



**UN CLIMATE  
CHANGE  
CONFERENCE  
UK 2021**

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ITALY

## **COP26 Guide to Managed Quarantine**

### **Guidance Update (28/10/2021)**

Changes to the red list have been announced on Thursday 28 October. As usual, there will be a delay between when the announcement is made and the date when the changes will be effective from.

Colombia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Haiti, Panama, Peru and Venezuela will be removed from the red list from 04:00am Monday 1 November. The announcement precedes the date the changes come into effect, so it is important to note that quarantine rules from red list countries will apply in the intervening period. Please see the below FAQs for further information.

### **What happens if my country is removed from the red list and I'm already in Managed Quarantine?**

- As you are currently checked into a quarantine hotel, you will need to follow the quarantine rules that were in place when you entered the UK and continue to quarantine at the hotel for the duration already specified to you upon entry.
- This is 5 days of quarantine for fully vaccinated individuals and 10 days of managed quarantine for those who are not vaccinated or who have not declared their vaccination status.
- Guests can only leave managed quarantine in limited circumstances. These are set out in guidance [here](#). You cannot leave the quarantine facility early because your country was removed from the red list.

### **Can I change my flights so I arrive in the UK after Monday 1 November 04:00am so I don't need to complete MQS?**

- Yes. If you do so, please ensure you contact CTM, the managed quarantine provider, to cancel your booking. Their details are available on your MQS booking reference.

### **What happens if I leave my red list country to travel for COP 26 and I arrive in the UK before 0400 Monday 1 November?.**

- If you already left your country, and you were en-route to the UK when the changes to the red list were announced and you will cross the UK border before the changes come into effect at 4am on Monday 1 November, then you will need to



stay in a quarantine hotel for the required duration depending on your vaccination status.

- This is 5 days for fully vaccinated individuals and the normal 10-day period of managed quarantine period for those who are not vaccinated or who have not declared their vaccination status.
- You cannot leave your quarantine facility early unless you receive permission to do so due to circumstances covered in the [exemptions from managed quarantine guidance](#).

**What happens if I leave my red list country to travel for COP 26 and I arrive in the UK after 0400 Monday 1 November?**

- If by the time you cross the UK border the changes have come into effect, you will be treated as an arrival from a non red list country and will not have to stay in a quarantine hotel

**I am a Ministerial Head of Department and have a letter from the UK Government which exempts me from managed quarantine. Do I need to change my exemption letter?**

- You can still travel using the letter from the UK Government demonstrating your exemption from managed quarantine. You do not need to be reissued an updated exemption letter.
- The exemption letter will not be required after 04:00 Monday 1 November, so if you are travelling after this date you should carry your UNFCCC confirmation letter instead, as you will not need to quarantine on arrival.

This guidance sets out:



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1. An introduction to managed quarantine for COP26
2. Ports of arrival in England and Scotland
3. Funding
4. Booking process if you do not qualify for funding
5. Booking process if you qualify for funding
6. FAQs

Annex A: What to expect in 5 day managed quarantine

Annex B: MQS Calendar

## 1. An introduction to managed quarantine for COP26

COP26 participants who have been in any [red listed countries or territories](#) in the 10 days immediately prior to their arrival into England or Scotland are required to spend a period of time in a government approved Managed Quarantine Service (MQS) hotel.

- the quarantine period is 5 days for fully COVID-19 vaccinated<sup>1</sup> COP26 participants and those under 18 years of age on arrival<sup>2</sup> (if they are accompanied by a fully vaccinated responsible adult who is also a registered COP26 participant)
- for unvaccinated COP26 participants and those who have not declared their vaccination status, the quarantine period is 10 days
- if a positive COVID-19 test result is recorded during quarantine, the period is extended by an additional 10 days from the day after the test was taken.

Uniquely for COP26 the UK and Scottish Government have agreed to accept all COVID vaccines and all COVID vaccination delivery programmes, evidenced through the UNFCCC Registration data.

You **must** arrange a managed quarantine booking **before** travelling to the UK. The booking reference number may be checked as part of your carrier's check-in procedure. Arrivals from red list countries without a managed quarantine booking (unless specifically exempt) will be denied boarding.

This will be in addition to completing a Passenger Locator Form and providing evidence of a negative COVID-19 test taken in the 72 hours before your departure.

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<sup>1</sup> Participants are considered fully vaccinated two weeks (14 days) after completing a full course of COVID-19 vaccinations. Participants who are required to go into MQS on arrival will need to have received their final vaccine dose at least 10 days before arrival in the UK, with the day of the final dose being day 0 and the day of arrival being day 10, to qualify for 5 days MQS.

