



GPI POLICY - COVID-19 TRAVEL & QUARANTINE

Reference:

Laws of Pitcairn, Oeno, Henderson and Ducie Islands
COVID-19 Response Ordinance 2022

Rationale:

The Government of Pitcairn Island partners (GPI) acted swiftly to close the island's border in March 2020, when the COVID-19 (C-19) pandemic spread around the world. GPI recognises that the pandemic will continue to impact Pitcairn's visitor economy, essential travel to and from the island and the off-island health care needs of its community. The border was re-opened on the 31st March 2022 and Pitcairn Island is committed to remaining COVID-19 safe.

Objective:

The GPI COVID-19 Travel and Quarantine Policy sets out necessary, current and approved procedures for the effective reference and promulgation of Pitcairn's COVID-19 management protocols. This Policy is reviewed monthly. Please ensure your copy is current.

Abbreviations:

GPI - Government of Pitcairn Island

C-19 - Corona Virus

PIO - The Pitcairn Island Office

PoV - Proof of Vaccination (to be fully Covid-19 vaccinated) means a recognised vaccination certificate equivalent to that issued by the New Zealand Ministry of Health.

PI MO - Pitcairn Island Medical Officer

PCR - Nasopharyngeal Swab For C-19 Test

UKHSA - UK Health Security Agency

Definitions:

Administered RAT - Rapid Antigen Test administered by an independent qualified person, company or Clinic.

Supervised RAT - Rapid Antigen Test administered by a designated person.

Vaccinated - The person has satisfied the requirements for C-19 vaccination, applicable for the time being in either NZ or the United Kingdom.

Exempt from Vaccination: The person has been granted an officially recognized medical exemption from C-19 vaccination in either NZ or the United Kingdom, or holds an equivalent exemption to the satisfaction of the Governor of the Pitcairn Islands or Administrator.

GENERAL INFORMATION - PROOF OF VACCINATION (PoV)

- a) The GPI does not require passengers booking travel to Pitcairn Island on the GPI Charter vessel, via Mangareva, to provide Proof of Vaccination certificates.

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- b) The GPI does not require passengers landing from the GPI Charter vessel, private yachts, freighters or cruise ships to provide Proof of Vaccination certificates.
- c) The GPI requires persons over the age of 5, travelling on the GPI Charter from NZ to Pitcairn to be vaccinated or to exempt from vaccination.
- d) A person may apply to the Governor of the Pitcairn Islands or the Administrator to waive the GPI C-19 vaccination requirement.
- e) The GPI passengers booking travel to Pitcairn Island, on the GPI Charter vessel, from New Zealand, to provide Proof of Vaccination certificates or proof of waiver of exemption.

GENERAL INFORMATION – C-19 TESTING BEFORE LANDING AT PITCAIRN ISLAND

- a) The GPI requires passengers boarding the GPI Charter Vessel, at Mangareva, to undergo supervised RATs when they embark.
- b) The GPI does not require private yachts, freighters or cruise ships to provide RAT results for passengers prior to landing at Pitcairn.
- c) The GPI requires crew and passengers boarding the GPI Charter Vessel GPI in New Zealand to undergo supervised RATs when they embark.

GPI Charter Vessel - Travel between Pitcairn Island & New Zealand From NZ to Pitcairn

- a) Passengers boarding the GPI Charter Vessel in New Zealand re required to do supervised RATs when boarding the vessel (i.e., no medical personnel in attendance) and provide designated test supervisor with their test results for the Captain.
- b) As long as all results are negative and the Captain has completed the reporting requirement with the PIO, passengers will be cleared to sail to Pitcairn with the ship.
- c) Any passenger testing positive should have a second RAT to confirm the positive result and, if positive a second time, they will not be permitted to sail with the ship.

From Pitcairn to NZ

- a) The MBO (Maritime Border Order) was revoked in September 2022.
There are now no Maritime Border restrictions to enter NZ and no mandatory testing required to land. Passengers arriving in NZ onboard the Government Charter Vessel will not be required to be tested unless they are symptomatic.
- b) Information about changes to NZ's Maritime Border controls and further comprehensive C-19 related information can be found at: www.Covid19.govt.nz

GPI Charter Vessel - Travel between Pitcairn Island & French Polynesia From Pitcairn to Mangareva & Tahiti

- a) Passengers boarding the GPI Charter Vessel at Pitcairn are not required to undergo a supervised or administered RATs before boarding.
- b) French Polynesia does not require RAT results or PoV certificates for visitors arriving at Papeete or Mangareva.

