

Mobility: Immigration alert

December 2021



Russia

Temporary ban on travel from Botswana, Eswatini, Hong Kong, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Tanzania and Zimbabwe

Executive summary

The Russian Government recently announced that non-Russian citizens seeking to travel to Russia from Botswana, Eswatini, Hong Kong, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Tanzania and Zimbabwe, and those who were present in any of these locations in the 10 days preceding their desired travel to Russia, are temporarily inadmissible until further notice.

Temporary travel ban

The temporary ban on travel from these 10 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 Russia. Individuals who reside, or were recently present, in any of the 10 affected countries must quarantine for at least 10 days in a location other than these 10 countries, before seeking admission to Russia. Individuals who transited through any of the 10 impacted countries in the 10 days preceding their desired travel to Russia are also inadmissible until further notice. Air travel from Tanzania is suspended until 1 February 2022.

Russian citizens who are seeking to travel to Russia from any of the 10 impacted countries, or who were recently present in any of these countries, must take a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) COVID-19 test on arrival in Russia and self-isolate in their homes or another suitable private residence for 14 days upon arrival.

Travel from China, Israel and the UK

Russian citizens traveling to Russia from Mainland China, Israel and the United Kingdom must now take a PCR COVID-19 test on arrival in Russia.

Key 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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