

# TRAVELLING TO FINLAND

**The Finnish Border Guard and the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare have updated the requirements for entry to Finland. Finnair requires a coronavirus certificate from travellers to Finland. Starting 11 May 2021, we will also accept a coronavirus vaccination certificate when travelling to Finland.**

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Please note that travel restrictions are subject to change on a short notice. As a traveller you are always responsible for ensuring that you fulfill the requirements of your destination and possible transit country.

Are you travelling via Finland? Read more [here](#).

## REQUIRED CERTIFICATES ON FINNAIR FLIGHTS

In line with the recommendation by Finnish health authorities, we require either a certificate of a negative coronavirus test or a doctor's certificate stating that you have had the coronavirus, within the past 6 months, but you are now symptomless and fit to travel. As of 11 May 2021, as the vaccination coverage is

increasing rapidly in many countries, we will also accept a coronavirus vaccination certificate as an alternative document to the previously mentioned certificates. The requirement applies to all travellers, including citizens of Finland, on international Finnair flights to Finland. The requirement complements our other comprehensive measures for safe travel during the pandemic.

The coronavirus testing or vaccination certificate requirement does not apply to you if

- you are arriving from a country for which corona related entry restrictions do not apply (Border traffic turned to normal) and you have not visited a restricted country within 10 days. Countries with restrictions can be checked from the [Finnish Border Guards website](#).
- you connect to an international flight at Helsinki, unless your final destination requires such a test.
- the age of the traveller is less than 16 years, however, obtaining a a negative test result is recommended for children aged 12-15 years to smoothen the arrival procedures in Helsinki.
- you travel only on a domestic flight within Finland.

- you are a positioning or deadhead airline crew member.
- you are a seaman, holding a seaman's book and joining a vessel departing from Finland or a seaman returning to your home in Finland, after having completed your duty abroad.
  - You also need to prove that you are travelling on duty by presenting a letter from the shipping company stating that you are travelling on duty, your name, the name of employer, the name of the vessel, your position on the vessel, departure date and port of the vessel.
  - In case you do not have a seaman book, due to your country no longer issuing such, the letter from the shipping company together with a valid passport is sufficient (and possibly a visa, depending on your destination).

The certificate requirement is in force until further notice. We will update any new information on this page.

#### Certificate of a negative coronavirus test

As a certificate of a negative coronavirus (COVID-19) test result, we accept a document issued by trusted health care practitioner. It is strongly recommended that the certificate is

in English, however, we can also accept certificates in French, German, Spanish, Russian, Italian, Estonian or Swedish if you start your Finnair journey from these countries or from a country in which one of these is an official language (e.g. French in Belgium). Other languages than the previously mentioned eight, are not accepted, as the Finnish Health Authorities must be able to understand the certificate on arrival in Helsinki. Certificates in Finnish cannot be accepted when travelling to Finland from abroad, as the check-in/gate agent will not be able to understand the text.

The certificate can be either in printed or digital format. A printed test-certificate issued by HUS (the Helsinki hospital district) and an SMS or a screenshot from Omakanta healthcare system are also accepted, as long as they are still valid and include the required information listed below and the information is provided in English. Please note that if you continue your journey from Finland to a third country, that requires a pre-travel coronavirus test, the certificate must be in the format and language accepted by that country (English is normally the safest language). Other countries may also require the test to be taken closer to the time of travel than in Finnair's requirement.

- We accept the following coronavirus tests:
  - PCR-test taken earliest 72 hours before the flight's departure
  - Rapid PCR test taken earliest 72 hours before the flight's departure
  - LAMP-test taken earliest 72 hours before the flight's departure
  - Antigen test taken earliest 48 hours before the flight's departure
  - Rapid antigen test taken earliest 48 hours before the flight's departure
- We accept the following coronavirus home-tests:
  - Home-tests which are delivered to your home by a registered Medical facility, provided the medical facility's nurse monitors the testing phase via video transmission and checks that you are taking the test and your identity matches with the identity of your official government issued identity-card or passport. This ensures the correct person takes the test.
  - The test sample must be collected by a courier arranged by the medical facility and brought to a laboratory for accurate testing. The laboratory must

issue a certificate in paper or digital format confirming the result of the test. The certificate shall include all the details mentioned below.

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Please note that we do not accept home-tests purchased from pharmacies.

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- The negative test result must contain your full name (as in your travel document), date of birth, test result, test method, date and time of testing, and the party (person and company) issuing the certificate.
  - **Exception:** The Finnish Omakanta record and printed test-certificate issued by HUS (the Helsinki hospital district) will be accepted without the name of the doctor/nurse who took the test and contact detail of the medical facility, as long as the other previously mentioned details are included - please note that both the Omakanta and HUS documents must be in English to be accepted.
- If your routing involves several flights, the test must have been taken earliest 72 or 48 hours (depending on the test type), before the scheduled departure time of the first flight in a continuous journey to Finland. This is provided

that you do not leave the transit area at the airport where you change flights.

