

Italian nationals returning to Italy and foreigners in Italy

24/02/2022

As of January 2020, the health emergency caused by COVID-19 persists worldwide.

All persons intending to travel abroad, regardless of destination or reason for travel, should consider that any journey during this period may involve a health risk.

In particular, if molecular or antigenic testing is required for entry into Italy or returning to Italy from a foreign destination, travellers should consider the possibility of a positive test result.

In this case, it is not possible to travel by commercial means, and you will be subject to the quarantine and containment procedures provided by the hosting country.

With some possible differences due to different local regulations, such procedures also affect those known as 'contacts'. 'Contacts' are those who came in contact with the positive person and are also subject to quarantine/self-isolation imposed by the local authorities of the hosting country and who, to protect public health, may return to Italy only at the end of the self-isolation period. Therefore, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs recommends planning every aspect of the travel carefully, including the possibility of spending an additional period abroad. The Ministry also suggests signing a health insurance policy that also covers the risks associated with COVID-19.

NEWS update!

With the following Ordinance of the Minister of Health, as of 1 March 2022 (up to 31 March 2022), the measures laid down in the ordinances issued by the Ministry of Health on 28 September 2021, 22 October 2021, 14 December 2021 and 27 January 2022 no longer apply.

In particular, the Country lists are eliminated and the rules regulating entry into the national territory are now standardized. Entry into Italy shall be authorized upon the submission of:

- the Passenger Locator Form (PLF) in digital or paper format;
- the Covid-19 Vaccine Passport (vaccination certificate, recovery certificate or negative molecular or antigen test) or any other equivalent vaccination certificate recognized.

Only in case of failure to submit one of the above certifications, shall the traveller be submitted to a 5-day quarantine and obliged to take a molecular or antigen test at the end of this period.

Travel from/to the Republic of San Marino and the State of the Vatican City is not subjected to any restrictions.

Effective from 23 September, the Ministry of Health – through this Circular – has recognised the equivalence of several vaccines administered by foreign health authorities to those carried out under the National Vaccine Plan for the Prevention of SARS-CoV-2. Namely:

- Vaccines recognised by EMA – European Medicines Agency (see Annex 1 to the Circular);
- Covishield (Serum Institute of India), manufactured under license from AstraZeneca;
- R-CoVI (R-Pharm), manufactured under licence from AstraZeneca;
- Covid-19 vaccine-recombinant (Fiocruz), manufactured under licence from AstraZeneca.

As a result of this recognition:

- Italian citizens (including those residing abroad) and their cohabiting family members, regardless of whether they are registered with the National Health Service or the SASN (health services for seafarers), and all persons registered for any reason with the National Health Service who have been vaccinated abroad with the above vaccines or who have recovered abroad from COVID-19, may apply for a Green Pass, if they find themselves in Italy, from their competent local health authorities.
- All other foreign citizens vaccinated abroad with the above-mentioned vaccines are entitled to access all venues and services for which a Green Pass is mandatorily required in Italy (see box below). In order to be recognised as equivalent to a Green Pass, the foreign vaccination certificate must contain the following information: the personal details of the holder, the details of the vaccine, the date(s) of administration of the vaccine, the identity of the certificate issuer; and the above information must also be written in Italian, English, French, Spanish or German or, if issued in a different language, must be accompanied by a sworn translation.

Source: The Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation

<https://www.esteri.it/en/ministero/normativaonline/focus-cittadini-italiani-in-rientro-dall-estero-e-cittadini-stranieri-in-italia/>