

Health Guidelines for Managing Tourists during the Pilot Project Period

These guidelines are applicable only for the duration of the pilot project for bringing tourists under controlled conditions.

Pilot project will start on a date declared by the Ministry of Tourism in consultation with the Ministry of Health.

Arrival of tourists would be limited to a duration of 01 week during which a maximum of 300 passengers allowed into the country on every other day. Only a single flight per day would be allowed except for one day during this week where maximum of two flights carrying tourists are allowed.

The entire process starting from the first day of the week mentioned above would be monitored closely by the Ministries of Health and Tourism jointly until the end day of quarantining of involved staff. It will be reviewed jointly by both ministries after this day and necessary recommendations will be made.

Unless specified otherwise, all other health guidelines in force are also applicable for this project.

Any unforeseen issues not addressed in these guidelines should be referred to the Director General of Health Services for his advice on a case by case basis.

	Description	Decision	Responsibility	Guideline
1. International Arrivals	Starting from a date declared by the Ministry of Tourism with the concurrence of the Ministry of Health	Ministry of Tourism in consultation with the Ministry of Health	Immigration/ CAA/AASL/SLTDA/ MoH (All stakeholders)	Tourist to arrive through Charter or scheduled flights to Katunayake and Mattala Airports only.
2. Visa	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> In addition to Visa Fees, through the Tourism App cost for PCR tests and COVID Insurance to be levied Countries to be selected jointly by the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Tourism 	<p>Ministry of Tourism</p> <p>Ministry of Health</p>	SLTDA/ Immigration	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Should be processed online Details of the international traveler should be sent to the area Medical Officer of Health when issuing visa Mandatory 14 days stay
3. Prior to Boarding	1. Negative PCR test 96 hours before boarding from an accredited Lab identified by the Overseas Missions of Sri Lanka	Ministry of Health	Airlines	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Transit should be <12 hours Tourism Ministry to write to Foreign Ministry and obtain relevant information on acceptable laboratories to be shared with Ministry of Health and Airlines

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	2. Minimum number of PCR test to be done	Ministry of Health	SLTDA/ Immigration/ Airport Aviation/Civil Aviation/ Hotels	1.Three (03) PCR tests mandatory after arrival (1) On-arrival at Airport (2) 5-7 days after arrival (3) 12-14 days after arrival 2.Payments to be made through Tourism App before applying for online visa or at the time of hotel booking
	3. COVID-19 Insurance cover in place	SLTDA	SLTDA	Mandatory. If doesn't have, need to be purchased through Tourism App or at the time of hotel booking or ticket purchase
	4. Prior confirmed and paid hotel booking for the mandatory minimum stay	Ministry of Health/SLTDA	SLTDA/ Immigration	Prior confirmed hotel booking for 14 days of minimum stay in Sri Lanka is mandatory
	5. Number of persons in a tour group	Ministry of Tourism	SLTDA	Group tourism preferred- Minimum 08 persons
	6. Health declaration	Ministry of Health	Airport Aviation Services Ltd	Mandatory (could be filled and submitted prior to boarding flight, on flight or on arrival)
4. On Arrival	1. PCR test on arrival	Ministry of Health	SLTDA AASL Ministry of Health	1. Samples to be collected within the shortest possible time at the Airport but at a suitable location separated from other passengers to expedite the process and make it less inconvenient to tourists. 2. Airport Aviation to make arrangements with Private Sector hospitals with approval from Health Ministry 3. Guest to be taken to pre booked hotel prior to receipt of PCR test results
	2. Obtaining samples and carrying out PCR tests	Ministry of Health	Airport Aviation/Private laboratories	One or several private sector service providers accredited by the Ministry of Health
	3. PCR testing capacity available for International Visitors	Ministry of Health	SLTDA/Private laboratories	1. Private sector service providers should be able to do 500 PCR tests per day.