#### Certificate of a previous coronavirus infection

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We accept the following certificates for those who have already had the coronavirus:

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A medical certificate stating that you have been ill with the coronavirus within the last 6 months but are now symptomless. The certificate must state the time when you had the virus, which cannot be within 2 weeks of travel. The certificate must contain your name (as in your travel document), date of birth, date of issuance of the certificate and the party issuing the certificate (name of issuing person and medical facility).

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A quarantine-order, issued within the last 6 months, stating that you were quarantined due to having the infection caused by the coronavirus (not only due to being exposed to the virus) and provided that the quarantine period indicated in the order has already

ended. Please note the quarantine order cannot have been issued within 2 weeks of travel. The order must contain your name (as in the travel document), your date of birth, the date of issuance of the order and the name of the doctor or nurse issuing the order. You need to be completely symptomless to be accepted for travel.

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#### Certificate of coronavirus vaccination

We accept a coronavirus vaccination certificate for all coronavirus vaccines approved by the World Health Organization (WHO) or the European Medical Agency (EMA). You need to have received the vaccination latest 21 days before the travel date.

One dose of vaccine is sufficient for the certificate. It is strongly recommended that the certificate is in English, however we can also accept certificates in French, German, Spanish, Russian, Italian, Estonian or Swedish if you start your Finnair journey from these countries or from a country in which one of these is an official language (e.g., French in Belgium). We also currently accept a vaccination certificate in Chinese, but only when you travel from China to Finland on a Finnair flight. Other



languages than the previously mentioned nine, are not accepted, as the Finnish Health Authorities must be able to understand the certificate on arrival in Helsinki. Certificates in Finnish cannot be accepted when travelling to Finland from abroad, as the check-in/gate agent will not be able to understand the text. However, we accept a screenshot of your coronavirus vaccine information page in Finnish or Swedish from the Finnish Omakanta healthcare system.

- The vaccination certificate must contain your full name (as in your travel document), date of birth, name of the disease vaccinated against (COVID-19), date and place of vaccination, the name of the vaccine brand and the party (company name) issuing the certificate.
  - If the public health service provider in your country does not include the date of birth in the vaccination certificate it issued, your certificate can still be accepted for travel to Finland, provided your full name on the certificate matches with your travel document and the details of the vaccination are included (name of vaccine and date of administration). This exception applies, for example,

to the vaccination card issued by NHS in the UK and the Finnish Omakanta record.

- A WHO International Certificate of Vaccination or Prophylaxis – yellow covered booklet is accepted only if it, in addition to your personal details and information on the vaccine used and the date when it was given, includes the stamp of the medical facility and the signature and title of the medical staff who administered the vaccination.

We have made changes to our check-in process for flights to Finland. We recommend you check-in for your flight in advance through Finnair.com or Finnair mobile app. However, it is good to know that you will receive your boarding pass from our ground crew at the airport after presenting a certificate of a negative coronavirus test result, previous but already healed coronavirus infection or a coronavirus vaccination.

Your options if you don't have the required certificate

If you can't travel because you don't have the required certificate, you can

- change your travel dates for later according to our flexible ticket change policy on [Manage booking](#). If you can't make the change online, our customer service will assist you. Read more detailed conditions and instructions for changing travel dates [here](#).
- apply for a refund for unused tickets if your travel date is between 29 January and 12 February 2021.

#### ENTRY REQUIREMENTS TO FINLAND

The Finnish Border Guard has updated the requirements for entry to Finland.

Due to the spread of the mutant variants of the coronavirus, the Finnish authorities have set tight entry restrictions for travellers arriving in Finland. Only the Finnish nationals and residents and their family members, are allowed to enter the country. In addition, some essential travel is allowed, however, conditions apply to such travel. Please note that you need to show sufficient documentation for travel and entry to Finland. You can find the detailed information of the entry restrictions on the [Finnish Border Guard's website](#).

Please note, that the Finnish Border Guard updates the country-specific status once every two weeks, based on the number of coronavirus incidents in each country, which may change the status and category for the countries.

Entry requirements when arriving from England

If you are travelling from England to another country you are required to fill in a Travel declaration form to declare the reason for your travel. Other areas of the UK are not included at this stage. Please download the form [here](#) and be prepared to show proof of the completed declaration either from your electronic device or as a printed copy, when departing the country.

This requirement applies to all customers over 18 years old.

Please read more about the requirements [here](#).

