

Health Directorate
Jamestown
Saint Helena Island
South Atlantic Ocean
STHL 1ZZ

Email. janet.lawrence@sainthelena.gov.sh

DATE

Dear Sir/Madam,

You are due to arrive in St Helena by air on **DATE**. We are very happy to welcome you to St Helena, where there is currently no evidence of Covid-19. St Helena is in the prevent stage of our Covid-19 preparedness plan and the below procedures and information are designed to support this.

Firstly, please do not proceed to the Airport to commence the journey to St Helena if you are currently unwell or exhibiting any respiratory symptoms no matter how mild they are. If you are exhibiting symptoms we strongly advise you to seek medical advice. We also advise you not to proceed with the journey if anyone in your household has experienced respiratory symptoms within the past 14 days.

Given the increased numbers of COVID-19 cases in the UK at this time, you may wish to consider being tested for COVID-19 within 72 hours prior to your departure for St Helena. This is not a mandatory requirement and we appreciate that there is increased demand at testing facilities at this time. In the absence of a confirmed negative COVID-19 result prior to your departure, it is even more important that you adhere to the advice not to travel to St Helena if you are currently unwell or exhibiting respiratory symptoms.

In accordance with Regulation 4 (1) of the Public Health (Prevention of Formidable Diseases) (Coronavirus No. 2) Regulations 2020, Legal Notice 26 of 2020 you must isolate on entry to St Helena for a period of 14 days after your date of arrival.

It will be mandatory to have a COVID-19 test on arrival. This will apply to all persons aged 10 or above, apart from those persons arriving from Ascension Island which is currently COVID-19 free and considered low-risk. The test will be a COVID-19 nasal swab test, the same test that will be carried out at Day 14 of the quarantine period.

The results from your COVID-19 test will help us to better manage your stay in quarantine. Results will be available within 24 hours.

Please note, however, that if you test negative for COVID-19 upon arrival, it is still possible to present with symptoms up to Day 14. For this reason, it will not be possible



FAIRNESS



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TEAMWORK

St Helena Government, St Helena Island, South Atlantic Ocean, STHL 1ZZ

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to release you from the mandatory requirement to quarantine for 14 days. You will be released from quarantine following a negative COVID-19 test result on Day 14.

A proper officer will decide where you must isolate: it is anticipated that all passengers will home quarantine. This means that you must remain in isolation at an approved property and avoid mixing with the community.

During the isolation period the Director of Health will review the need for continuation of your isolation at least every 7 days in accordance with Regulation 7 of the Public Health (Prevention of Formidable Diseases) (Coronavirus) Regulations, 2020.

A breach or attempted breach of isolation is a criminal offence contrary to Regulation 8 of the Public Health (Prevention of Formidable Diseases) (Coronavirus No. 2) Regulations, 2020. The maximum penalty is a fine of £5,000 or imprisonment for 6 months or both. However, if at the time of committing the offence an individual is aware that (s)he is infected with coronavirus, the maximum period of imprisonment is increased to 12 months.

You will be contacted by a member of staff on a daily basis to monitor your condition during the isolation period. You are under no legal obligation to take part in this health monitoring process but your assistance would be greatly appreciated so that the Health Directorate can monitor your condition in the interest of public health. It would also give you the opportunity to seek information and assistance from the Health Directorate and you would hopefully find this helpful and reassuring.

A leaflet with information on the precautions you need to take re COVID-19 will be provided to you on St Helena.

Information about what you should do and who you should contact if you develop symptoms consistent with COVID-19 will be provided to you on St Helena.

Your patience and understanding is greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Janet Lawrence
Interim Director of Health