Mandatory Hotel Quarantine

Your Guide to completing Mandatory Hotel Quarantine in Ireland

For more information visit gov.ie/quarantine
COVID-19
Mandatory Hotel Quarantine Guide

The Irish Government is implementing a system of mandatory quarantine at a designated facility for passengers arriving into Ireland from a list of designated high-risk countries.

Mandatory hotel quarantine is required for passengers who have been in a designated state in the 14 days prior to their arrival in Ireland, including those who have transited through a port or airport in a designated country, even if they stay airside or portside.

Passengers are required to complete mandatory hotel quarantine at a designated facility. This may be reduced if a passenger receives a not-detected result following a COVID test that is taken on the tenth day in quarantine. It may also be extended if a passenger tests positive during their stay.

Why do I have to enter mandatory hotel quarantine?

The European Centre for Disease Control has advised that based on information available, the risks associated with the introduction and spread of variants of the disease means that escalated measures should be considered, including quarantining of travellers and testing during such quarantine.

Travel into the State by persons from certain areas with high incidence levels of the disease, variants of the disease or without taking the appropriate test for the disease is a significant concern.

COVID-19 is a highly transmissible disease that spreads through close contact with others. New variants of concern have proven to be more transmissible and may also reduce the effectiveness of COVID vaccines and, as such, the Irish Government has moved to implement mandatory hotel quarantine to protect the population from COVID-19.

If you have been in a designated country in the 14 days prior to your arrival into Ireland, you must complete mandatory hotel quarantine even if you only transited through a port or airport in the designated country.
Reserving my place in mandatory hotel quarantine

Before travelling to Ireland, you must reserve and pay for a place in mandatory hotel quarantine.

The cost is €1875.00 per single adult.

There is a graduated pricing structure beginning with:

- No charge for infants (0–3)
- €360.00 for children (4–12)
- €625 for children (12–17)
- €625 for additional adults.

You can book on [gov.ie/quarantine](http://gov.ie/quarantine)

What happens if I cannot afford to pay for mandatory hotel quarantine?

A procedure is in place with Department of Foreign Affairs Missions for deferrals of prepayment for Irish citizens and residents abroad who need to travel for essential reasons. This procedure can only be considered in exceptional/hardship circumstances.

Irish citizens and residents who wish to make an application of deferral of fees relating to mandatory hotel quarantine should contact their local Department of Foreign Affairs Mission. Missions cannot give any assurances or guarantees that the passenger will be exempted from payment after arrival. This decision will be made by the relevant authorities upon the passenger’s arrival in Ireland.

What happens when I arrive in Ireland?

The Defence Forces will have a central role in the delivery of mandatory quarantine by assuming the role of State Liaison Official (SLO), with a coordinating role between state agencies and departments as well as a quality assurance role for the operation of the overall scheme. The Defence Forces will have a presence at Dublin Airport, Dublin Port, Cork Airport, Rosslare Port and designated facilities for Mandatory Quarantine.

The SLO will have a 24/7 on-site presence at each designated facility (hotel). Essentially, they will act as the state presence at each site on behalf of the Department of Health to liaise between the contracted service provider and quarantining travellers to ensure their stay is safe, secure and comfortable, and record and escalate any issues as appropriate to relevant state authorities.
How do I get from air/seaport to the hotel?

Parking at Rosslare Europort for MHQ
Passengers arriving into Rosslare Europort by car who are subject to MHQ are required to park and leave their car at the designated public carpark within the port campus.

The cost of this parking will be borne by the passenger with at a cost of €25 for 7 days and €50 for 14 days.

All MHQ car passengers using car parking facilities at Rosslare Europort must download the APCOA Connect app to enable payment of parking fees. For further details please visit [www.apcoaconnect.ie/locationDetail?id=1542](http://www.apcoaconnect.ie/locationDetail?id=1542)

Unpaid parking fees will lead to the clamping of your vehicle with a €120.00 fee for release.

