



For Immediate Release

***EU Digital COVID Certificate: Euroconsumers presents travelling scenarios for this summer to help understand the complexity of the new rules***

**Brussels, 30 June 2021** – On July 1st the EU Digital COVID Certificate is officially launched. Thanks to this initiative EU residents will be able to travel again throughout Europe this summer. However Member States have retained the right to decide on specific aspects of the Certificate rules, resulting in a confusing patchwork that makes it still very complicated for many EU citizens to travel. If anything we need more Europe to ensure safe and free travelling.

**Euroconsumers has created 3 visuals representing 3 typical travel scenarios that outline the hurdles and complexities some travellers will be faced with** as they take their summer vacation:

- Are one dose or two doses of vaccination needed to be allowed into my country of destination?
- Do my children need to get tested?
- How much of my holiday budget do I need to reserve to cover the prices of the COVID tests I'll have to take?
- Are tests valid for 48h or 72h?
- Are antigen tests allowed or not?

**Scenario 1: 70-year-old fully vaccinated man** flies from Spain to Portugal. His proof of full vaccination grants him the automatic right to the Certificate. He travels without any hassle.

**Scenario 2: A family** with parents in their 30ies, both half vaccinated, have 3 kids -12 years old, 8 years old and 2 years old. They plan to drive from Belgium to Spain via France. **The rules regarding the testing of children differ in each country.**

**Scenario 3: Two 20-year-old women** plan to travel from Portugal to Spain and Italy. They are both half vaccinated. **While some countries allow access with incomplete vaccination, others require COVID testing.**

[Please find here the scenario visuals.](#)

**Travelling with the EU COVID Certificate**  
*As a fully vaccinated person*

A 70-year-old man. He's received 2 doses of COVID vaccine more than 2 weeks ago, therefore considered fully vaccinated. He flies from Spain to Portugal.

**Spain**  
Before Departure: Test required? No as fully vaccinated.

**Portugal**  
After 1 week of vacation: Back to Spain.

His Certificate showing complete vaccination grants him the right to cross the border without further requirements.

Flies back with the same Certificate without any additional action needed from him or requirement put upon him.

**Travelling with the EU COVID Certificate**  
*As a family of five*

Parents: 35 years old, half vaccinated. 3 kids: 12, 8, and 3 years old. Drive from Belgium to Spain via France.

**Belgium**  
Before departure, Take a test:  
• Both parents  
• 12yo kid

Prices = 47€ to 120€. Covered by the Belgian government (2 tests max per person).  
• PCR tests only valid for 72h & antigen tests for 48h  
• France provides free tests for tourists

**France**  
To enter Spain, Take a test:  
• Both parents  
• 12-18 yo kids

**Spain**  
2-week vacation. Back to France: 3 tests again. Take 3 rapid antigen tests. €70 each. 3 x 70 = €210

As Belgian residents, they can cross the border without a test.

**Belgium**  
2 days travelling Antigen tests not valid in Belgium

Parents and the 12-year-old need to take a test at their arrival in Belgium (unless returning from a green or orange zone).  
• This is the 2d and last free of charge test they are allowed to.

**Travelling with the EU COVID Certificate**  
*As half vaccinated persons*

Two 20-year-old women plan to make a trip from Portugal to Spain and Italy. They are both half vaccinated.

**Portugal**  
Before Departure: Tests required? Yes, take one antigen test each.

**Spain**  
1-week vacation. Need a test for Italy? Not sure.

**Italy**  
1-week vacation. Need a test for Portugal? Not sure.

**Portugal**

Spain requires full vaccination, testing or recovery.  
The online information on whether their 1 dose of vaccination is enough to enter into Italy differs depending on where they look. So they decide to take a test again.

- In Portugal, 1 dose of vaccination is enough to get a Certificate
- No need for them to take a PCR or antigen test
- They fly back from Italy to Portugal

Created on 30 June 2021. The requirements described here are subject to changes according to how the pandemic evolves. Check the requirements in place in your country of destination on [reopen.europa.eu](https://reopen.europa.eu).

Els Bruggeman, head Policy and Enforcement at Euroconsumers said: “We welcome the impressive effort made by EU institutions to facilitate travelling this summer. However, due to national governments’ reluctance to fully harmonise the EU digital COVID Certificate rules, it will still be very complicated for many EU citizens. Moreover, the often costly tests required for the not fully vaccinated will lead to a significant increase of their travel budget. If anything we need more Europe to ensure safe and real free travelling. We continue calling on all Member States to align, coordinate and make it work for all EU citizens.”

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### About Euroconsumers

Gathering five national consumer organisations and giving voice to a total of more than 1.5 million people, Euroconsumers is the world’s leading consumer cluster in innovative information, personalised services and defence of consumer’s rights. We work closely together with Consumers International to ensure consumers are safe, that markets are fair and benefit from honest relations with businesses and authorities. Our European member groups are also part of the umbrella network of BEUC, the European Consumer Organisation. Together we advocate for EU policies that benefit consumers in their daily lives.

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