



## Entry regulations Switzerland (09.04.2021)

**Please note that despite Israel having been removed from the quarantine list of the Federal Office of Public Health FOPH, entry restrictions remain in place. Exceptions are outlined hereafter.**

Persons, even those arriving from a high-risk country, can enter Switzerland if they meet at least one of the following requirements:

- They also have Swiss citizenship.
- They hold a travel document (e.g. a passport or identity card) and
  - • a residence permit, i.e. a Swiss residence permit (L / B / C / Ci permits);
  - • a cross-border permit (G permit),
  - • an FDFA legitimation card;
  - • a D visa issued by Switzerland;
  - • a C visa issued by Switzerland after 16 March 2020 in a valid exceptional case or in order to work on a short-term contract;
  - • an assurance of a residence permit from a cantonal migration authority or an entry permit with a visa issued by Switzerland.
- They hold a refugee's or stateless person's travel document issued by Switzerland, a passport for foreign nationals issued by Switzerland, a valid residence or permanent residence permit or an F-Permit.
- They have rights of free movement. If they require a visa, a valid Schengen C-visa, a valid D-visa or a valid Schengen residence permit are sufficient. See also "Who has rights of free movement?"
- In certain cases: They are simply travelling directly through Switzerland with the intention and possibility of entering another country. See "Is it still possible to travel through Switzerland?" under '[Questions on travelling through and leaving Switzerland](#)'.
- They are in a situation of special necessity.

Who has rights of free movement?

EU/EFTA citizens and their family members, irrespective of their nationality, have rights of free movement. Family members are defined as

- spouses or registered partners of an EU/EFTA citizen;
- relatives in descending line who are under the age of 21 years or who are dependent. This includes the relatives of EU/EFTA citizens and the relatives of their spouse or registered partner;
- relatives in ascending line who are dependent. This includes the relatives of EU/EFTA citizens and the relatives of their spouse or registered partner;
- in the case of EU/EFTA citizens living as students in Switzerland: spouses or registered partners and their dependent children.

The border control authority will assess the necessity of the situation.

You must be able to prove that you meet the abovementioned requirements. Suitable documentary proof must be produced at the border.

Please note that the airlines themselves decide on the conditions on which they carry passengers. If this is relevant to your situation, please ask the airline concerned about the conditions that they apply.

In cases of special necessity, it is possible to enter Switzerland despite the entry ban. Persons who require a visa must apply for one at the Swiss foreign representation where they live, explaining why they are a case of special necessity. In certain cases, the foreign representation may be able to provide documents confirming the situation. For persons who do not require a visa, the border control officers at the Schengen external border (i.e. at the airport) decide whether the requirements of necessity have been met. They will allow entry in the following cases in particular:

- Entry because a close family member in Switzerland has died or is dying; in particular a spouse, life partner, parent, brother or sister, child, grandchild, or sister- or brother-in-law). You may be accompanied by close family members, i.e. your husband/wife, registered partner and minor children;
- Entry to continue essential medical treatment that began in Switzerland or abroad;
- Entry by the foreign spouse and foreign minor children of a Swiss citizen who wish to return to Switzerland with that Swiss citizen from their present home abroad because of the current situation, for example in the case of evacuation;
- Entry on essential official visits in terms of Switzerland's international commitments;
- Entry by crew members of scheduled and charter flights and crew members on cargo, aerial work and air-ambulance flights, flights for maintenance checks and private flights (business and general aviation) carrying persons authorised to enter Switzerland;
- Entry to visit grandparents, parents, siblings, children, or grandchildren in a medical emergency. If there is no medical emergency, childcare by family members is not considered to be an absolute necessity and so a work permit is required. The usual admission requirements apply;
- Entry with one accompanying person in order to exercise rights of access to your children; this also covers the entry of your child into Switzerland;
- Entry to visit grandparents, parents, siblings, children, or grandchildren who live in Switzerland if there is an important family reason for doing so (birth, wedding, serious illness). This also includes the immediate family of the person entitled to enter (i.e. husband/wife, registered partner and minor children), provided the family all enter Switzerland together;
- Entry for court appearances, business appointments that cannot be postponed or meetings that require personal presence; for example, to negotiate or sign a contract, business-related inspections, practical training courses or essential assignments;
- Entry by foreign nationals from third countries (including the United Kingdom from 1 January 2021) who are providing a cross-border service, for up to eight days in any calendar year or who are working temporarily in Switzerland for a foreign employer from a third country, provided their personal presence is essential (e.g. practical education and training courses, and/or training on the Job);
- Entry by professional sportsmen and women and their coaches, etc., in order to participate in competitions or for training camps – e.g. to play in qualification matches in football or international tennis tournaments;
- Entry to accompany persons entering or leaving Switzerland where their entry is permitted under Art. 3 COVID-19 Ordinance 3 and the persons concerned require special support, e.g. children, elderly people, disabled people, sick people;
- Entry by the immediate family members of a Swiss citizen registered with a Swiss foreign representation who are entering Switzerland with that Swiss citizen for a stay here that does not require authorisation. Immediate family means the Swiss citizen's spouse or registered partner and minor children (including step-children). In certain circumstances it also includes unmarried partners.
- Entry to visit a partner to whom one is not married or in a registered partnership with and with whom one does not have children is possible if:
  - a) the person wishing to enter the country has an invitation from the partner living in Switzerland and the partner is a Swiss citizen or has a short-stay permit, temporary or permanent residence permit;
  - b) confirmation of the existing partnership is submitted;
  - c) proof can be given that at least one face-to-face visit or meeting took place in Switzerland or abroad before entry restrictions were imposed.
- Entry is not permitted on the basis of a mere holiday acquaintance. Proof must be given that a relationship has already lasted for some time and is regularly cultivated. The persons concerned must provide credible evidence that they were in regular contact before and during the corona crisis.

Where exceptions are made, these must not be contrary to the objective of combating the pandemic or to the instructions issued by the FOPH. All persons entering Switzerland from certain countries or regions are subject to quarantine, irrespective of these entry conditions.  
[FOPH quarantine list](#)

For further relevant information consult the website of the State Secretariat for Migration:  
<https://www.sem.admin.ch/sem/en/home/sem/aktuell/faq-einreiseverweigerung.html#-1871257744>  
and the Federal Office of Public Health FOPH: <https://www.bag.admin.ch/bag/en/home.html>

Visa Section, 09.04.2021