These are all other countries not categorized as Low or Banned.

Q: Do I have to quarantine after arriving to Saba?

- A. All persons arriving to Saba before May 1st 2021 must quarantine for 10 days. The new policy takes effect on May 1st, those in quarantine at that time will be advised when they may conclude their quarantine as per the new policy.

As of May 1st, persons who have been fully vaccinated by any of the 4 approved vaccines, Moderna, Pfizer-BioNTech, Astra Zeneca and Johnson&Johnson/Janssen, are not required to quarantine when they arrive to Saba. Persons who have received one dose of vaccine, in a two-

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dose series, and can provide evidence of having acquired COVID19 in the previous 6 months also do not need to quarantine.

Children 17 years and younger do not need to quarantine, but will have to stay home from daycare/school/afterschool activities for 5 days.

Non-vaccinated adults will have to complete 5 days quarantine.

Q: Who needs a pretravel test before arriving to Saba

A. All people coming in from high-risk or banned countries need to have proof of a negative pre-travel test. The only exceptions are:

- Saba residents who spend less than 48 hours away from Saba.
- Persons aged 10 years and under (note: persons aged between 2 and 10 years must come to the testing clinic for a test upon arrival on Saba)

Only a negative PCR result is accepted from residents arriving from banned countries. Persons arriving from high-risk countries can present either a negative PCR or Rapid Antigen test.

Q: Are there additional entry requirements when travelling to Saba after May 1st?

A. The tables below detail the public health measures in place for persons entering Saba after May 1st depending upon your vaccination status, age group and country category you arrive from.

Fully vaccinated Adults:

	Pre-travel test* ¹	Quarantine	Rapid test on arrival	Rapid test day 5
Banned	Yes (PCR only)	Yes, 5 days	no	yes
High risk	Yes (PCR or Rapid Antigen)	no	no	no
Low risk	no	no	no	no

Non-vaccinated adults:

	Pre-travel test* ¹	Quarantine	Rapid test on arrival	Rapid test day 5
Banned	Yes (PCR only)	Yes, 5 days	no	yes
High risk	yes	Yes, 5 days	no	yes
Low risk	no	no	no	no

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Non-vaccinated persons <18 years old:

	Pre-travel test*¹	Quarantine	Rapid test on arrival	Rapid test day 5
Banned	Yes, for >10 (PCR only)	Yes, 5 days	Yes, for ages 2-10 (nasal)	Yes (nasal)
High risk	Yes, for >10 (PCR or Rapid Antigen)	No, but 5 days no school/daycare/after school care/ child focus	Yes, for ages 2-10 (nasal)	Yes (nasal)
Low risk	no	no	no	no

***1: the pretravel test can be taken max 72 hours before arrival to Saba**

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Q. What are the current measures on Saba against COVID19?

A. In managing and mitigating the risk of COVID19 on Saba there are 5 evolving levels of awareness. Activation of each level is dependent upon the situation on Saba, the surrounding region and evolving COVID19 virus strains. It is likely that over the coming months and perhaps years it will be necessary to transition between the various levels.



Awareness levels

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Ports of Entry 	Readiness Pretravel requirements dependent on vaccination status and country of origin	Diligence Pretravel requirements dependent on vaccination status and country of origin	Critical Pretravel requirements dependent on vaccination status and country of origin	Partial Lock down Quarantine all incoming travelers from high-risk countries/areas	Lock down Quarantine all incoming travelers from high-risk countries/areas
Schools 	Open as normal	Open with extra hygiene measures	Open with extra hygiene measures plus masks for staff and students 13 and up.	Open with extra hygiene measures plus masks for staff and students 13 and up. Closing only in exceptional situations.	Closed to the public, with distance learning available
Bars and restaurants 	Open	Open with up to 25 persons allowed while maintaining physical distance	Open only for outdoor (or similarly ventilated) seating areas and a max capacity of 25 patrons	Closed to the public, take-away or delivery only	Closed to the public
Stores + Public Places 	Open	Open with extra hygiene measures	Open, but only one person per household and max. 1 customer per 10M ²	Open, but only one person per household and max. 1 customer per 10M ²	Open, but only one person per household and max. 1 customer per 10M ²
Contact professions 	No restrictions	Open with extra hygiene measures	Open with extra hygiene measures	Closed to the public	Closed to the public
Group gatherings 	No restrictions, physical distancing is encouraged	Gatherings of up to 25 persons allowed while maintaining physical distance	Gatherings of max 4 people from different households; more people only allowed if from max two households	Gatherings of max. 2 people from different households; more people only allowed if from one household	Only gatherings of people from same household

Persons providing essential services whilst level 3-5 is activated are expected, to the best of their ability, to adhere to physical distance measures. Masks should be worn at all times and regular hand hygiene must be practiced. If payment is required, when feasible, encourage card payment. Premises should be well ventilated and appropriate cleaning of surfaces/utensils between clients should be carried out. Should essential service providers have questions on safely operating under the restrictions they are advised to contact Public Health on +599 416 6013

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Q: How can I get to Saba?

- A. Currently Winair flights remain twice per week, on Friday afternoon and Saturday morning until April 30th.
Starting May 1st there will be morning and afternoon flights on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. We encourage you to monitor the [Winair Website](#) for more developments. It is also possible to charter a flight to the island if you desire. For more information contact the following airline providers:
[Winair](#) or [SXM-Airways](#)
The ferry service to the island is in the process of being finalized. It should be in operation from May onwards. Monitor [here](#) for updates.

Other Frequently Asked Questions

Q: My destination requires a negative pre-travel PCR or Rapid Antigen test to enter, how can I make an appointment?

- A. Currently the Public Health Department is developing a drop in testing facility. Until that is finalized persons must send an email to publichealth@sabagov.nl stating their full name, date of birth, travel destination, travel date and test required to enter their destination. They will then receive an appointment time. A rapid antigen test will cost \$50 and a PCR test will cost \$75.

Q: Do I need to purchase travel insurance when travelling outside of the BES islands?

- A. ZVK advise to purchase extra travel insurance for all travels outside the BES islands. Below you will find a link with more information.
<https://english.rijksdienstcn.com/documents/leaflets/zjcn/2021/traveling-abroad/index>

Q: Do I need COVID19 insurance to enter St Maarten?

- A. Information about St. Maarten insurance can be found via the following link
<https://stmaartenehas.com/>