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				2. Sri Lankan nationals with foreign spouses/paid commercial passengers should follow the tourist route under the same guideline
5. Transport	1. Hotelier to arrange independent transport for each group of tourists adhering to Health and Tourism Guidelines	SLTDA	SLTDA/Hotel	Hotel should have an advanced transport floor plan. No mixing of groups allowed
	2. Vehicle number, drivers, guide details provided to area MOH and to National Operations Center for Control of COVID-19 by hotel for contact tracing	SLTDA	SLTDA/Hotel	Maintain a transport log with passenger details. No mixing of groups are allowed
6. Quarantine Period	Minimum days in Accredited Safe and Secure hotel or hotels approved by Ministry of Health	Ministry of Health	SLTDA/Hotel	1. Minimum 14 days in a Safe & Secure Certified hotel as per SLTDA guideline 2. No movement outside the quarantine hotel for 7 days. Travelling to selected sites in a bio secure bubble may be considered after 7 days if the second PCR test (done on 5th-7th day) is negative
	Duration of no free movement outside the quarantine hotel	Ministry of Health	SLTDA/Hotel	No free movement is allowed during the first 14 days
7. PCR Testing	PCR test 96 hours prior to boarding aircraft. Report should be produced at the time of checking in	Ministry of Health	Airlines/CAASL	Mandatory
	Above report should be from an accredited Labs identified by Overseas Missions of Sri Lanka	Foreign Ministry	Foreign Ministry	An updated list of Accredited labs for each country should be available to the Ministry of Health
	PCR testing after arrival	Ministry of Health	AASL/SLTDA/Hotel /Private laboratory	All 3 PCR tests on a given tourist group should be carried out by the same laboratory
	One arrival PCR	Ministry of Health	AASL/Private laboratory	On arrival PCR at the Airport by a private sector laboratory approved by the Ministry of Health



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	Second PCR	Ministry of Health	SLTDA/Hotel/ Private laboratory	5-7 days after arrival PCR at the hotel by the same private sector laboratory that carried out the on-arrival test
	Third PCR	Ministry of Health	SLTDA/Hotel/ Private laboratory	12-14 days after arrival PCR at the hotel by the same private sector laboratory that carried out the previous tests
8. Visits to Tourist Sites	After 07 days of quarantine and negative PCR test done on 5 – 7 days	Ministry of Health	SLTDA/Hotel/ Police/Agencies managing tourist sites	Can be considered to allow under controlled environment. No interactions with local people/ vendors. Coordinate with relevant authorities to designate days/ time slots for foreign tourists. No locals/vendors should be allowed during such times/days.
	Identification of sites should be done in consultation with the Ministry of Health. Prior approval of the agencies managing such sites should be obtained.	Minister of Tourism	SLTDA/ Agencies managing tourist sites	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Only to sites approved by the Ministry of Health will be allowed. 2. Itinerary should be shared with the local health authority and the agencies managing such site in advance.
9. Non symptomatic Covid-19 PCR positive persons	Hotel Quarantine as determined by Ministry of Health Medical Officer of Health of the area should be informed	Ministry of Health	SLTDA/Hotel	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hotel quarantine in the isolation area in the same hotel under strict supervision of the hotel doctor and local health authorities. 2. Where isolation is not feasible (e.g., a large group positive for COVID-19 infection) alternative designated isolation hotel to be identified in advance. 3. Staff and other contacts should be managed according to the guidelines already in force under the guidance of the area Medical Officer of Health
10. Symptomatic Covid-19 PCR positive patients	In hospital cleared by the Ministry of Health Medical Officer of Health of the area should be informed	Ministry of Health	SLTDA/Hotel/ Hospital	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. List of hospitals consented to treat Covid-19 patients should be submitted for approval to the Ministry of Health with documentary proof of such consent. 2. All such hospitals should be approved by the Ministry of Health prior to admitting patients. Cost of treatment should be covered through the insurance.