<sup>2</sup> People under the age of 18, who need to quarantine, are eligible for the reduced Managed Quarantine Service (MQS) period of 5 days regardless of vaccination status. However, they must be accompanied by a responsible adult for the duration of their stay in managed quarantine. The responsible adult must be fully vaccinated and registered via the UNFCCC portal to attend COP26 to allow the young person to qualify for the 5 days managed quarantine. If the responsible adult is not fully vaccinated or not registered to attend COP26, they and the young person will both have to quarantine for 10 days.



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Managed quarantine means that you will stay in a dedicated hotel at your port of arrival where you will receive support to help you isolate for the necessary period. You must arrive in the UK at a port of arrival with designated MQS facilities. Further detail on this can be found in **Section 2: Ports of arrival in England or Scotland**.

During your stay you will receive your test kits and be required to complete additional COVID-19 tests to ensure you are free of the virus before travelling on to attend COP26. If you test positive for COVID-19 during your MQS stay, you will continue your stay in the managed quarantine hotel for a further 10 days from the day after the test is taken.

On completion of your managed quarantine stay, you should only transit to the accommodation you have booked for COP26. You should book your MQS stay based on the date that you wish to attend COP26.

Detailed guidance on what to expect in managed quarantine is in Annex A. The managed quarantine package includes:

- your hotel room (with wifi);
- transport to the quarantine hotel and then transport back to your port of arrival once you have completed quarantine
- COVID-19 testing
- 3 meals a day, tea, coffee, fresh fruit, snacks and drinks

Once you have completed quarantine you will be returned to the port you arrived in; from there you will be able to travel to your own accommodation for the duration of COP26. Transport to your COP26 accommodation will not be arranged or paid for by the UK Government, and participants are advised to account for the length of time required in quarantine when planning their journey(s) into the UK and to the conference.

To assist with planning your dates of travel, a calendar for 5 day and 10 day managed quarantine is outlined in Annex B. You should select the travel dates to best work for your schedule at COP26; no specific arrival date is required for MQS. The calendar in Annex B also sets out the testing requirements while you are in quarantine – the tests will be included as part of the managed quarantine package.

## 2. Port of Arrival in England or Scotland

If you have been in or transited through a [red list country](#) or territory in the 10 days before you arrive, you must be quarantined in a managed quarantine hotel near the port where you arrive.



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Your port of arrival will be the airport into which you go through passport control and enter the UK. If your flight arrives in England, you must complete managed quarantine in England **before** transiting to Scotland.

For example, if you land in Heathrow and plan on catching a connecting flight to Glasgow later in the day or following day, you must enter managed quarantine in a hotel in the Heathrow area before onward travel.

If you complete managed quarantine in England, you will **not** be required to enter managed quarantine for a second time when continuing your journey to Scotland.

### Arrival into England

You can only arrive in England at certain airports– carriers are not allowed to take you to any other port of entry. These airports are:

- Heathrow Airport
- Gatwick Airport
- London City Airport
- Birmingham Airport
- Bristol Airport
- Farnborough Airport
- Biggin Hill Airport

There is good MQS capacity around all London airports. We would advise travelling to London where possible.

Direct flights into England from the following red list countries (as of 30/09/21, please look on [gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk) for updates to the red list) can **only** arrive at London Heathrow Terminal 4 and Birmingham Airport (unless you are travelling on a national government operated flight):

- Argentina
- Brazil
- Cape Verde
- Chile
- Cuba
- Dominican Republic
- Ethiopia
- Indonesia
- Georgia
- Mexico
- Montenegro
- South Africa
- Thailand
- Tunisia

### Arrival into Scotland



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If you are travelling directly to Scotland, you can only arrive at:

- Aberdeen Airport
- Edinburgh Airport
- Glasgow Airport

Please note that there is greater managed quarantine capacity around London, and early booking is advised if you plan to fly directly to Scotland. We will allocate rooms on a first come, first served basis.

Once you have arrived at the airport you will be transported directly to your quarantine hotel. Your quarantine package includes transport to your quarantine hotel. You must only travel to your managed quarantine hotel by the transport included in your quarantine package and not by public or private transport.

### 3. Funding

The UK Government will fund the required managed quarantine stays for all registered COP26 participants who would otherwise find it financially difficult to attend COP26, including:

- registered COP26 participants from the Global South
- registered COP26 participants who are observer, non-state actors, media and representatives of international organisations
- registered party participants who are from developing countries on the red list

If you are unsure if you qualify for funding, please consult the local UK Embassy or High Commission.

