

Kigali, 2 February 2022

## **COVID-19 GUIDELINES FOR TOURISM, HOSPITALITY & MICE**

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Following the Cabinet resolutions of 26 January 2022 on measures to contain the spread of COVID-19, the Rwanda Development Board (RDB) would like to inform the public of the following updated guidelines for Tourism, Hospitality, Entertainment, Recreation, Meetings, Incentives, Conferences & Exhibitions (MICE):

1. All arriving passengers will be required to take a RT-PCR and Ag RDT COVID-19 test on arrival. Passengers are not required to quarantine in designated hotels. An additional Ag, RDT COVID-19 test, is required on day 3 from the arrival date at designated testing sites (Camp Kigali or nearest Provincial or District hospitals for those out of the City of Kigali). Both mandatory tests, taken on arrival and day 3, will be paid for upon arrival at the Kigali International Airport;
2. Tourists, including children over 5 years, where applicable, visiting the country's national parks will be required to present a negative COVID-19 test result taken within 72 hours. An RT-PCR COVID-19 test is required for all visitors wishing to see primates at Volcanoes, Nyungwe, and Gishwati-Mukura National parks;
3. Live performances including live bands and Karaoke in hotels, restaurants and bars shall resume. All participants including performers must respect COVID-19 preventive guidelines and must be fully vaccinated;
4. Organized Concerts within designated events' venues will resume gradually. Organizers must request permission at least 10 days prior by emailing the Rwanda Convention Bureau at [info@rcb.rw](mailto:info@rcb.rw). Concert planners should observe the following guidelines:
  - i. Concert tickets must be sold electronically;

- ii. All concert participants, including planners and attendants, must be fully vaccinated and have a negative COVID-19 test result taken within 72 hours;
  - iii. All concerts shall be held at 75% of the venue capacity.
5. Night clubs shall apply for re-opening to RDB via email [tourism.regulations@rdb.rw](mailto:tourism.regulations@rdb.rw) :
- a) A decision on the application to re-open shall be made by RDB within a period not exceeding seven working (7) days;
  - b) Approved night clubs shall operate at 50% capacity and within permitted business operating hours;
  - c) Night club clients must be fully vaccinated and have a negative COVID-19 test results taken within 72 hours;
  - d) Approved nightclubs shall ensure their staff are fully vaccinated and tested for COVID-19 every 14 days. Eligible staff are encouraged to take the vaccine booster shot;
6. Cinema halls or movie theatres may accommodate not more than 75% of the venue capacity. Clients must present proof of full vaccination and a valid negative COVID-19 test result taken within 72 hours;
7. Physical conferences and meetings should not exceed 75% of the venue capacity. Participants must present proof of full vaccination and a valid negative RT-PCR or Ag RDT COVID-19 test result taken within 72 hours;
8. Hotels, bars, restaurants, cafes and recreation centers may serve clients at 75% capacity. Clients must be fully vaccinated. Clients are strongly encouraged to test for COVID-19 regularly;
9. All hotels, restaurants, cafés, bars, and other accommodation establishments, as well as entertainment venues and recreation centers, are required to ensure their staff are fully vaccinated and tested for COVID-19 every 14 days. Hotel/Lodges around national parks are required to test more regularly. All eligible staff are encouraged to take the vaccine booster shot;
10. 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;

11. All guests intending to stay in hotels and other accommodation establishments must provide valid negative Ag RDT or RT-PCR COVID-19 test results taken within 72 hours;
12. Sauna, massage parlors, swimming pools and privately managed beaches are allowed to open for clients who have a negative Ag RDT or PCR COVID-19 test taken within 72 hours. All clients must be fully vaccinated (except for persons under 12 years of age). Staff of these establishments must be fully vaccinated and tested for COVID-19 every 14 days. All eligible staff are encouraged to take the vaccine booster shot;
13. Establishments are required to verify their clients' COVID-19 vaccination and testing statuses using the RBC Covid-19 Results & Covid-19 Vaccination portals or the USSD \*114#. Fines and penalties will be issued to non-complying establishments by local government authorities as set by respective Districts or City of Kigali Councils;

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. Those found in violation will be penalized accordingly.

**Signed on behalf of Clare AKAMANZI Chief, Executive Officer**

**Zephanie NIYONKURU**