



GPI POLICY - COVID-19 TRAVEL & QUARANTINE

Rational:

The Government of Pitcairn Island partners (GPI) acted swiftly to close the island's border in March 2020, when the COVID-19 (C-19) pandemic spread around the world. GPI recognises that the pandemic will continue to impact Pitcairn's visitor economy, essential travel to and from the island and the secondary health care needs of its community. The border was re-opened on the 31st March 2022 and Pitcairn Island is committed to remaining COVID-19 safe.

Objective:

The GPI COVID-19 Travel and Quarantine Policy sets out necessary, current and approved procedures for the effective reference and promulgation of Pitcairn's COVID19 management protocols. This Policy is reviewed monthly. Please ensure your copy is current.

The MV Silver Supporter is the current GPI Passenger / Supply Vessel servicing both its cargo and passenger travel requirements.

Abbreviations:

GPI - Government of Pitcairn Island

C-19 - Corona Virus

PIO - The Pitcairn Island Office

PoV - Proof of Vaccination (to be fully Covid-19 vaccinated) means a recognised vaccination certificate equivalent to that issued by the New Zealand Ministry of Health.

PI MO - Pitcairn Island Medical Officer

PCR -Nasopharyngeal Swab For C-19 Test

ADMINISTERED RAT - Rapid Antigen Test administered by an independent qualified person, company or Clinic.

SUPERVISED RAT – Rapid Antigen Test administered by a designated person.

Masks

Wearing masks on Pitcairn is not mandatory. However, in situations where social distancing is not possible use is recommended, at visitor discretion.

We advise all those travelling to Pitcairn to exercise social distancing, and wearing of masks when travelling on flights, when travelling on the Silver Supporter and in general when in close proximity to others.

Date Policy last reviewed: 22nd June 2022

Date Policy due for next review: Monthly until further notice



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GPI Passenger/Supply Vessel - Travelling from Pitcairn Island to New Zealand

- a) At the time of booking all passengers, reserving a berth on the GPI Passenger/Supply ship must email the PIO with their Proof of Vacation (PoV) against C-19.
- b) The NZ Immigration authorities currently require people arriving by ship to have undertaken a minimum of 7 days isolation/quarantine at sea whilst on board the ship on which they arrived in New Zealand.
- c) On arrival in NZ all GPI Charter passengers and crew are given a supervised RAT. Preliminary results are available at the time of testing.
- d) The Captain of the ship is formally notified in writing when test results are received for the crew and passengers
- e) Each passenger is provided with a Port Health Letter of Authorisation to Disembark the ship. The captain will inform passengers that they can disembark.
- f) Information about changes to NZ's Maritime Border controls and further comprehensive C-19 related information can be found at: www.Covid19.govt.nz

GPI Passenger/Supply Vessel - Travelling from Pitcairn Island to French Polynesia

- a) All passengers preparing to board the ship at Pitcairn are required to have a supervised RAT by Pitcairn Island Medical staff on the day of departure. Anyone who tests positive will not be able to board the Silver Supporter, unless they are leaving on a medical evacuation.
- a) Regulations regarding testing on arrival in Tahiti are constantly changing. Current information can be found at <https://tahititourisme.com/en-us/covid-19/> The PI MO and PIO can assist on current regulations.

GPI Passenger/Supply Vessel – Travelling to From NZ to Pitcairn Island

- a) At the time of booking all passengers, reserving a berth on the GPI Passenger/Supply ship are to provide the PIO with their Proof of Vacation (PoV) against C-19.
- b) All passengers are required to have either a PCR test within 72 hours prior to boarding the vessel, or an Administered RAT test within 24 hours prior to boarding the vessel.

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- c) All PCR or RAT results must be forwarded to the Pitcairn Island Medical Officer and the Captain of the ship, via the PIO, so a formal Notice of Medical Clearance can be issued before passengers are permitted to board the ship.
- d) At the time of booking all passengers reserving a berth on the GPI Passenger/Supply ship are to be advised that Pitcairn Island is committed to remaining COVID-19 safe and referred to this policy.

GPI Passenger/Supply Vessel – Travelling From Mangareva to Pitcairn Island

- a) All passengers will be given a supervised RAT when they board the ship. This supervised RAT should be conducted in a well ventilated and open area when possible.
- b) The PI MO will ensure that the Captain of the vessel has a designated person supervise RATs to all crew and passengers within 12 hours prior to disembarking at Pitcairn.
- c) Any passengers testing positive for COVID-19 will self-isolate on board. Their information will be shared with the PI MO
- d) It is the responsibility of the Captain to electronically provide the PI MO with RAT results.
- e) When crew and passengers are medically cleared the PI MO will convey this to the Chief Immigration Officer who will grant passengers permission to land.
- f) Any passengers testing positive for COVID-19 will be granted permission to land but will have to self- isolate on Pitcairn.
- g) Any crew members testing positive for COVID-19 are required to self-isolate on board.

