

COVID-19

External flights and inter-island connections in the Autonomous Region of the Azores

Information for passengers

This document was issued by the Regional Government of the Azores and aims at informing you about the existing measures in the Autonomous Region of the Azores, within the scope of the Covid-19 pandemic. These measures concern the passengers landing in Azores' airports from flights coming from regions considered by the World Health Organization (WHO) as being active community transmission zones of SARS-CoV-2 or that are known to have active transmission chains of this virus. It is also aimed at those passengers that intend to travel between the Azores Islands.

For further information, please check:

www.azores.gov.pt and <https://destinoseguro.azores.gov.pt/> - Web sites of the Regional Government of the Azores

www.who.int - Web site of the World Health Organization

www.dgs.pt - Web site of the General Health Directorate of Portugal:

EXTERIOR CONNECTIONS TO THE AUTONOMOUS REGION OF THE AZORES

Why is there a need to have specific measures for the passengers landing in the Azores?

First, for protection of your own health, of all those you may be in contact with while in the Azores, including your family, and the health of all the Azorean people.

Please keep in mind that the SARS-CoV-2 virus is highly contagious and may ultimately cause death.

It may happen that someone is infected without knowing it. This happens because, according to the present scientific knowledge, 25% to 30% of those infected are asymptomatic. This means that they do not show any symptoms like fever, cough, or difficult breathing. In these cases, being infected and asymptomatic, you may be contaminating other people without being aware of that.

On the other hand, even in the cases, when people are infected and end up showing symptoms, the period of contamination starts a few days before the symptoms appear. Finally, Portugal's mainland is considered by the WHO an active community transmission zone. This means that the SARS-CoV-2 virus circulates in the community without the possibility of determining the focus of the infection.

In order to prevent and contain the pandemic, the Regional Government of the Azores established several measures for the passengers that coming from the exterior, land in the airports of the islands of Santa Maria, Terceira, Pico and Faial.

Which are those measures and what do I have to do?

Since the 15th of June 2020, when you land in the Azores, you are given the following options:

The **first option** consists in already have been tested for SARS-CoV-2 virus on the 72 hours preceding your flight to the Azores, using the RT-PCR technique, and that the result was negative.

In this case you will have to show the document in digital or paper support issued by a lab that proves that the test for SARS-CoV-2 has been performed, using the RT-PCR technique, within the 72 hours before your departure from the origin airport. That document should contain your identification, the lab where the test was performed, the date of the test, the signature of the people who performed the test, and the NEGATIVE result.

If you stay longer than seven days, you should, on the 6th day from the date SARS-CoV-2 test was performed, contact the health services of the municipality, where you are staying so that another test can be performed by the Health Authorities that will inform you of the result.

This **second option** consists in starting the procedures to perform the SARS-CoV-2 test as soon as you land.

For that, the professionals of the Health Authorities at the airport will need to collect biological samples so that they may perform the SARS-CoV-2 test.

After the test has been performed, you must stay in prophylactic isolation at your home or place where you are staying until you get the negative results of the test.

If you stay seven days or longer, you should, on the 6th day from the date SARS-CoV-2 when the test was performed, contact the health services of the municipality where you are staying so that another test can be performed by the Health Authorities that will inform you of the result.

The **third option** consists in going back to the place where you boarded or travel to another destination outside of the Autonomous Region of the Azores, being until the time of departure, in prophylactic isolation in a hotel indicated for this purpose.

INTER-ISLANDS CONNECTIONS

If you intend to travel between the islands, either by air or by sea, you do not need a previous authorization from the Regional Health Authority, and you should act as follows:

- A) You should communicate that intent, on arrival, to the health authority by filling in the proper form;
- B) If you perform the SARS-CoV-2 test on arrival to the Region, in case you have another island as final destination, you must remain in prophylactic isolation at the place where you are lodged or in a hotel room designated for that purpose, until you are informed of the NEGATIVE result of the test. Only then you may proceed with your trip;
- C) If you present a previous NEGATIVE SARS-CoV-2 test, in case you have another island as final destination, you may travel to that island;
- D) When you arrive at the final destination island, on the 6th day, counting from the SARS-CoV-2 test, you must contact the Health Authority of the municipality where you are staying, or have accommodation, in order to perform the SARS-CoV-2 test, performed by the local health authority that will inform you of the result.

VERY IMPORTANT

The option taken by the passenger upon arrival, as well as the assessment of his health status at landing, and the intention to travel between islands, when applicable, gives rise to the need completing and signing a declaration, as well as to answer several questions posed by the health authority.

To facilitate the landing process, before traveling the passenger can complete the questionnaire of the Regional Health Authority, available at https://destinoseguro.azores.gov.pt/?page_id=5528.

If you do not complete the questionnaire mentioned above, you will have to complete and sign, on arrival, the Health form upon of Arrival in the Azores and the Health Statement for inter-island travel, if applicable.

While in the Azores, you must oblige to the rules of wearing a mask, social distancing, and breathing etiquette defined by the Regional Health Authorities.

In case the passenger refuses to oblige to all the previewed procedures, the Local Health Authority can within the framework of its powers, enforce the compulsory quarantine for the time needed to get the results of the SARS-CoV-2 test, or if the passenger does not allow the test to be performed, during fourteen days counting from the time of arrival to the Region in a hotel indicated for this purpose. The costs are supported by the passenger.

