

## **PROTOCOLS FOR YACHTS WISHING TO TRAVEL TO DOMINICA**

The following are the protocols proposed for travellers on yachts wishing to come to Dominica. They mirror those for travelling to Dominica by air.

### **1. TRAVEL PROTOCOLS FOR ENTRY INTO DOMINICA**

#### **General protocols and guidelines upon arrival:**

1. Travellers are required to wear face masks at all times during the arrival process up to and including disembarkation and leaving the port of entry.
2. Travellers must observe physical distancing
3. Travellers must practice good respiratory etiquette and personal sanitization
4. Travellers must follow all instructions of health care staff and officials

### **2. CLASSIFICATION OF COVID-RISK COUNTRY**

Approved risk -classification of countries shall apply.

Travellers from within any classification must have travelled directly from the country of origin or have been in that country/ territory for at least 21- days prior to arrival. In-transit countries must also be within the same classification. If in-transit countries are not within the same classification, risk will be assigned according to the country with the highest risk.

### **3. PROTOCOLS FOR PRE-ARRIVAL**

#### ***Compulsory requirements for all yachts***

All Yacht Agents must:

1. Submit a Managed Experience Yacht Action Plan for the consideration of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment and approval and certification prior to commencement of operations.
2. Submit Action Plans for execution of all water-based activities on island for the consideration of the Ministry of Health and approval prior to commencement. Action plans should detail the activities to be undertaken, location, transportation, protocols to be adhered to, personnel assigned, inter alia.
3. Submit Action Plans for execution of all land-based activities on island for the consideration of the Ministry of Health and approval prior to commencement. Action plans should detail the activities to be undertaken, location, transportation, protocols to be adhered to, personnel assigned, inter alia.

#### ***Compulsory requirements for all arriving travellers***

All travellers must:

1. Submit a health questionnaire online at least 24 hours prior to arrival in Dominica (website) at <http://domcovid19.dominica.gov.dm/>

2. Upload a negative PCR test result where swabs have been taken within 24-72 hours prior to arrival
3. Travellers must present the following to yacht captain prior to boarding and to the yacht agent upon disembarkation in Dominica:
  - i. Negative PCR test result where swabs have been taken within 24-72 hours prior to arrival
  - ii. Notification of health clearance to travel

#### **4. PROTOCOLS UPON ARRIVAL**

1. A Quarantine Zone will be established by the applicable yachting association. Yachts will be required to remain in the Quarantine Zone for a duration as advised by the health authorities. While in the Quarantine Zone, vessels will be required to fly a 'quarantine flag' to facilitate identification.
2. Captain of vessel will:
  - a. proceed to berth at Cabrits Cruise Ship Berth, or moor or anchor in the Quarantine Zone
  - b. await clearance and instructions to disembark from local authority.
  - c. be required to sanitize hands at sanitization stations as directed;
  - d. be required to undergo a health assessment to include a temperature check;
  - e. provide confirmation of the health notification to travel and negative PCR test results for all passengers and crew;
  - f. be conveyed to Immigration for processing and to Customs for screening.
  - g. Return to vessel.

Submission of confirmation of the health notification to travel and negative PCR test results for all passengers and crew, as well as Immigration and Customs clearance may be facilitated by the yacht agent.

#### **5. SAFE IN NATURE**

1. All travellers from **high risk countries** will be subject to mandatory quarantine on their vessel for a minimum of five days. They can partake in the Managed Experience Safe in Nature on their vessel. They can also partake in Safe in Nature on island. All Activities permitted on island must be part of an Approved Action Plan for their Yacht Agent.
2. All travellers from **bubble, low and medium risk** countries will be part of the Managed Experience Safe in Nature and activities permitted on island will depend on the approved action plans of their Yacht Agent.
3. All Travellers wishing to disembark to partake in approved Safe in Nature activities on island will:
  1. be required to sanitize their hands at sanitization stations as directed;
  2. be required to undergo a health assessment to include a temperature check;
  3. be required to undertake a Rapid Diagnostic Test,

- a. If Rapid Diagnostic test is negative, traveller may proceed to enjoy their Safe In Nature approved activities.
  - b. If Rapid Diagnostic test is positive, traveller will be swabbed for PCR testing and shall return to their vessel to await results.
  - c. If PCR is negative, traveller may proceed to enjoy their Safe In Nature approved activities.
  - d. If PCR is positive, traveller shall remain on their vessel and await the directives of the health officials. Other travellers on the same vessel must isolate on their vessel until medically cleared.
4. Day 5 testing
1. On day 5 after arrival, all travellers must proceed to the secondary screening area of the Cabrits Cruise Ship Berth.
  2. All travellers must undergo a PCR test and await results on their vessel for up to 2 days. (The cost of the PCR Test is XCD\$100 or US\$40 per test). Travellers must complete a PCR Test Form and pay for the PCR test in advance (form and payment are available online). Both form and receipt must be printed and presented to the medical official on the day of the test.
  3. If PCR tests done on day five are negative, travellers are deemed to be medically cleared at the discretion of medical officials.
  4. If PCR is positive, traveller shall remain on their vessel and await the directives of the health officials. Other travellers on the same vessel must isolate on their vessel until medically cleared.
  5. When all travellers on board a vessel are medically cleared, the vessel may proceed out of the Quarantine Zone.
  6. All travellers must submit to scheduled and unscheduled checks by medical professionals

## 5. THE MANAGED YACHTING EXPERIENCE

In light of the above, the Managed Experience/Safe in Nature is proposed in order to safely reopen to yachts. The Managed Experience is essentially a “TOURISM BUBBLE” within which specific activities can take place in accordance with action plans which (i) detail activities to be undertaken, transportation procedures, select locations, protocols to be adhered to, personnel assigned, and (ii) have been approved by the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment prior to commencement. This creates a “tourism bubble” which is exclusive to cohorts of guests only. Guests would be allowed to travel from their yachts, still maintaining the bubble on the certified taxi/transportation. The bubble would further be maintained at specific sites for water-based activities and at land-based sites.