Note: Passengers are not required to have an RAT or PCR test in Tahiti prior to boarding the flight to Mangareva or prior to boarding the ship.

Note: Passengers who test positive on embarkation in Mangareva should be aware, should they chose to continue to travel to Pitcairn, they will not be permitted to board the Silver Supporter for the return passage to Mangareva until they have tested negative.

GPI Passenger/Supply Vessel - Medical clearance and landing protocols for passengers arriving at Pitcairn

- a) If arriving directly from NZ or Mangareva the PI MO will liaise with the ship for medical clearance. Once medically cleared the PI MO will convey this to the Chief Immigration Officer who will grant passengers permission to land.

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Cruise Ships – Landing Passengers

The responsibility of the Captain of a visiting cruise ship is, prior to arrival, to ensure the Ship's Doctor provides the PI MO with the following electronic information:

- a) PoV information for all passengers and crew, intending to land, in accordance to the ship's own C-19 management procedures.
- b) Proof of a negative RAT for all passengers and crew, within 24 hours, of intending to land at Pitcairn Island.

Note: PoV information should show the passengers primary course of World Health Organisation (WHO) approved vaccination.

Cruise Ships – Boarding Procedures for Pitcairn Islanders

- a) All Pitcairn Islanders intending on boarding a cruise ship will have a supervised RAT administered by the Pitcairn Island medical staff within 24 hours prior to embarkation. Anyone testing positive will not board the cruise ship and will have to isolate at home.
- b) When requested, the PI MO will provide the ship's Doctor with electronic PoV information for all Pitcairn Islanders intending to board the ship.
- c) All visitors boarding must adhere to the ship's own C-19 management protocols and visitor requirements.
- d) All visitors boarding must carry a copy of their passport details and a hardcopy of their PoV information.
- e) All visitors boarding will:
 - Refrain from unnecessary physical contact with passengers and crew at all times.
 - Ensure reasonable social distancing from passengers and crew at all times
Wear masks at all times.
 - Place hand sanitizer on their trading tables, if trading, and use it regularly through-out.

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Yachts, Freighters and all other vessels

It is the responsibility of Captains' of other visiting vessels, prior to arrival, to electronically provide the PI MO with:

- a) PoV for all those on board.
- b) The PI MO will Administrator a RAT at Bounty Bay. Once medically cleared the PI MO will convey this to the Chief Immigration Officers who will formally grant passengers permission to land.

General Requirements

- a) While overseas all Pitcairn Residents must carry their Pitcairn Island PoV certificate issued by the Pitcairn Medical Centre.
- b) While overseas all GPI Passenger/Supply vessel crew and passengers are encouraged to take all necessary precautions to avoid becoming infected with C-19
- c) All crew working on a GPI Passenger/Supply vessel must be fully vaccinated against Covid-19.

Proof of Vaccination

- a) All persons landing at Pitcairn Island are required to carry PoV.
- b) The above PoV does not apply to minors who do not qualify for vaccination.

Risk management C-19 illness on-board the GPI Passenger/Supply Ship

- a) If any passenger or crew member tests positive for C-19, whilst at sea, medical advice will be sought, initially from the PI MO. The severity of illness and location of the ship, will be factored when determining the appropriate medical treatment.

Risk management for C-19 case on Pitcairn Island

- a) The PI MO will strongly recommend isolation for any person who has tested positive for C-19. The isolation location, recommended by the PI MO will be on determined on a case by case basis.

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- b) If the PI MO suspects or confirms an individual on Pitcairn Island has contracted C-19 they are to immediately inform all households. The MO will not release details of who is infected.
- c) If there is a positive C-19 case on-island the PI MO is responsible for ensuring the community kept informed of developments.

Contacts:

The contact for the Pitcairn Island Office is: admin@pitcairn.gov.pn

The contact for the Pitcairn Doctor is doctor@pitcairn.gov.pn

<https://covid19.govt.nz/covid-19-vaccines/how-to-get-a-covid-19vaccination/book><https://covid19.govt.nz/covid-19-vaccines/how-to-get-a-covid-19vaccination/book-your-covid-19-vaccination/getting-proof-of-your-vaccination/yourcovid19-vaccination/getting-proof-of-your-vaccination/>

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