If you meet the criteria set out above, you will not need to pay for your stay. The funding will cover the following:

- your hotel room (with wifi);
- transport to the quarantine hotel and then transport back to your port of arrival once you have completed quarantine
- COVID-19 testing
- 3 meals a day, tea, coffee, fresh fruit, snacks and drinks

All hotel rooms are single occupancy unless you are under 18 on the date of arrival. If you are under 18 you must be accompanied by a responsible adult and will be allocated a double occupancy room.

### 4. Booking process if you do not meet funding requirements

If you do not meet the funding criteria and are **not** fully vaccinated against COVID-19 please book your managed quarantine through the [CTM Portal](#)



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If you do not meet the funding criteria and are **fully vaccinated** against COVID-19, please contact [cop26.bookings@ctm.travel](mailto:cop26.bookings@ctm.travel) with the subject 'Unfunded 5 day MQS' and the details of your flight, arrival time and date. Please wait at least 5 working days for a response.

## **5. Booking process if you meet funding requirements**

Payment will not be required in this booking process.

Participants are strongly encouraged to book their managed quarantine **as soon as possible**. Your booking will be prioritised if you are travelling for the pre-session events and therefore have an earlier arrival date.

**We cannot guarantee accommodation will be provided for bookings made less than 14 days in advance of the date of travel, and carriers may refuse entry to flights without proof of an MQS booking.**

You must complete the following steps to book funded managed quarantine for the purposes of travelling to COP26:

- 1) Register on the [UNFCCC portal](#)
- 2) Confirm your vaccination status on the UNFCCC portal
- 3) Once you have registered, complete this form: [COP26 MQS Booking Request](#) to book your managed quarantine stay. You will need:
  - a) Your flight details
  - b) Your passport number
  - c) Your unique Document Identification number (this can be found in your UNFCCC registration confirmation letter)
- 4) Once you have submitted the form, please wait **at least 5 working days** for confirmation of your booking. Booking requests will be prioritised by date of arrival. You will receive an email from CTM to confirm submission of your request
- 5) When your booking request has been processed, you will receive:
  - a) Confirmation of hotel booking
  - b) An invoice number – this will be required to complete your Passenger Locator Form and you may need to present this to carriers or border force if required.

**Please note no payment will be required.**

If, after you have completed your booking you need to change your flight details or other details of the booking, you can complete this [COP26 Amendments & Cancellation Form](#) and the booking will be rearranged for you.

**Please note:** It is important that you inform us by using the above amendment and cancellation form if your MQS booking is no longer required for any reason. Whilst we



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understand that plans may change, failure to cancel your booking will limit capacity for other travellers. **Failure to show up to your managed quarantine booking will be investigated.**

If the list of red list countries changes before COP26 and the country or territory you are travelling from is no longer on the red list, you will be contacted to confirm the cancellation of your managed quarantine booking.

## 6. FAQs

### **What is the MQS hotel cancellation policy?**

If you no longer require MQS because you are no longer attending COP26, you must complete the [COP26 Amendments & Cancellation Form](#) to cancel your booking. It is **very important** that if you no longer require MQS that you cancel your booking. Failure to cancel your booking will limit capacity for other travellers.

If you paid for your booking separately because you do not qualify for funding, please defer to the guidance on the CTM page.

### **What if the country I am travelling from comes off the red list more than 10 days before I travel and no longer need a MQS hotel?**

If the country you are travelling from ceases to be on the red list 10 days prior to travel, you will be contacted to confirm the cancellation of your managed quarantine booking.

### **What if I test positive just before travelling? Will my MQS be cancelled or refunded?**

If you paid for your MQS booking as you do not qualify for funding, you can follow the guidance on the CTM page to cancel your booking and claim a refund.

If you qualify for funding and did not pay for your booking, please complete this form: [COP26 Amendments & Cancellation Form](#) to cancel your booking. Failure to cancel your booking will limit capacity for other travellers.

### **Can I pass my MQS booking to a colleague if I can no longer travel?**

You will need to complete this form: [COP26 Amendments & Cancellation Form](#) and ensure all your information is changed to your colleagues information, this includes their vaccination status.

### **What will be provided during my MQS stay?**

During your MQS, 3 meals a day, drinks and snacks will be provided. Vegetarian, vegan and Halal diets can be accommodated, please specify any dietary requirements on the booking





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form. COVID-19 testing will also be provided as well as transfers to your quarantine hotel and then transport back to your port of arrival once you have completed quarantine.

