

Mobility: Immigration alert

December 2021



Brazil

Brazil imposes temporary ban on travel from Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa and Zimbabwe

Executive summary

The Brazilian Government recently announced that individuals seeking to travel to Brazil from Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa and Zimbabwe, and those who were present in any of these locations in the 14 days preceding their desired travel to Brazil, are temporarily inadmissible until further notice.

Temporary travel ban

The temporary ban on travel from the six southern African countries, which is already in effect, follows the discovery of the B.1.1.529 ("omicron") variant of COVID-19 and is designed to limit the spread of the omicron variant in Brazil. Individuals who reside, or were recently present, in the six affected countries must quarantine for at least 14 days in a location other than these six countries, before seeking admission to Brazil. Individuals who transited through any of the six impacted countries in the 14 days preceding their desired travel to Brazil are also inadmissible until further notice.

Brazilian citizens and residents, and their immediate family members, who reside or were recently present in any of the six southern African countries are exempt from the temporary travel ban and may enter Brazil. However, they must quarantine for 14 days upon arrival in their home or another private residence where they can isolate.

Penalties for noncompliance

The Brazilian Government announced that travelers who fail to comply with the new travel restriction (e.g., travelers who seek admission to Brazil but fail to disclose a recent history of travel to any of the six impacted southern African countries) are subject to immediate deportation, potential bars against future re-entry, heightened scrutiny of future immigration applications, as well as other civil and criminal penalties.

Next steps

EY will continue to monitor these developments. Should you have any questions, we encourage you to contact one of our immigration professionals.

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