Details of the Managed Experience, as agreed, are as follows:

1. **On Vessel Managed Experience:** Guests enjoy all amenities in a safe manner.
2. **Off Vessel/On-Island Managed Experience:** Upon approval of Action Plans for specific activities, guests will be permitted to travel from vessel to shore, undergo health screening,

still maintaining the bubble on the certified taxi and further maintaining the bubble at specific sites on island for water-based and land-based activities.

### 3. **Safe in Nature Certification for all agents**

#### General Guidelines:

1. All general COVID-19 protocols shall apply:
  - a. Wearing of masks in public or communal areas.
  - b. Hand sanitization and washing
  - c. Physical distancing
2. All agents are to be Safe in Nature certified.
3. All pre-arrival protocols shall apply (health screening questionnaire and negative PCR test result).
4. Yacht Agents are to inform the Primary Health Care Unit of incoming yachts at least five hours before arrival in order to assign staff to screening facility.
5. Guests are “quarantined” on their yacht. Activities outside of their rooms are permitted. Some activities outside the vessel are permitted. All activities are managed within a ‘tourism bubble’.
6. Upon confirmation of travel to Dominica, guests will receive information from the relevant agent/appointed COVID-19 Point Person (CPP) regarding rules and regulations and health-related requirements.
7. Upon arrival in Dominica, guests will receive an orientation of rules from their agent via zoom or HAM radio.
8. Guests must undergo at least one (1) PCR swab test to determine their COVID-19 status on Day 5 after arrival into Dominica.
9. Vessel COVID-19 Point Person will be responsible for recording guests’ temperature and any COVID-19 symptoms as well as asking any COVID-19 related questions daily. This information will be submitted to the agent and logged into the Ministry of Health database for guest surveillance by the Yacht Agents.
10. Guests will be expected to:
  - a. Report on temperature at least daily
  - b. Wear a mask when in communal areas or when in conversation with staff and medical professionals.
  - c. Respect physical distancing guidelines.

#### ON-VESSEL MANAGED EXPERIENCE:

Guests can enjoy activities on the vessel

- Swim in the pool on the vessel.
- Dine on the vessel,
- Engage in water-based activities in the surrounding waters, if it is secluded from non-guests and is cordoned off for guests only and does not require any interaction with locals.

## OFF-VESSEL/ON-ISLAND MANAGED EXPERIENCE:

Guests can engage in water-based activities on island, as follows:

- Action Plans for execution of all water-based activities on island are to be submitted by the Yacht Agent for the consideration of the Ministry of Health and approval prior to commencement. Action plans should detail the activities to be undertaken, location, transportation, protocols to be adhered to, personnel assigned, inter alia.
- Guests are to undergo health screening upon disembarkation
- Activities to be completely managed by Yacht Agent and supervised throughout.
- Only Certified transport from disembarkation point to water-sports base.
- Only Certified tour operators to be engaged.
- All protocols to be observed throughout.
- Schedules to be developed by Yacht Agent for visits to sites for water-based activities to avoid days with high traffic by locals and other tourists. High-visitation sites by locals i.e. Trafalgar Falls or Mero Beach, should be off-limits on the weekend, and other sites should be included in the respective Action Plans.
- Scheduling all water-based activities to ensure physical distancing and other protocols can be adhered to. These activities should be exclusive to guests.
- Water based activities include scuba diving, snorkelling, and whale watching, but can be expanded in the approved action plan on a case-by-case basis.
- Same cohort of persons to be maintained within the 'Tourism Bubble'. Persons will not be permitted to join an excursion which has already commenced.
- No mingling with locals (limited to certified staff, taxis, and tour operators).

Guests can engage in land-based tours on island, as follows:

- Action Plans for execution of all land-based activities would have to be submitted by yacht agents for the approval by the Ministry of Health prior to commencement. Action plans should detail the activities to be undertaken, location, transportation, protocols to be adhered to, personnel assigned, inter alia.
- Guests are to undergo health screening upon disembarkation
- Activities to be completely managed by Yacht Agent and supervised throughout.
- Tours only to certified sites.
- Only Certified transport from disembarkation point to site.
- Only Certified tour operators
- All protocols to be observed throughout.
- Preferred sites would be those not regularly frequented by locals.
- Schedules to be developed for visits to sites to avoid days with high traffic by locals and other tourists. High-visitation sites by locals should be off-limits on the weekend, and other sites should be included in the respective Action Plans.
- Scheduling all land-based activities to ensure physical distancing and other protocols can be adhered to.
- Same cohort of persons to be maintained within the 'Tourism Bubble'. Persons will not be permitted to join an excursion which has already commenced.
- No mingling with locals (limited to staff, taxis, and tour operators).