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From Tahiti & Mangareva to Pitcairn

- a) Passengers boarding the GPI Charter Vessel at Mangareva are not required to undergo supervised or administered RATs in Tahiti prior to boarding the Air Tahiti domestic flight to Mangareva.
- b) Pitcairn Island requires passengers travelling on the GPI Passenger/Supply Vessel from Mangareva, to undergo supervised RATs when boarding the ship in Mangareva.
- c) Any passenger traveling on the GPI Charter Vessel who develops the following symptoms should report to the Captain and isolate in their cabins.:
 - Runny nose
 - Sore throat
 - Dry Cough
 - Fever
- d) The Captain will provide the PI MO with an update on any symptomatic passenger before the ship is cleared to land passengers.
- e) When the PI MO has cleared the ship and passengers are permitted to land any passenger who is symptomatic is required to report to the PI MO on arrival and undergo a supervised RAT administered by Pitcairn Island medical staff.

GPI CHARTER VESSEL

Medical clearance and landing protocols for passengers arriving at Pitcairn

- a) When the ship arrives from either NZ or Mangareva the PI MO will liaise with the ship for medical clearance. Once medically cleared the PI MO will convey this to the Chief Immigration Officer who will grant passengers permission to land.

CRUISE SHIPS, YACHTS AND FREIGHTERS – LANDING PASSENGERS

- a) Pitcairn Island does not require private yachts, freighters or cruise ships to provide C-19 Proof of Vaccination certificates prior to landing passengers
- b) Pitcairn Island does not require private yachts, freighters or cruise ships to provide C-19 RAT results prior to landing passengers

CRUISE SHIPS – BOARDING PROCEDURES FOR PITCAIRN ISLANDERS

- a) If required by the Captain and the ship's Medical Officer, those intending to board a cruise ship will undergo an administered RAT, at the Pitcairn Health Clinic, within 24 hours prior to embarkation. Anyone testing positive will not be permitted to board the ship and should isolate at home.
- b) If required by the Captain and the ship's Medical Officer, the PI MO will provide the ship's Doctor with electronic PoV information for all Pitcairn Islanders intending to board the ship.
- c) All those boarding must adhere to the ship's own C-19 management protocols and visitor requirements.
- d) All those boarding must carry a copy of their passport details and a hardcopy of their PoV information.
- e) All those boarding should:
 - Refrain from unnecessary physical contact with passengers and crew at all times.

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- Ensure reasonable social distancing from passengers and crew at all times
 - Wear masks as required
 - Place hand sanitizer on their trading tables, if trading, and use it regularly throughout.
- f) Anyone returning from a cruise ship, who develops the following symptoms should report to PI MO at their earliest opportunity.
- Runny nose
 - Sore throat
 - Dry Cough
 - Fever

General Requirements for Travelling Pitcairn Islanders

- a) While overseas all normally resident Pitcairn Islanders are advised to carry their Pitcairn Island PoV certificate, issued by the Pitcairn Medical Centre, and take all necessary precautions to avoid becoming infected with C-19.

Risk management C-19 illness on-board the GPI Passenger/Supply Ship

- a) All crew working on a GPI Passenger/Supply vessel must be fully vaccinated against Covid-19.
- b) Should any passenger or crew member test positive for C-19, whilst at sea, medical advice will be sought, initially from the PI MO. The severity of illness and location of the ship, will be factored when determining the appropriate medical treatment.

Risk management for C-19 cases on Pitcairn Island

- a) The PI MO will strongly recommend isolation for any person who has tested positive for C-19. The isolation location, recommended by the PI MO will be on determined on a case by case basis.
- b) If there is a positive C-19 case on-island the PI MO is responsible for ensuring the community is kept informed of developments.
- c) The PI MO will not release patient details.

Masks

Wearing masks on Pitcairn is not mandatory. However, in situations where social distancing is not possible use is recommended, at visitor discretion. Those travelling to Pitcairn should also exercise reasonable social distancing and the use of masks when travelling on flights, on the Silver Supporter and in general when in close proximity to others.

Contacts:

Pitcairn Island Office: admin@pitcairn.gov.pn

Pitcairn Doctor: doctor@pitcairn.gov.pn

Pitcairn Island Administrator: administrator@pitcairn.gov.pn

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