

Unite
against
COVID-19

Traffic
(https://
lights/

(New Zealand
Government, 2022d)

Reconnecting New Zealanders to the World

Reconnecting New Zealanders to the World is the Government's plan to safely re-open our borders and develop new ways for people to travel to and from Aotearoa New Zealand.

Border to reopen in stages from 27 February

- Border will reopen to vaccinated New Zealanders from Australia at 11.59pm 27 February
- Reopens to New Zealanders in the rest of the world on 13 March
- MIQ removed for most travellers in phased reconnection, replaced by self-isolation and tests on-arrival
- MIQ to remain for the unvaccinated
- Five- step plan prioritises returning New Zealanders and brings forward the reopening of key visa categories in just over 5 weeks' time in order to address worker shortages.
- Further visa categories reopen throughout the year to help accelerate economic recovery

When New Zealand borders open

[\(https://web.archive.org/web/20220203155847mp_/https://covid19.govt.nz/international-travel/travel-to-new-zealand/when-new-zealand-borders-open/\)](https://web.archive.org/web/20220203155847mp_/https://covid19.govt.nz/international-travel/travel-to-new-zealand/when-new-zealand-borders-open/)

Our guiding objectives

- Maintaining our elimination strategy to stamp out the virus and keep our options open.
- Ensuring every eligible New Zealander is offered the opportunity to be vaccinated as soon as possible.
- Reducing the need for further lockdowns as much as possible by continuing to strengthen our health and contact tracing systems.
- Maintaining strong public health tools.
- Developing new ways to enable people to travel safely to and from New Zealand.

International Travel Vaccination Certificates


Vaccination status and verification will be an important part of supporting New Zealanders to travel internationally.

Anyone 12 years and over who has had any dose of the COVID-19 vaccine administered in New Zealand can now request an International Travel Vaccination Certificate.

Requesting your certificate takes just 1 to 2 minutes and will be emailed to you within 24 hours. The quickest way to get your pass is through your My Covid Record, but if you cannot access this service you can call **0800 222 478** — have your NHI number ready.

How to use My Covid Record

[\(https://web.archive.org/web/20220203155847mp_/https://covid19.govt.nz/covid-19-vaccines/covid-19-vaccination-certificates/my-covid-record/\)](https://web.archive.org/web/20220203155847mp_/https://covid19.govt.nz/covid-19-vaccines/covid-19-vaccination-certificates/my-covid-record/)

 [How to use My Covid Record to get an International Travel Vaccination Certificate \[PDF, 260 KB\]](https://web.archive.org/web/20220203155847mp_/https://covid19.govt.nz/assets/resources/vaccine-resources/Use-My-Covid-Record-to-get-an-International-Travel-Vaccination-Certificate.pdf)

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Sign in to My Covid Record

[\(https://web.archive.org/web/20220203155847mp_/https://mycovidrecord.health.nz/\)](https://web.archive.org/web/20220203155847mp_/https://mycovidrecord.health.nz/)

Traveller Health Declaration System

The traveller health declaration system will collect information from travellers arriving in New Zealand. In future, New Zealand will assess the health risk of each traveller depending on their vaccination status, test results and where they have travelled.

This information will be used to help facilitate the traveller on arrival to New Zealand, for example whether they need to go into a MIQ facility, or be eligible for other isolation options and testing requirements.

In order to confirm people's vaccination status, this system will be able to validate the vaccination certificate and show it is authentic and can be trusted. The complexity of digital and operational systems that the traveller health declaration system needs means it will be developed in stages with security and simplicity for users being key to the solution. The first version will be available in Quarter1 2022.

The New Zealand Customs Service will administer the project.

Reconnecting New Zealanders to the World Forum

The forum started with a presentation from Sir David Skegg, with an overview of the Strategic COVID-19 Public Health Advisory Group's advice on reconnecting New Zealand.

It was followed by a discussion MC'd by the Prime Minister's Chief Science Advisor, Dame Juliet Gerrard. The experts bring a range of backgrounds and perspectives to a discussion about vaccination, safe borders, safe travel and public health habits.

The event also featured a speech from Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern and opening remarks from Dr Ayesha Verrall, Associate Minister of Health.

Panel experts included Sir David Skegg, Sir Brian Roche, Dr Maia Brewerton, Dr Api Talemaitoga, Mr Rob Fyfe, Professor Michael Baker, and Dr Ashley Bloomfield.

The event was held on Thursday 12 August 2021.

Watch the Reconnecting New Zealand forum

