

PUBLIC NOTICE - Updated COVID-19 Guidelines for Tourism, Hospitality & MICE Industry

Following the cabinet resolutions of 1 September 2021 on measures to contain the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Rwanda Development Board (RDB) would like to update the public on the following guidelines for tourism, hospitality, Meetings, Incentives, Conferences & Exhibitions (MICE) to be observed from 2nd -22nd September 2021:

1. Social gatherings such as concerts, festivals, and exhibitions shall resume gradually for participants under the following measures:
 - a. All participants (including organizers and service providers) must present a vaccination certificate and a negative Real Time Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) or Rapid Antigen COVID -19 test taken within 72 hours prior to the event.
 - b. All events shall be held at 30% venue capacity for indoor venues and 50% capacity for outdoor spaces.
 - c. All participants must adhere to 1-meter physical distance and wear mask properly all times during the event.
 - d. All event planners must request permission for events (concerts, festivals, exhibitions) at least 10 days prior by emailing the Rwanda Convention Bureau at info@rcb.rw
2. Live performances are permitted at designated event venues and hospitality establishments. Performers must ensure that they are vaccinated, and present valid negative RT-PCR or Rapid Antigen COVID-19 test results taken within the last 72 hours. 1-meter physical distance must be respected as well as face mask wearing at all times.
3. Physical conferences and meetings will continue at 30% of the venue capacity. All participants must present a valid negative RT-PCR or Rapid Antigen COVID-19 test result taken within 72 hours.
4. Hotels, restaurants, and cafes can serve clients at 30% capacity indoors and at 50% capacity outdoors (in open spaces). Clients are strongly encouraged to get vaccinated and regularly tested for COVID-19.
5. Tourists, including children, visiting the country's national parks will be required to present a negative COVID-19 test result taken within 72 hours. A RT- PCR test is required for Volcanoes, Nyungwe and Gishwati-Mukura National Parks while a negative Rapid Antigen COVID-19 test result is accepted for Akagera National Park.

6. All hotels, restaurants, cafés, and other accommodation establishments are required to ensure their staff are tested for COVID-19 every 14 days.
7. International and domestic tourists are welcome to engage in tourism activities across the country in adherence to the curfew hours. Where this is not possible, especially for tourists visiting the national parks, a prior application for a movement clearance must be submitted to RDB to ensure a seamless experience while respecting COVID-19 guidelines.
8. Hotels and restaurants are encouraged to continue providing on-site COVID-19 testing facilities for clients who may require the service. Rwanda Biomedical Centre will continue providing the required technical support.
9. All guests intending to stay in hotels and other accommodation establishments must provide valid negative COVID-19 test results taken within 72 hours.
10. Swimming pools and massage services in tourism establishments are open to resident and non-resident clients presenting a vaccination certificate and a negative COVID-19 test taken within 72 hours.

RDB reminds the public to adhere to the health and safety directives issued by the Ministry of Health to curb the spread of COVID-19. For further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact the RDB reservations team on +250 784 135 830 or email visitrwanda@rdb.rw.

Done at Kigali, 3 September 2021

Signed on behalf of Clare Akamanzi, Chief Executive Officer, Rwanda Development Board.

Zephanie Niyonkuru