#### **PERSONAL ENTRY INSTRUCTIONS THROUGH FINENTRY SERVICE**

Via the digital [FINENTRY service](#) you can see your personal entry instructions regarding for example possible quarantine or coronavirus testing requirements. You are asked to fill in some personal details and information about your journey and based on this information the service gives you

guidance about entry to Finland. FINENTRY service aims to make it easier to travel to Finland during the coronavirus pandemic.

#### HEALTH CHECK AND THE CORONAVIRUS TESTING FOR ARRIVING CUSTOMERS AT HELSINKI AIRPORT

The Finnish health authority has decided that all customers arriving to Finland from restricted countries will be directed to a mandatory health check and a possible coronavirus testing as part of it upon arrival at Helsinki Airport. If you have a negative coronavirus test result certificate, this requirement does not apply to you. The health check requirement applies also to you, if you continue from an international flight to a domestic flight – please let the airport staff know, if your connection time is short.

In connection with the health check, you are required to fill in a questionnaire providing your personal information. To smoothen the arrival health check process at Helsinki Airport, we recommend you to print the questionnaire and fill it in already prior to boarding your flight to Finland. You can read more about the health check and print the questionnaire [here](#). If you haven't been able to fill in the questionnaire in advance,

you may still do it during the flight as our cabin crew can hand out this form to you.

You are not required to wait for the test result at the airport.

You will be informed about the results afterwards.

You are not required to go through the test on arrival if you have one of the following:

- A transfer flight from an international flight to another international flight
- A negative coronavirus PCR or antigen test taken less than 72 hours before arrival in Finland
- A doctor's certificate that you've had the coronavirus disease within the last 6 months
- Unaccompanied minors will not be directed to the testing.

You'll find more information about arriving in Finland and related health and safety measures [here](#).

Self-quarantine after arrival to Finland

After arrival to Finland from a risk country, you are required to self-quarantine for 14 days. You can shorten the

self-quarantine period by taking a second test earliest 72 hours after arrival. For more information, see the [THL website](#).

#### RECOMMENDATION FOR PASSENGERS TRAVELLING TO FINLAND

If you are not a national or resident of Finland, we recommend that you carry supporting documents with you to substantiate that you fulfill the current restricted entry conditions. If you are not able to show any of the below mentioned supporting documentation, our check-in agents will need to call the Finnish Border Guard before you can be accepted on the flight to ensure that you will be granted entry to Finland. It is possible that the agent will not be given authorization to accept you for travel, if there is any uncertainty as to whether you fulfill the allowed entry conditions.

- If you are an EU/Schengen national and you are entitled to enter Finland on the basis of visiting your spouse, children, parents, parents-in-law, grandparents, co-habitant/common-law-spouse or romantic partner (with whom you are in an established relationship) who reside in Finland, we recommend that you carry with you an email invitation from the family-member/partner and a copy of the that person's passport/ID. If he/she is not a

national of Finland, also a copy of a document that shows he/she resides in Finland (e.g. a copy of his/her residence permit, Finnish social security KELA-card or an extract from the Civil registry that shows his/her residential address in Finland). The invitation email should also include the phone number of the person you are visiting.

- If you are not an EU/Schengen national, you are only allowed to enter for essential family reasons, like the birth of your own child, own wedding, close family member being seriously ill etc. Also if you are a family member of Finnish expatriate living in another country are allowed to enter Finland. You may need to show some form of proof of this essential reason to be allowed entry. You can contact HEL Border Guard in advance to enquire what would be the best way for you to prove your essential family reason. The contact information for the Border Guard can be found on their website [Guidelines for border traffic during pandemic](#).
- For essential work-related travel, you need to have a copy of a Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment of Finland – form, completed and signed by your employer, where the work-related entry reason is justified. This



applies both to EU/Schengen nationals and third country nationals travelling to Finland for work that is deemed essential and that cannot be postponed. If you arrive in Finland as a member of an international media squad or you are travelling via the airport due to regular scheduled traffic your work is defined as an essential. A comprehensive list of essential work related travel, that is currently allowed, can be found on the Finnish Border Guard's website. The form your employer needs to complete can also be found on the same website.

#### CONTACTING OUR CUSTOMER SERVICE

If you booked your ticket through a travel agency or a tour operator, please contact them to make changes to your reservation. If you booked your ticket through Finnair, our [customer service](#) will do everything to help you in this exceptional situation. We are at your service also via chat, on Twitter @FinnairHelps and on our [Facebook pages](#). We are sorry that our customer service may be congested.

Didn't find an answer to your question? Please also check our [QA here](#).

You can see your passenger rights [here](#).

#### FURTHER INFORMATION

You can find the latest entry restrictions via the destination country's government website, or from the applicable Embassy or Consulate.

Check your options [here](#), if your travel plans change due to the travel restrictions.