

## ADVISORY: CHANGE IN PROTOCOL FOR THE BLUE LANES INITIATIVE

**11 November 2021**: As announced by the Hon. Prime Minister, effective 1 December 2021, Fiji will re-open its international border.

In light of the above announcement, the COVID-19 Risk Mitigation Taskforce (CRMT) has reviewed its protocols for the Blue Lanes initiative, to ensure that the Fijian population, as well as the travellers, are protected while exploring Fiji.

As such, effective 1 December, all yachts, crew and passengers approved to enter Fiji and for those already in Fiji under the Blue Lanes, are advised:

Port Denarau Marina and Savusavu Bay continue to remain the two designated quarantine anchorages.

While in Fiji, all passengers and crew will be subject to national inter-island travel restrictions, to safeguard vulnerable communities.

Those who wish to enter Fiji must declare their interest directly with a Fiji Yacht Agent and Fijian Border Agencies, at least five working days prior to departure. The Fijian Border Agencies will then notify the Fijian Government through the CRMT.

## **Travel Partner Country\***

Those who wish to enter Fiji must declare their interest directly with their Fiji registered Yacht agent, at least three working days prior to departure by providing the following:

- Confirmation of fully vaccinated status
- Confirm spending at least 10 days in a travel partner country
- Provide a copy of a negative RT-PCR test.

The yacht agent must submit the application (C2C and other documents as above) to the CRMT for final approval for the yacht to depart for Fiji as per usual procedure.

## Non-travel Partner Country\*

Those who wish to enter Fiji must declare their interest directly with their Fiji registered Yacht agent, at least three working days prior to departure by providing the following:

- Confirmation of fully vaccinated status
- Provide a copy of a negative RT-PCR test.

The yacht agent must submit the application (C2C and other documents as above) to the CRMT for final approval for the yacht to depart for Fiji as per usual procedure.



## **Prior to Entry**

**Negative RT-PCR:** Travellers 12 years and above will be required to produce a negative RT-PCR test taken no more than 3 days prior to the day of departure.

For travellers who previously tested positive within 90 days of travel to Fiji, they must provide proof of the isolation period served from a credible institution or produce a fit to travel certificate from a medical practitioner. If outside the 90 days, a negative result applies for a RT-PCR test.

**Proof of Vaccination**: All travellers must produce proof of full vaccination. Only travellers who are under the age of 18 years will be exempt, provided they are accompanied by a parent or guardian who is vaccinated. Vaccinated minors below the age of 18 may travel unaccompanied, observing all international travel protocols.

A 14-day waiting period prior to travel following full vaccination applies. Fiji COVID-19 recognised vaccines include AstraZeneca, Pfizer, Moderna and Johnson and Johnson.

Travellers (foreign nationals travelling for holiday purposes) must have medical travel insurance, with international coverage that covers COVID-19 before travelling.

### On Arrival

Sailing days will be considered equivalent to stay in Safe Travel Area (STA), subject to uninterrupted sailing. The route will be verified through the Automatic Identification System

## **Prior to Entry**

**Negative RT-PCR:** Travellers 6 years and above will be required to produce a negative RT-PCR test taken no more than 3 days prior to the day of departure.

For travellers who previously tested positive within 90 days of travel to Fiji, they must provide proof of the isolation period served from a credible institution or produce a fit to travel certificate from a medical practitioner. If outside the 90 days, a negative result applies for a RT-PCR test.

Proof of Vaccination: All travellers must produce proof of full vaccination. Only travellers who are under the age of 18 years will be exempt, provided they are accompanied by a parent or guardian who is vaccinated. Vaccinated minors below the age of 18 may travel unaccompanied, observing all international travel protocols.

A 14-day waiting period prior to travel following full vaccination applies. Fiji COVID-19 recognised vaccines include AstraZeneca, Pfizer, Moderna and Johnson and Johnson.

Travellers (foreign nationals travelling for holiday purposes) must have medical travel insurance, with international coverage that covers COVID-19 before travelling.

#### On Arrival

Sailing days to be considered part of the quarantine period, subject to uninterrupted sailing. The route will be verified through the Automatic Identification System (AIS).



(AIS).

If there are at least 3 days of uninterrupted sailing, verified by the AIS, the passengers and crew will undergo an approved COVID-19 test on arrival. Upon clearing a negative test, the traveller is free to explore Fiji.

If there is less than 3 days of uninterrupted sailing, the yacht will be anchored at a safe harbour in Fiji under surveillance by the Republic of Fiji Military Forces (RFMF) for the period of remaining days. After clearing an approved COVID-19 test on completing the 3 days, the traveller is free to explore Fiji.

If there are at least 10 days of uninterrupted sailing, verified by the AIS, the passengers and crew will undergo an approved COVID-19 test on arrival. Upon clearing a negative test, the traveller is free to explore Fiji.

If there is less than 10 days of uninterrupted sailing, the yacht will be quarantined at a safe harbour in Fiji under surveillance by the Republic of Fiji Military Forces (RFMF) for the period of remaining days. After clearing an approved COVID-19 test on completing the 10 days, the traveller is free to explore Fiji.

\*List of Travel Partner Countries and Non-Travel Partner Countries can be found here.

Further to the above, the CRMT wishes to advice the following conditions remain applicable:

- 1) Vessels must clear Immigration at any approved port of entry and must receive clearance for any subsequent visit or disembarkation at any site or island in Fiji.
- 2) Passengers and crew must fill out the mandatory supplementary Health Arrival Card and provide travel history documentation at the port of entry upon arrival.
- 3) All passengers and crew must download the careFIJI app and keep the device Bluetooth turned on at all times during their stay.
- 4) In the case of refueling and supply of provisions, vessel representatives can pick up provision under strict guidelines from the quarantine dock. Fueling of the vessel would be at the dock under supervision of the quarantine officer, without any contact with personnel.
- 5) The costs of COVID-19 tests and any isolation or quarantine related costs, including accommodation or meals will be borne by the yacht owner.



The CRMT requests all relevant authorities to inform mariners of the change in the protocol under the Blue Lanes.

We look forward to your support.

Shahun XI

for Chairperson, COVID-19 Risk Mitigation Taskforce



# **Distribution List**

**Port Operators** 

Ministry of iTaukei Affairs

Fiji Revenue and Customs Service

Maritime Safety Authority of Fiji

Tourism Fiji

Fiji Navy

Yacht Agents