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				3. Staff and other contacts should be managed according to the guidelines already in force under the guidance of the area Medical Officer of Health
11. Treatment for other conditions during mandatory quarantine period	Treatment for conditions other than Covid-19 that need hospitalization Medical Officer of Health of the area should be informed	Ministry of Health	SLTDA/Hotel/ Hospital	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. List of hospitals consented to treat such conditions should be submitted for approval to the Ministry of Health with documentary proof of such consent. 2. All such hospitals should be approved by the Ministry of Health prior to admitting patients. Cost of treatment should be covered through the insurance.
12. Hotels	To ensure visitors do not move outside the hotel premises during hotel quarantine period	Ministry of Health	SLTDA/Hotel/ Police/Ministry of Defense	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tourist are not permitted to move outside the hotel on their own for the first 14 days. 2. Effective access control measures acceptable to the Ministry of Health should be in place in and around the hotel 3. They may be taken out for visit under a bio security bubble after the first 7 days if the PCR on day 5 – 7 is negative. 4. After first 14 days the entire group to be moved out from the hotel if none are tested positive for Covid-19 at the end of 14 days
	Hotel to ensure beach is secure and there is no possibility of any interaction with the public for 14 days	Ministry of Health	SLTDA/Hotel/ Police/Ministry of Defense	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Effective access control measures acceptable to the Ministry of Health should be in place in and around the hotel. 2. No local beach boys/fishing/diving approaching tourists.
	Ensuring adherence to health guidelines	SLTDA	SLTDA/Hotel/ Tourist Police	Hotels to ensure all health guidelines are adhered to at all time

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	Symptom surveillance of guests and staff	SLTDA	SLTDA/Hotel	Hotels should make arrangements to employ a doctor to monitor health of guests and staff in a manner acceptable to the Ministry of Health
	Reporting of symptom surveillance	Ministry of Health	SLTDA/Hotel	Should be reported daily to Ministry of Health, COVID Taskforce and Sri Lanka Tourism
	Use of common area and pool	Ministry of Health	SLTDA/Hotel	Permitted subject to adhering to general health guidelines including social distancing
	Entertaining Domestic guests	Ministry of Health	SLTDA/Hotel	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Domestic guests should not be accommodated while operating as a Level 1 hotel (14 days) No functions involving local guests allowed
13. Hotel Booking	First 14 days only in Certified Safe & Secure hotels on beach or villas	Ministry of Health	SLTDA	Only the hotels identified by the SLTDA as Safe and Secure hotels to be permitted to take bookings for the first 14 days
	Mandatory prepaid hotel booking	Ministry of Tourism	SLTDA	Pre-paid booking is mandatory for 14-days
	Maximum Room Occupancy	Ministry of Health	SLTDA/Hotel	Maximum capacity of 75%. Rest to be in reserved for isolation purposes if necessity arose for isolation of non-symptomatic Covid 19 positive guests
	Hotel bookings from multiple flights	Ministry of Health	SLTDA/Hotel	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Permitted only if the check-in is on same day. Same day different flights: Allocate in separate wings until 2nd PCR results. Tour operators to organize group packages in advance Special circumstances (e.g., A family arriving in different flights) to be considered case by case Hotels should have an advanced booking plan for minimum of 14 days Reservation details should be informed to the area Medical Officer of Health prior to guests' arrival by the hotel

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14. Staff Management	Managing staff to reduce the risk of infection and leaking into the community through staff	Ministry of Health	SLTDA/Hotels	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All staff interacting with guests in any form will not be allowed to go out of the hotel premises during the mandatory quarantine period of 14 days for guest and for further 14 days thereafter. 2. They should be screened for Covid 19 at regular intervals as per the existing Occupational Health Guidelines published by the Ministry of Health 3. All staff should be subjected to proper risk assessment under the guidance of the area Medical Officer of Health and appropriate interventions should be instituted if a guest tested positive for Covid 19.



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Proper Authority

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