### **Can I get extra snacks / drinks during my MQS stay?**

There is a 24-hour room service option to provide additional food and drink. The MQS package will include three meals a day, tea, coffee, fresh fruit, water and soft drinks. The hotel will provide menus to facilitate choice of meals and will accommodate any dietary requirements. Meals will be delivered outside the hotel room door via contactless delivery.

If you have items delivered to you during the quarantine period (such as food deliveries), they'll be brought to the door of your hotel room by the managed quarantine hotel staff.

### **What if I need special facilities or arrangements for a disability or medical condition?**

Attendees with a medical condition or disability should declare this, along with subsequent support needs, when making your MQS booking. If your disability or medical condition is severe, and you are concerned that you will not get the support you need in a Managed Quarantine Hotel, you may wish to apply for a modification to the duty quarantine in a managed facility and quarantine elsewhere instead. Government guidance on how to make an application can be found [here](#).

### **Where should I pick up the COVID-19 test kit?**

The tests you will need to carry out in MQS will be provided in your hotel room.

### **Who will pick up my test and submit it for testing?**

There will be staff in the hotel who will pick up your test from your hotel room and ensure that it is sent to the lab for testing.

### **How long does it take to receive the test results?**

PCR tests are sent to the lab and you can expect results within 36 hours. In some cases it could take 48 hours for the results to be returned.

### **Are they PCR tests?**

Yes, in managed quarantine you will be required to complete three PCR tests if you are completing 5 days of MQS on day 0 and day 3. You will complete a third PCR test on day 8 after exiting quarantine. You will be required to complete two PCR tests if you are completing 10 days MQS, this will be on day 2 and day 8. This is set out in Annex B - MQS Calendar.

### **Can I go to the hotel gym or pub?**

No, you must stay inside your MQS hotel room for the required amount of time without leaving for any reason other than an emergency.

### **What do I do at the airport?**



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When you arrive in England you'll need to provide your completed [passenger locator form](#) to Border Force officers alongside your passport and negative COVID-19 test result. You will be escorted through the airport with other passengers who need to stay in a quarantine hotel. Please follow signs and instructions for the Managed Quarantine Service.

Officials will meet you at passport control. They will guide you through baggage claim and customs to the dedicated hotel transport.

**What if I fall ill during my managed quarantine stay or require welfare support?**

There is a package of medical and welfare support in managed quarantine available to all, and emergency healthcare is available. Your hotel reception team will have contact details for 24 hours a day, 7 days a week access to primary care.

**I am under 18 and cannot bring anyone with me, can I still travel?**

You are not permitted to travel to COP26 and stay in a MQS hotel without a responsible adult.

**I am under 18 and my responsible adult is not vaccinated, what MQS should I book?**

If you are under 18 and are travelling with a non-vaccinated adult, you will need to undertake 10 days MQS. The booking form will ask you to confirm that you are under 18 and have a responsible adult with you.



## **ANNEX**

### **Annex A: What to expect in 5-day managed quarantine**

For COP Participants that are not fully vaccinated for COVID-19 or have not declared their vaccination status, please read the gov.uk guidance on what to expect in a 10 day managed quarantine.

#### Arrivals:

- When you arrive in England you'll need to provide your completed [passenger locator form](#) to Border Force officers alongside your passport and negative COVID-19 test result.
- You will be escorted through the airport with other passengers who need to stay in a quarantine hotel. Please follow signs and instructions for the Managed Quarantine Service.
- Fully vaccinated COP26 participants from red list countries will be required to undertake their first PCR test within 48 hours. This test is designed to help identify any potentially concerning variants of COVID at the earliest opportunity.
- If the result comes back positive, then the individual will then be required to extend their managed quarantine stay by a further 10 days.
- If you are not fully vaccinated against COVID-19 or have not declared your vaccination status you will be required to undergo 10 days in managed quarantine. Please defer to the gov.uk guidance for what to expect in 10 day quarantine.

#### Getting to the hotel:

- Officials will meet you at passport control. They will guide you through baggage claim and customs to the dedicated hotel transport.
- A note will be made of where you sit on transport to ensure NHS track and trace will be able to identify anyone in close contact, in the scenario where someone tests positive.
- Face covering will always be mandatory (unless exempt) and must always be worn when not in your hotel room.
- Transport and hotels will be wheelchair accessible.

#### Check in and stay at MQS hotel:

- You will then spend the next 5 days in managed quarantine if fully vaccinated, and 10 days if unvaccinated. Length of stay will be determined by your declaration of vaccination status on the UNFCCC portal and in the managed quarantine booking form.
- When checking into the hotel, security will ensure all guests have read and signed the Guest Information/ Compact form which outlines isolation rules.



