

# COVID-19 Maritime Industry Update 112

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**12 September 2022**

This guideline is for the maritime industry and port supply chain



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Last updated: 12 September 2022

This document is uncontrolled if printed. Please refer to the Maritime New Zealand website for the latest version.

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The Maritime Industry Update is issued monthly.

If you have any questions about updates, or suggestions for what you would like included, please contact Maritime NZ by emailing [MNZCovid-19@maritimenz.govt.nz](mailto:MNZCovid-19@maritimenz.govt.nz).

# 1. The Maritime Border Order has been revoked

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The Maritime Border Order (MBO) and a number of other orders have ceased and as of 11:59pm, 12 September, New Zealand moves away from the COVID-19 Protection Framework.

We know it will be a relief to many that most of the measures to combat COVID-19 that have been employed in New Zealand and around the world have been relaxed. However we still need to remain vigilant and these changes have been made with an eye to a possible return to restrictions if needed.

Whatever the future holds, our thanks goes to everyone within the ports and maritime sector who kept their workmates, whānau, and communities safe by following the rules and guidelines over the last 2 plus years. It has been a monumental effort by you all to keep the country moving and prevent COVID-19 from entering through the ports.

## The Maritime Border Order has been revoked

Revoking the Maritime Border Order removes the following border requirements:

- Testing for arrivals on commercial craft, including freight, fishing, fuel vessels, specialty vessels and research ships.
- Requirements for arrivals on cruise and recreational ships to be vaccinated.

The notice of arrival via the Extended Notice of Arrivals form is no longer required, however the Advanced Notice of Arrival, No Change of Health Status and Maritime Declaration of Health documentation, are still required. Masters still need to advise the port health authority at each port whether there are any notifiable infectious diseases on board, including COVID-19. Please visit [NZ Customs](#) for more information.

Passengers and crew no longer have to be COVID-19 symptom free before travelling to New Zealand. However, if passengers and crew have COVID-19, they are encouraged not to travel to New Zealand.

In addition the Isolation and Quarantine Order, Testing Order, and Vaccination Order, have all been removed. The Self Isolation and Permitted Work Order is being amended meaning the Close Contact Exemption, Work Bubble and Critical Workers for Specified Events Schemes, have ceased. The Epidemic notice, which is a prerequisite for making COVID-19 orders, has been renewed for 5 weeks and will be reviewed again in due course.

There is a new Face Mask Order in force to ensure face masks are used in certain healthcare settings, and mask wearing is still encouraged on public transport. Please visit the [Ministry of Health](#) for more information.

## 1. The Maritime Border Order has been revoked (continued)

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### Testing positive and self-isolation

If you are experiencing symptoms you are encouraged to test and if you test positive for COVID-19, you will need to self-isolate for seven days.

If someone tests positive for COVID-19 on board a commercial ship, they will need to isolate on that ship. However If someone tests positive on a cruise ship, they will need to isolate in their cabin. People who have COVID-19 can move to a place of self-isolation on land from their ship if they go directly to that destination, wear a mask and limit the amount of time they are in public. On a commercial vessel, crew may continue to perform 'defined' essential tasks if they test positive for COVID-19.

If you are a household contact of someone who has tested positive, you do not need to isolate however you are encouraged to take a Rapid Antigen Test (RAT) every day within the first five days following that person's positive test.

### For people flying to NZ to join a cruise or commercial ship

The Air Border Order has undergone some changes. Post arrival testing, vaccination requirements and the requirement to not be showing symptoms when boarding, have been removed.

Masks are no longer required on international flights to and from New Zealand and masks are no longer required to be worn at New Zealand airports.

People flying to New Zealand will still need to complete an NZTD form, but will be allowed to board their flight to New Zealand if they have not completed the form. The form will need to be completed before the traveller can enter New Zealand with the details used for contact tracing purposes.

## 2. COVID-19 Health and Safety

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From 13 September 2022 onwards, many of the public health orders requiring PCBUs to comply with measures to combat COVID-19 will be revoked. Guidance will be issued recommending best practice steps to reduce risks associated with COVID-19.

The Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 require PCBUs to do everything practicable to safeguard the health and safety of workers and others in the workplace, and PCBUs should ensure they have appropriate COVID-19 policies and procedures in place to effectively manage the risk of COVID-19. For example, NZ workers assisting foreign crew who have tested positive for COVID-19 but who are undertaking essential tasks, should continue to wear PPE.

By performing a Risk Assessment, businesses can evaluate the potential impacts that COVID-19 may have on their business and how to mitigate them. For more information on managing COVID-19 as a health and safety risk under HSWA please see the MNZ, WorkSafe and MBIE websites below for guidance.

- [Health and Safety - Maritime NZ](#) (MNZ)
- [Novel coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#) (WorkSafe)
- [Employment New Zealand](#) (MBIE)

### 3. Cruise guidance and the vessel management framework

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Cruise Guidance and the Vessel Management Framework will be updated in line with the change in COVID-19 settings.

Thank you for your patience as we make the necessary changes. We will look to publish these on Maritime NZ's website soon.

## 4. New arrival points open up for recreational craft

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From 1 September, small craft/recreational vessels will be able to arrive at multiple ports and marinas around New Zealand.

Since 2020, arrivals have been restricted to entering New Zealand via Opuia in the Bay of Islands so that COVID-19 restrictions could be managed effectively to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

The ports/marinas that vessels can now arrive at are:

- Opuia
- Whangarei
- Auckland (Westhaven marina)
- Auckland Harbour Viaduct marina and Silo Park marina
- Tauranga (Vessel works precinct)
- Picton
- Lyttelton

All seven ports and marinas are Customs Controlled Areas (CCA's) and Places of First Arrival (PoFA) for the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI). All travellers to New Zealand by sea including passengers and crew, will need to comply with standard border entry requirements, along with any public health requirements.

For more information about travelling to New Zealand on a recreational vessel, yacht or small craft, including mandatory documentation and health requirements visit [www.customs.govt.nz/yachts](http://www.customs.govt.nz/yachts).

## 5. Travellers with COVID-19

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The only groups that automatically qualify for the same COVID-19 healthcare as New Zealand citizens and residence-class visa holders are:

- Australian citizens or residence-class visa holders; and
- citizens of the United Kingdom.

Travellers are encouraged to check (before they travel) that their insurance covers them for the treatment of COVID-19, and the cost of changing flights, or self-isolating in suitable accommodation.

Vaccinations and COVID-19 testing for symptomatic people will continue to be provided for free, regardless of their reason for being in the country, or whether they are eligible for funded healthcare.

Travellers who are COVID-19 positive should expect to pay to self-isolate in suitable accommodation. Currently, if they are unable to find any suitable accommodation to self-isolate in, they can contact the regional care coordination hub, which in exceptional circumstances may help with sourcing suitable accommodation. The traveller will be invoiced for their stay.

## 6. Answering your questions

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There are a huge number of stakeholders in the maritime industry and ports' supply chain, and all of you are affected in different ways by COVID-19 and New Zealand's response to it.

If you have questions you would like answered, please email [MNZCovid-19@maritimenz.govt.nz](mailto:MNZCovid-19@maritimenz.govt.nz) by 5pm, Friday each week.

## 7. Key sources of information

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The following links provide you with key sources of information.

For all your questions, and to provide information and make suggestions – email Maritime NZ	<a href="mailto:MNZCovid-19@maritimenz.govt.nz">MNZCovid-19@maritimenz.govt.nz</a>
Port and maritime guidelines and other information	<a href="http://www.maritimenz.govt.nz">www.maritimenz.govt.nz</a> – click on the COVID-19 banner on the home page
Official health advice, including testing – Ministry of Health	<a href="http://www.health.govt.nz/">www.health.govt.nz/</a>
Up-to-date information across the transport sector (land, sea and air) – Ministry of Transport	<a href="http://www.transport.govt.nz/about/covid-19/">www.transport.govt.nz/about/covid-19/</a>
All New Zealand COVID-19 legislation	<a href="http://www.pco.govt.nz/covid-19-legislation/">www.pco.govt.nz/covid-19-legislation/</a>