Link to see how APCOA connect parking works: [www.apcoaconnect.ie/howitworks](http://www.apcoaconnect.ie/howitworks)

What will happen when I arrive at the designated facility?

Staff at the facility will greet you and take you through the check in process. They will also provide you with some more information relating to your stay. All reasonable efforts will be made to cater for additional needs, i.e. cots, dietary requirements, accessibility needs, etc. More information on the check in process is available in the handbook the hotel will make available to you.

Testing during my period of quarantine

You will receive a PCR test on Day 1 of your period of quarantine. This is not necessarily the day you arrive in to quarantine, it may be the following first full day of quarantine.

If the result of this test is negative, you can book outdoor exercise breaks.

Once you receive a negative test result from your day 10 test, arrangements will be made for you to leave quarantine.

If you test positive, you will be moved to an isolation area of the hotel.

What happens if I feel unwell at any point during my mandatory hotel quarantine?

Your health and wellbeing is a priority during your period of mandatory hotel quarantine.

A team of health professionals are available at the hotel. If you feel unwell, you must contact the hotel Reception to arrange to speak to the Medical person on site. Please stay in your room at all times until you are accessed by the inhouse medical team, you are only permitted to leave your bedroom when confirmed it is safe to do so by the medical team. If you receive a positive result, you will be moved by the medical team to a separate area of the Hotel.

The on-site staff will also be able to assist with any medication and prescription requirements.
**Delivery of foods and goods**

You cannot leave the mandatory quarantine hotel, but you can have items delivered to the mandatory quarantine hotel - **this includes food or personal packages**. If you would like to purchase alcohol you may do so by ordering it through room service. Deliveries can not contain any illegal items or items that present a health and safety risk. This includes electrical cooking appliances, gas cookers, candles, heaters, toasters, grill top ovens, items with naked flames, and combustibles. If staff believe that your delivery contains any items that present a health and safety risk, they may ask for proof that it is safe. If you do have an item that presents a health and safety risk, the hotel can hold this for you until you depart or return it to the sender.

**How do I access the appeals process**

All travellers undergoing mandatory hotel quarantine may request a review of their quarantine on any of the grounds which are set out in the Health Act. You may submit your application to the SLO between the hours of 8am and 8pm. A decision in relation to your request will be returned within 24 hours.

**I can't book a quarantine hotel after June**

The requirement for passengers to complete mandatory hotel quarantine at a designated facility passenger applies for an initial period of 3 months. Bookings are at present available to cover this period.

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**I am travelling to Ireland seeking international protection**

A traveller who seeks international protection on arrival in Ireland and who is required to undergo mandatory quarantine will be referred to the existing reception bodies and will complete their mandatory quarantine in facilities organised under the aegis of the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth.

**I will be travelling to Ireland via Northern Ireland from a Designated state**

Travellers who arrive in Ireland and who have been in a designated state in the 14 days prior to arrival are obliged to enter mandatory hotel quarantine, and to have pre-booked their place before travelling. Travelling via Northern Ireland does not change this obligation.

It is criminal offence if a person who is obliged to enter mandatory hotel quarantine fails, without reasonable excuse, to pre-book their place and enter mandatory hotel quarantine.

Travellers transiting to Northern Ireland via English or Scottish airports are advised also to check the mandatory hotel quarantine arrangements in place in England and Scotland before travelling.
What are the symptoms of COVID-19?

Common symptoms of COVID-19 include:

- A fever
  High temperature - 38 degrees Celsius or above

- A new cough
  This can be any kind of cough, not just dry

- Shortness of breath or breathing difficulties

- Loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you’ve noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

You may not have all of these symptoms. It can take up to 14 days for symptoms to show. They can be similar to symptoms of cold and flu.

What happens if I leave mandatory hotel quarantine before completing my period of quarantine?

