



July 2021

Falkland Islands Government guide to quarantine accommodation

What are the current quarantine requirements in the Falkland Islands?

The Falkland Islands has so far been successful in limiting the spread of coronavirus because of the measures in place to reduce the risk of coronavirus being inadvertently transmitted by those arriving from overseas.

Currently the Falkland Islands Government has a mandatory 14 days of quarantine, however, there is a “test to release” option under which you may be able to complete quarantine early, on day 5 or day 8 of your quarantine period, depending on your vaccination status.

What is ‘test to release’?

In order to opt for the 5 day “test to release” you must provide proof you have completed the full course of a vaccination approved by the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) at least two weeks before your arrival in the Falkland Islands. These are currently: Oxford-AstraZeneca (two doses), Pfizer (two doses), Moderna (two doses) or Janssen (single dose) vaccines.

If you were fully vaccinated with an MHRA approved vaccine more than two weeks before arrival, you can opt for “5-day test to release” and leave quarantine on day 5 of quarantine (if you test negative twice). On the first swab visit the clinician will review your vaccine evidence so please have this ready. The clinician must be satisfied with all vaccination documentation provided, whether that be the NHS app, a vaccination card, a vaccination letter or a doctor’s note, otherwise you will only be eligible for the “8-day test to release” option. If you are partially vaccinated or not vaccinated, you can opt for “8-day test to release” and leave quarantine on day 8 (if you test negative twice). If you are quarantining with children who you travelled with, you may only opt for “8 day test to release”.

You will be offered a test within 48 hours of arrival, and again on either day 5 or day 8 (depending on your vaccination status and that of anyone who travelled with you and is quarantining with you). If both tests are negative you will be informed that you may leave quarantine; you must wait for the KEMH to contact you on day 5 or 8 (as appropriate) before leaving quarantine.

If you or anyone you are sharing quarantine accommodation with test positive on either occasion you must remain in quarantine for the full 14 days. In this case you will be offered an additional swab on day 13 (prior to the end of the quarantine period on day 14) and you may be asked to continue to self-isolate after the end of the quarantine period, especially if you develop symptoms of coronavirus.

If you do not want to be tested while in quarantine you must remain in quarantine for the full 14 days, along with anyone who is in quarantine with you.

How does quarantining in Stanley work?

If you are quarantining in Stanley, staff from the hospital will visit you at your quarantine accommodation to carry out testing with a Lateral Flow Test within two days of your arrival and then again on day 5 or 8.

KEMH will let people know as soon as practicably possible when they can leave quarantine, however, it is advised that they do not make any arrangements on day 5 or 8 (depending on which “test to release” option they have chosen) in case they have to cancel them.

Failure to stay in your place of quarantine, except in very limited circumstances set out in the Regulations, is a criminal offence for which you can be fined up to £2000, imprisoned for up to three months, or both.

How does quarantining in Camp work?

Anyone quarantining in Camp, will be provided with enough Lateral Flow Tests for self-testing on days 2 and 5 or days 2 and 8. Additional tests will be included to cover anyone that will be isolating with you and to cover the possibility of 14 day quarantine. Those opting in for the “5-day test to release” in Camp, must provide the hospital with scanned/photographic proof of vaccination, whether that be the NHS app, a vaccination card, a vaccination letter or a doctor’s note, otherwise the individual will only be eligible for the “8 day test to release” option. Please email this proof to surveillance@kemh.gov.fk

KEMH will let you know as soon as practicably possible when you can leave quarantine. However, it is advised that you do not make any arrangements on day 5 or 8 (depending on which “test to release” option you have chosen) in case you have to cancel them.

Failure to stay in your place of quarantine, except in very limited circumstances set out in the Regulations, is a criminal offence for which you can be fined up to £2000, imprisoned for up to three months, or both.

What is ‘place of quarantine’ accommodation?

- ‘Place of quarantine’ means living accommodation and sanitary and other facilities that are suitable for a person who is in quarantine and are not shared with anyone else who is not in quarantine
- This includes houses, flats, static caravans, cabins and vessels including yachts
- The government will help people find alternative accommodation if their usual residence is not suitable as a place of quarantine. Limited alternative accommodation includes government housing and hotel accommodation provided by the Malvina House Hotel. Returning residents will be prioritised for the available accommodation.

Suitable quarantine accommodation must:

- Be self- contained i.e. have its own bathroom – which is not shared or used by others who are not in quarantine
- Have its own kitchen – unless you are quarantining in hotel accommodation, in which case the hotel will have its own protocols in place to make sure that you are provided with meals and your contact with hotel staff is kept to a minimum
- Have a separate entrance/ front door.

Suitable quarantine accommodation must not:

- Be a house of multiple occupancy (or HMO) where any accommodation or facilities have to be shared with anyone who is not in quarantine for the same period.
- Be a floor, wing or other internal part of a property without a separate entrance – e.g. annexes are only suitable quarantine accommodation if completely self-contained and separate from the rest of the building.

How can I arrange quarantine accommodation for myself/my family?

Visitors and people working for private companies must find their own place of quarantine. Government employees will be provided with suitable accommodation by the FIG Housing Department, if travelling on Government business. Any other returning residents (that is, anyone who has Falkland Islands Status, PRP or a permit that is not a visitor permit) who do not have access to suitable quarantine accommodation should contact the FIG housing department for advice by emailing housing@pwd.gov.fk or by calling +500 27193.

How much does quarantine accommodation cost?

If accommodation is provided by the FIG housing department, there is a flat rate service charge of £100 per person for the quarantine period. This covers the use of fuel, limited internet and telephone provision, linen changing and deep cleaning on leaving the property. This service charge is waived for returning residents. If accommodation is provided at the Malvina House Hotel, the base bed and board rate is £2,100 per person, plus any additional charges for the quarantine period.

Is there financial support available if my household has to quarantine with me and they cannot go to work?

There is no financial support available to people who cannot work while in quarantine. If being in quarantine at home means that other members of your household will not be able to do their usual work outside of the home, then the better option would be to quarantine separately away from your household. If you need help in finding accommodation please contact housing@pwd.gov.fk or call +500 27193.

What must I do before I travel to the Falkland Islands as regards accommodation?

You are expected to make accommodation arrangements before travelling to the Falkland Islands. Due to the limited availability of government facilitated accommodation, you should not assume that the government will be able to help you on arrival. You will need to provide details of your quarantine arrangements in order to complete your ICD5 form prior to arrival in the Falkland Islands. If you do not, you may not be issued with a plane ticket.

Where can I find the latest information on quarantine in the Falkland Islands?

By visiting this area on our dedicated website: <https://www.fig.gov.fk/covid-19/quarantine>