

Travelling to the UK for work in Film or High-end Television Drama Production During COVID-19: Self-isolation Exemptions Guidance

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V.4.0

EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY: Travel Corridors and the British Qualifying Film and HETV Exemption are currently suspended.

This will be reviewed on 15 February 2021.

Always check before you travel.

This Guidance should be read in conjunction with [‘Working Safely During COVID-19 in Film and High-end TV Drama Production’](#).

TRAVEL BANS: Passengers who have been in or transited through the following will no longer be granted access to England, Scotland or Wales:

[Southern Africa](#) (from 23 December 2020)

[South America and Portugal](#) (from 15 January 2021)

NOTE: Passengers arriving from the above into [Northern Ireland](#) must self-isolate for 10 days on arrival.

Coronavirus (COVID-19): Testing for people travelling to the UK

From 4am 18 January 2021, passengers arriving in England, Scotland and Wales from all international destinations must present a negative COVID-19 test result, taken in the 3 days before arrival. The start date for Northern Ireland is to be confirmed - check before you travel. This applies to all cast and crew, including UK citizens. The test, test provider and certificate must meet the required standards for pre-departure testing - details can be found here for [England](#), [Scotland](#) and [Wales](#).

Individuals travelling to England may still opt into the [Test to Release](#) scheme, as outlined below.

Coronavirus (COVID-19): Travel Corridors

[Travel corridors](#) are suspended. This will be reviewed on 15 February 2021. Always check before you travel.

Coronavirus (COVID-19): Test to Release for International Travel - APPLIES TO ENGLAND ONLY

The Test to Release for International Travel scheme is for cast and crew who need to self-isolate on arrival in England. Under the scheme, cast and crew can take a private COVID-19 test with a provider that meets UK government [minimum standards](#). The earliest they can take a test is five full days after arrival in England. If the result is negative, they can stop self-isolating.

The Test to Release scheme is voluntary and applies to those self-isolating in England only.

The scheme is not available to anyone who has been in or through [any country that is subject to a travel ban](#) in the 10 days before arrival in England.

Full details on 'Test to Release for international travel' for England can be found [here](#).

If cast and crew do not want to opt in to test to release, or are travelling to Northern Ireland, Scotland or Wales, they will need to self-isolate for 10 full days.

Coronavirus (COVID-19): British Qualifying Film and HETV Exemption

As of 4am GMT Monday 18 January 2021, the Film and HETV Travel Self-isolation "Quarantine" Exemption, along with other screen exemptions and Travel Corridors, has been suspended for at least one month.

All international arrivals who departed from, or transited through, any country outside the [Common Travel Area](#)* in the previous 10 days will be required to both take a pre-departure COVID-19 test and self-isolate immediately for 10 days on arrival, as stated above. Those who qualify for the [Test to Release scheme](#) (England only), as stated above, can reduce their self-isolation period from 10 days to 5 days.

The new measures will be reviewed on Monday 15 February.

Further detail can be read [here](#).

***Northern Ireland only:** for travellers from the Common Travel Area, the travel self-isolation exemptions for film and television still apply in Northern Ireland. This means that, providing the travellers have not left the Common Travel Area in the previous 14 days, they can continue to move between their accommodation and one place of work. Full guidance can be read [here](#).

If you get coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms while in the UK

You should look for any of the following symptoms during your 'bubble' period and throughout your stay in the UK:

- new continuous cough
- high temperature
- anosmia (loss or change to your sense of smell or taste)

If you develop symptoms you must self-isolate for at least 10 days from when your symptoms started until you are better and no longer have a high temperature.

If you have a high temperature you must continue to self-isolate even if:

- you have had and recovered from other coronavirus symptoms in this time
- you get a negative test result for coronavirus

Alert your production immediately on noticing symptoms. They will advise you of their symptom response plan, including when and how to seek medical assistance, and help to arrange an appropriate coronavirus (COVID-19) test for you.

If your test is positive you will be asked to share your contacts with the [NHS test and trace service](#). Your contact detail declaration may be used to alert people who travelled to the UK alongside you.

Anyone who is not experiencing symptoms but tests positive for COVID-19 must self-isolate for at least 10 days starting from the day the test was taken.

Anyone who tests positive whilst not experiencing symptoms, but develops symptoms during the isolation period, must restart the 10-day isolation period from the day they first develop symptoms.

Please consult the [‘What to do if you get Coronavirus symptoms’](#) guidance for more information.

For a medical emergency while working in the UK, dial 999.

If a co-worker or close contact gets coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms

If you come into close contact with an unconfirmed case while working in the UK, you will not need to self-isolate until the case is confirmed. However, you should take extra care in practising social distancing and good hand and respiratory hygiene, and be more alert to any symptoms you might develop, until the test result is known.

Self-isolation Exemptions Guidance Update Log

- up to and including V.4.0, 19 January 2021

19 January 2021 (V.4.0)	
	Updated guidance on suspension of travel corridors. Updated guidance on Test to Release eligibility. Updated guidance on suspension of the British Qualifying Film and HETV Exemption.
15 January 2021 (V.3.1)	
	Updated guidance on travel bans. Updated guidance on COVID-19 testing requirement for anyone arriving in the UK.
14 December 2020 (V.3.0)	
	Updated guidance on self-isolation period. Updated to reflect new 'Test to Release' scheme.
09 December 2020 (V.2.4)	
	Updated to reflect removal of additional travel restrictions from Denmark.
11 November 2020 (V.2.3)	
	Updated guidance on travel from Denmark.
29 September 2020 (V.2.2)	
	Updated guidance on the 14-day 'bubble' for those exempt from self-isolation. Clarity on the required certificate number as proof of qualification for exemption.
31 July 2020 (V.2.1)	
	Updated guidance on self-isolation for those with COVID-19 symptoms or who have tested positive.
17 July 2020 (V.2.0)	
	Updated to reflect legislation now applicable UK-wide.
10 July 2020 (V.2.0)	
	Updated wording regarding eligibility and immigration requirements. Updated to reflect addition of Devolved Administrations. Updated guidance on required contents of eligibility confirmation letters.