

# WHO CAN ENTER HUNGARY DURING COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS?

Last update: 5 May 2021



HUNGARIAN  
HELSINKI  
COMMITTEE



Hungarian Helsinki Committee

# HUNGARIAN HELSINKI COMMITTEE

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## Who Can Enter Hungary During Covid-19 Restrictions?

### Information leaflet of the Hungarian Helsinki Committee

*Last update: 5 May 2021*

#### Who can enter Hungary?

According to the Government Decree, the following people can enter the country:

- **Hungarian citizens;**
- those who can credibly prove at the border that they have undergone and recovered from a Covid-19 infection within six months prior to their arrival in Hungary (this can best be proven with a document containing positive and negative results of a PCR coronavirus test in English or Hungarian);
- holders of **Hungarian permanent residence permits and their family members if they can prove** their right to stay in Hungary **through documentation** (e.g. permanent residence card, permanent resident permit, immigration permit);
- those who have an immunity pass issued by Serbia, Montenegro, Slovenia, Bahrain;
- holders of **permits allowing stay in Hungary for longer than 90 days** if they can prove their right to stay in Hungary with the appropriate documents (e.g. residence card for an EEA national, residence permits for work or study, etc.);
- **Hungarian competitors and sport association experts** if returning to Hungary following a sport event held abroad;
- **people delegated by Hungarian sport associations** to a sport event held abroad if they are returning to Hungary following the event;
- **employees of Hungarian cultural institutions** if they attended a cultural event held abroad as presenters or members of technical staff and are returning to Hungary following the event;
- **refugees and beneficiaries of subsidiary protection** if their status was given by Hungary (since they have the same rights as Hungarian citizens);
- **an executive officer or employee of an affiliated company;**



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- **commuters** living in neighbouring countries if they come to Hungary for no longer than 24 hours and they stay within 30 km of the border;
- those coming to Hungary for **business or economic purposes**, and if they can verify this purpose with an official [certificate](#);
- **spectators** of international sport events or cultural events held in Hungary, if they already bought tickets and can prove with a Hungarian or English document that they have a negative COVID PCR test from no longer than 3 days before coming to Hungary; they do not show symptoms of the virus at the medical checkpoint when they enter Hungary; and they do not intend to spend more than 72 hours in the country;
- **foreign citizens if they just want to transit Hungary, if**
  - a) they do not show symptoms of the virus at the medical checkpoint when they enter Hungary,
  - b) only want to transit the country in order to enter a neighbouring country,
  - c) hold those documents which are necessary to enter Hungary and the neighbouring country,
  - d) use only those routes which are designated by the police for this purpose, and they only stop for medical or technical reasons, and
  - e) leave the territory of Hungary within 24 hours.

It is important that you have all of the documentation on your person at all times so that you can prove that you belong to one of the groups listed above (e.g. IDs, permanent residence card, document on COVID test result etc.).

If you belong to one of the groups mentioned here, the police cannot ban you from entering Hungary. If you are prevented from entering Hungary anyway, you can appeal the police decision in court.

### What can you do if you cannot enter Hungary?

If you are a foreign citizen who is being prevented from entering Hungary, you can ask the police **to make an exemption**. You must explain to the police why exactly you should get this exemption. If you wish to submit such a request.

### Do I have to quarantine after entering Hungary?

You must undergo a **medical check upon entering** the country.

**If you are suspected to have contracted Covid-19** after the medical examination, you must enter **quarantine in a place chosen for you by the authority (e.g. a hospital)**, or, if no pandemic risk arises, you may **quarantine at home**.



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**If you are not suspected to have contracted** Covid-19 after the medical examination, you are still required to **quarantine at home for 10 days**. You cannot leave home during this period. If you do not have a place to stay in Hungary, you have to spend this time at a place chosen for you by the authorities (e.g. a hospital).

If you are in quarantine, you **can ask the authorities give you the right to go for a COVID-19 PCR test. They will administer two tests**, the second one after 48 hours but within 5 days of the first one. If **both tests are negative**, the authority will release you **from quarantine**.

If you have had a first negative test (PCR test) before entering Hungary in the Schengen countries or Croatia (Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Iceland and the EU; except Bulgaria, Cyprus, Ireland, Romania), the United States or Canada; and at least 48 hours after this test, but within 5 days, you have another negative test in Hungary you will be granted an exemption from quarantine. It is important to have a document of the first test result in English or Hungarian.

### **You do not have to quarantine, if you are**

- an employee or a manager of an **affiliated companies**;
- have an immunity pass issued in Hungary, Slovenia, Montenegro, Serbia or Bahrain;
- a commuter as defined above, or a Hungarian citizen living within 30 km from the border who returns from a neighbouring country and will stay for no more than 24 hours and no further than 30 km from the border in the neighbouring country;
- coming to Hungary for a **business or economic purpose**, you can verify this purpose, and you are national of a country specified<sup>1</sup> in the Regulation, or have the right to reside in these countries for more than 90 days;
- a Hungarian citizen who has gone to a country specified in the Decree in order to carry out a business or economic activity, and returns home from his or her business trip - and if this can be proven with documentation;
- a **spectator** of international sport events or cultural events held in Hungary as defined above;
- a **foreign citizen** who
  - a) is an attendee of an international sport event held in Hungary, or
  - b) have an official invitation letter issued by the organiser of a sport event held in Hungary, or

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<sup>1</sup> Member States of the European Union, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland, Albania, Northern Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, United Arab Emirates, Georgia, India, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Kazakhstan, China, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Korea, Russia, Singapore, Ukraine and Uzbekistan



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- c) a qualified competitor or sport expert arriving to Hungary at the invitation of a Hungarian sport association, or a person involved in the organisation of the sport event, or
- d) a presenter or member of technical staff of a cultural event held in Hungary,

and you have a document proving you were tested for Covid-19 either once within 3 days or twice within 5 days before to arriving to Hungary and the test result was negative.

- a **foreign citizen** who is only **transiting** Hungary as defined above;

If you are not exempted from quarantine, but you are a competitor or a sport expert of a Hungarian sport association or you were officially delegated abroad by a Hungarian sport association and you do not have a place to stay in Hungary, then your place of quarantine will be the place of your sport activities. Spending your quarantine in the place of the sport association is only optional if you have a place to stay in Hungary. In this case, you can freely commute between your place of stay and the place of your sport activities; and you can attend trainings. You can request a Covid-19 test and exemption from quarantine in accordance with the rules described above. Following the first test, the second test can already be conducted after 24 hours have passed since the first.

### Further information:

- Hungarian Helsinki Committee: [helsinki@helsinki.hu](mailto:helsinki@helsinki.hu)
- Contact the Consulate of Hungary in your country, and / or check the website of the Hungarian Consular Service – [HERE](#)
- Information published by the police - [HERE](#)
- Contact of the police – [HERE](#)

### Relevant law:

- 408/2020. (VIII. 30.) Gov. Decree on Travel Restrictions During the Pandemic Preparedness
- 4/2021. (III. 1.) Decree of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on other States Included in the Scope of Economic and Business Travel during the Pandemic Preparedness Period
- 7/2021. (IV. 29.) Decree of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on the Establishment of Mutual Acceptance of Vaccine Passports
- 13/2020 (VIII. 31.) Decree of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- 33/2020 (VIII. 30.) Decree of the Ministry of Interior