The non-compliance of the passenger with the prophylactic isolation under the above mentioned terms and period, as well as the non-compliance with the compulsory quarantine, in the cases it has been determined, implies the immediate presentation of a criminal claim of contempt by the Health Authority of the municipality, where you are staying.

Note: You may appeal or present a complaint, concerning the decisions of the Health Authority that affect you, at the Regional Health Authority, the Regional Secretary for Health of the Government of the Azores or a Judicial Court.

CONTACTS

Municipal Health Authority

A. Santa Maria:

Vila do Porto: Dr. Carlos Pinto - sres-dsvp@azores.gov.pt - 296 820 100

Working days from 9:00 am to 12:00 am and from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

B. São Miguel:

Ponta Delgada: Dra. Larisa Shogenova - sres-dspd@azores.gov.pt - 296 249 250

Working days from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

Ribeira Grande: Dr. José Carvalho Santos - sres-dsrg@azores.gov.pt - 296 470 500

Working days from 8:30 am to 1:00 pm and from 2:00 pm to 4:30 pm

Lagoa: Dr. Magno Silva - sres-dsl@azores.gov.pt - 296 960 286

Working days from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm

Vila Franca do Campo: Dr. João Martins de Sousa - sres-dsvfc@azores.gov.pt - 296 539 420

Working days from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm

Povoação: Dra. Isabel Gil - sres-dsp@azores.gov.pt - 296 550 150

Working days from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm

Nordeste: Dr. Teves Carreiro - sres-dsn@azores.gov.pt - 296 480 090

Working days from 8:30 am to 1:30 pm and from 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm

C. Terceira:

Angra do Heroísmo: Dr. Sérgio Melo - sres-dsah@azores.gov.pt - 295 402 900

Working days from 8:30 am to 5:30 pm

Praia da Vitória: Dra. Helena Gonçalves - sres-dspv@azores.gov.pt - 295 545 000

Working days from 8:30 am to 5:30 pm

D. Pico:

Lajes: Dra. Lisa Goulart - sres-dslp@azores.gov.pt - 292 679 400

Working days from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

São Roque: Dra. Liliana Dancov - sres-dsr0@azores.gov.pt - 292 648 083

Working days from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

Madalena: Dr. Augusto Chaleira - sres-dsm@azores.gov.pt - 292 240 570

Working days from 8:00 am to 12:00 am and from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

E. Faial:

Horta: Dr. Armando Faria - sres-dsh@azores.gov.pt - 292 207 200

Working days from 8:30 am to 5:30 pm

F. Graciosa:

Santa Cruz: Dra. Carla Medeiros - sres-dssc@azores.gov.pt - 295 730 070

Working days from 8:30 am to 12:30 am and from 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm

G. São Jorge:

Calheta: Dr. César Gonçalves - sres-dsc@azres.gov.pt - 295 460 120

Working days from 9:30 am to 12:30 am and from 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm

Velas: Dr. César Gonçalves - sres-dsv@azres.gov.pt - 295 460 120

Working days from 9:30 am to 12:30 am and from 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm

H. Flores:

Santa Cruz e Lajes: Dr. Rogério Ascensão - sres-dsf@azores.gov.pt - 295 590 270

Working days from 8:30 am to 5:30 pm

I. Corvo:

Vila Nova do Corvo: Dr. António Almeida - sres-dsvnc@azores.gov.pt – 292 596 153

Working days from 9:00 am to 4:30 pm

Regional Health Authority

Nurse Tiago Lopes - sres-drs@azores.gov.pt - 295 204 200

Regional Secretary for Health

Dr. Teresa Machado Luciano - sres@azores.gov.pt - 295 204 200

Judicial Courts

A. Santa Maria:

Vila do Porto - vporto.judicial@tribunais.org.pt - Phone: 296 090 010

B. São Miguel:

Ponta Delgada - pdelgada.judicial@tribunais.org.pt - Phone: 296 209 670

Ribeira Grande - ribgrande.judicial@tribunais.org.pt - Phone: 296 470 700

Lagoa - pdelgada.judicial@tribunais.org.pt - Phone: 296 209 670

Vila Franca do Campo - vfcampo.judicial@tribunais.org.pt - Phone: 296 539 070

Povoação - povoacao@tribunais.org.pt - Phone: 296 550 080

Nordeste - nordeste@tribunais.org.pt - Phone: 296 090 020

C. Terceira:

Praia da Vitória - praiav.judicial@tribunais.org.pt - Phone: 295 540 360

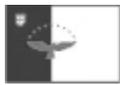
Angra do Heroísmo - angrah.judicial@tribunais.org.pt - Phone: 295 204 600

D. Pico

São Roque do Pico - sroquepico.judicial@tribunais.org.pt - Phone: 292 648 060

E. Faial

Horta - horta.judicial@tribunais.org.pt - Phone: 292 208 320



F. Graciosa:

Santa Cruz da Graciosa - stacgrac.judicial@tribunais.org.pt – 295 730 100

G. São Jorge:

Velas - velas.judicial@tribunais.org.pt - 295 430 170

H. Flores:

Santa Cruz das Flores - stacflores.judicial@tribunais.org.pt – 292 590 220