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- Managed quarantine hotels have clear procedures in order to reduce the risk of COVID -19.
- Whilst at the hotel, you are required to adhere to all procedures in place, with any serious breaches resulting in debadging from the conference, as set out in the COP26 Code of Conduct.
- Before travel, you must ensure you have packed all essential items you think you will need. This includes medication, chargers etc.
- You are not allowed to leave your room except under exceptional circumstances.
- It is not allowed to visit friends/ family/ other COP26 participants in other rooms, nor is it allowed to host them in yours.
- You will also be provided with three meals a day, tea, coffee, fresh fruit, water and soft drinks. The hotel will provide menus to facilitate choice of meals and will accommodate any dietary requirements. Meals will be delivered outside the hotel room door via contactless delivery.
- There is a 24-hour room service option to provide additional food and drink.
- Rooms will be single occupancy unless you are under 18 and require a double occupancy room with a fully vaccinated responsible adult. You can specify this on the managed quarantine booking form.
- If you develop symptoms during their stay, you must remain in your hotel room and phone hotel reception to order an additional test.

### Day 3 PCR test:

- Hotel staff will leave test kits outside your managed quarantine hotel room. These kits come with full instructions on use and will need to be completed as soon as possible to ensure swift collection by hotel staff. The PCR test is a swab of both nostrils and the back of the mouth and can be self administered.
- Tests are required by the COP26 Code of Conduct and by Law. Failure to do so may lead to a temporary suspension from the event and serious breaches may lead to debadging. Criminal prosecutions may also be pursued if serious breaches occur.

### Departure day:

- Contingent upon a negative Day 3 PCR test, you will be allowed to leave managed quarantine hotels after completion of 5 full days, starting from midnight the day of arrival and ending on midnight of day 5 (see Annex B for an MQS calendar).
- Accommodation will be provided for the final night to facilitate a comfortable departure on the following day at your time of choosing.
- Transport will be provided from your hotel back to your port of entry from where you can arrange onward travel. Alternatively, you are free to arrange your onward travel directly from the managed quarantine hotel at any time



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following completion of 5 full days of quarantine and receipt of a negative PCR test taken on day 3.

- Release from managed quarantine is dependent upon the maintenance of good health (no COVID-19 symptoms) after receiving a negative Day 3 test result. You will receive your test results by SMS and email.
- Hotel staff will need to be shown, in an email or SMS, negative test results before leaving. If this cannot be provided, then an extended stay in managed quarantine will be required.
- This will also occur if a positive result is received in the arrival PCR test or you develop symptoms and test positive after an additional future PCR test.
- Guests will be given an additional PCR test which they will take with them and complete on day 8.



## Annex B: MQS Calendar

<b>5 day Managed Quarantine illustrative calendar (vaccinated red list arrivals)</b>	
Arrival Day	Action
Day 0	Arrive in the UK (this runs until midnight of the day you land in the UK) Take 1 <sup>st</sup> Arrival PCR test (to be taken as soon as possible and no later than 48 hours after arrival)
Day 1	This starts at 0.01 am on the first day after you arrive in the UK
Day 2	
Day 3	Take 2 <sup>nd</sup> PCR test
Day 4	
Day 5	The duty to undertake managed quarantine lasts until midnight on day 5. After this point you are free to leave the MQS as long as you have received a negative result on their 2 <sup>nd</sup> PCR test taken on day 3 and are not displaying symptoms of COVID-19.
Departure day	Transport will be provided from your hotel back to your port of entry from where you can arrange onward travel. Alternatively, you are free to arrange their onward travel directly from your managed quarantine hotel at any time following completion of 5 full days of quarantine and receipt of a negative PCR test taken on day 3.
	You will be given an additional PCR test which you will take with you and complete on day 8. You will be able to post the completed test for free or drop it at a collection point in Scotland.



<b>10 day Managed Quarantine illustrative calendar (unvaccinated red list arrivals)</b>	
<b>Day</b>	<b>Action</b>
0	Arrival day in the UK (this runs until midnight of the day you landed in the UK)
1	This starts at 00:01 on the first day after you arrive in the UK
2	Take a COVID-19 <b>PCR test</b> (for variant surveillance). You should receive your test result within 48 hours
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	Take a COVID-19 <b>PCR test</b> . You should receive your test result within 48 hours
9	
10	
<b>Departure day</b>	You can leave quarantine when you have completed 10 full days of quarantine and received a negative result from the test you took on day 8, provided you remain well and do not display any symptoms of COVID-19.