It is a criminal offence if you do not fulfil the legal requirement to present for mandatory hotel quarantine, if you resist being brought to quarantine or if you leave a designated facility without authorisation. A person found guilty of these or other relevant offences is liable for a fine of up to €2,000, imprisonment for up to 1 month, or both.

An Garda Síochána (the Irish police service) will investigate any suspected offences and enforce these laws.

Completing mandatory hotel quarantine

Once you have completed mandatory hotel quarantine (or a reduced period, if you receive a “not-detected” COVID test result after a test on your 10th day in quarantine), you will receive a letter of completion. You will then be free to check out of the mandatory hotel quarantine facility.

You should ensure that you have an onward travel plan in place if you do not have your own transport. Staff in the hotel will be able to support you as you make these arrangements as well as checking out of the hotel.

If you do not have an appropriate destination to go to, please talk to the SLO onsite who may be able to assist or refer you to Government agencies that can help.
Staying well physically and mentally while completing mandatory hotel quarantine

If at any time you wish to access clinical services during your period of quarantine you should contact reception. Your hotel has put in place a suite of health and wellbeing measures including yoga courses and music playlists. This information will be provided to you on arrival at the hotel.

By completing your period of mandatory hotel quarantine, you are ensuring that the chains of transmission for COVID-19 are broken, thereby protecting friends and loved ones from the risk of serious illness and death from COVID-19.

Making a plan will help you during your time in mandatory hotel quarantine

- Planning a certain time or day that you talk to a family member or friend, will give you something to look forward to and will make you more likely to reach out and make that connection
- Connect with someone everyday – having someone to talk to everyday can really help us get through the tough days
- Make the most of technology – using video chat apps are a lovely way of staying connected with loved ones, especially those that live far away
- Reconnect – look up some old friends that you have perhaps lost contact with and arrange a remote catch up
- Connect with others who share an interest - whatever your interests are, there are likely to be many online groups that share your hobbies. Why not get involved with one and meet others with similar passions as yourself
- Reach out – there are many people and services out there that are willing to talk, just reach out and you will find all the support you need

Tips to help you to switch off:

Switching off is so important in looking after your mental wellbeing. Simple activities like being creative, learning something new or practising relaxation, can help to restore and revive our spirits and help us to keep ourselves well.

Having a scheduled time dedicated to specific tasks will help us to feel more in control and less overwhelmed. So, make sure to carve out some time to engage in an activity that you enjoy and that will allow you to be distracted from what is going on around you.

- **Turn off** – have a certain time every day to check your social media and the latest news as relentless checking can lead to increased anxiety and stress. Ensure that you rely on trusted sources for information such as the HSE and the Department of Health, as rumour and misinformation can cause undue distress
- **Exercise** - exercise is great to relieve stress and improve your mood. Check with your hotel support team what options are available to you
- **Practise some relaxation techniques**
- **Read a book** or listen to a story - You can join the library online at libraries.ie and download e-books to read on your own device
- **Do an online yoga class**
- **FaceTime a friend for a chat**
- **Watch a funny film or TV show**
- **YouTube** offers a huge variety of tutoring videos for all sorts of interests and is a great resource to get you started doing something you enjoy

Mind Your Mood. Find online mental health supports [www.yourmentalhealth.ie](http://www.yourmentalhealth.ie)
If you intend on travelling to Ireland

1. On arrival into Ireland you will be met by customs/immigration officials.
2. You will then be escorted by the SLO (State Liaison Official currently provided by the Irish Defence Forces) to onward transport to your hotel.
3. On arrival at the hotel you will be checked in and brought to your room.
4. On day one, your first full day in Mandatory Quarantine you will receive a PCR test.
5. Once you return a negative result you can book outside breaks.
6. You will receive another PCR test on your tenth full day in quarantine.
7. If you receive a negative test you can exit quarantine.

* This process may take a couple of hours so bear with the SLO and hotel staff. For more information visit gov.ie/quarantine