

# Countries and their entry restrictions for those who are HIV-positive

Detailed below is information on individual countries' policies regarding entry for people with HIV:

## **Albania**

No restrictions.

## **Algeria**

Citizens returning from work abroad and members of the armed forces will be required to take an HIV test.

## **Angola**

All nationalities require a visa to enter Angola.

A negative HIV status certificate is required to obtain a residence visa to work. Ordinary, transit and residential visas do not require this.

## **Anguilla**

For British nationals there are no restrictions although there are reports of entry being refused to other foreign nationals suspected of having, or known to have, HIV.

## **Argentina**

No restrictions on visits of less than three months. No distinction between applicants from different countries. The usual documentation is required for longer visits and residence applications. However, HIV screening is included in the health control of immigrants. Foreigners suffering from diseases that reduce their ability to work will not be admitted on a temporary or permanent residence permit.

## **Armenia**

Entry prohibited for HIV-positive people. Also, people who fall ill during their stay in the country may be deported, although the actual legislation on this matter is still being prepared.

## **Aruba**

HIV testing is required for intending immigrants.

### **Australia**

Everyone except those with Australian or New Zealand passports must have a visa. For short business or tourism visits, travellers must sign a declaration of good health. Those who are unable to sign must provide details of any health problems. It is unlikely that those with HIV will be denied entry for short visits, but each case is considered on its merits.

HIV tests are required for foreigners who want to immigrate permanently to Australia.

Anyone working in food handling, or in a classroom situation will be required to have a medical. This is largely to prevent the spread of tuberculosis. For stays over one year in duration, a medical with chest X-ray and blood test is required. All cases are considered on their merits.

In general, HIV-positive status is not a problem unless there is a public health risk (i.e. tuberculosis) or considerable expense by the health service is involved, or access to limited treatment resources for Australians may be reduced.

### **Austria**

There appear to be no entry restrictions as such although the city of Klagenfurt requires persons applying for a residence permit to be certified as HIV-negative. Health certificate is required with application for a residence permit for more and six months from non-EU citizens.

### **Azerbaijan**

No known restrictions.

### **Bahamas**

The Ministry of Health have recommended that HIV-positive people should not be allowed to enter the country.

### **Bahrain**

No restrictions on stays of less than four weeks. No questions are asked – but if a person were to declare their HIV-positive status they would be refused entry. There are exceptions for diplomatic staff. Individuals will not be permitted employment in food handling or patient/child care if they are HIV-positive.

### **Bangladesh**

There are no specific entry regulations for people with HIV, and this also applies to long-term residence. If is possible, however, that foreigners with HIV are deported if the competent authorities find out about their condition.

### **Barbados**

At present, no restrictions for holiday trips. A medical is required for a long-term stay, or for a work permit, and it is thought unlikely that an HIV-positive person would be allowed into the country on a long-term basis.

**Belarus**

All persons staying longer than three months must produce evidence of their HIV status.

**Belgium**

All non–European Community nationals intending to study or undertake work permit employment must undergo an HIV test by a Belgian–approved doctor in their country of origin. No visas are granted for people who test HIV-positive.

**Belize**

Foreign nationals applying for citizenship must produce a negative HIV test certificate on arrival issued not more than two months earlier.

**Benin**

No restrictions for short-time tourist stays. HIV testing required for longer-term stays.

**Bolivia**

No regulations for short tourism or business visits – but compulsory Yellow Fever Vaccine for all visitors. This live vaccine is not recommended for those with compromised immunity.

A medical with blood test is required for short– or long–term residency applications.

Anyone staying more than 90 days and applicants for work permits will be required to provide evidence of their HIV status.

**Bosnia-Herzegovina**

No entry restrictions for HIV-positive people, However, foreigners applying for a permanent residence must present a negative HIV test result.

**Botswana**

HIV testing required from students beginning their studies.

**Brazil**

There are no entry restrictions for people living with HIV.

**Brunei**

No mandatory testing for short-term tourist stays. However, people known to be HIV-positive are prohibited from entering, and expelled if HIV infection is detected. Doctors have a duty to immediately inform authorities.

**Bulgaria**

Foreign nationals intending to stay for 30 days or longer are tested within 72 hours of arrival. The test is also required from Bulgarian nationals who have been abroad for longer than 30 days.

**Burkina Faso**

There are no entry restrictions for HIV-positive persons. However, in order to obtain an entry visa, foreigners must be vaccinated against yellow fever, a live vaccine which is not recommended for those with compromised immunity.

**Burundi**

No restrictions for HIV-positive people.

**Cambodia**

Though a foreigner can be expelled if he/she poses a threat to national security, health is not mentioned as grounds for expulsion.

**Cameroon**

There are no restrictions on entry and residence entitlement relating to public health.

**Canada**

People entering Canada for short tourist stays or temporary residents for less than six months are not required to disclose their HIV status or to be tested. Mandatory HIV testing of all prospective immigrants occurs. However, a recent (June 2001) policy change means that the status of would-be immigrants who test HIV-positive will be decided on a case by case basis. People found to be HIV-positive will not be automatically excluded. UK passport holders can travel to Canada without the need for a visa.

**Chile**

There are no specific restrictions for those wishing to travel to Chile. A medical certificate is needed for those applying for a work permit or residency. Foreign students are also tested for HIV. If a person is found to be HIV-positive he or she will be denied entry.

**China**

Foreign nationals applying for residence or intending to stay more than six months must have an HIV test certificate approved by a Chinese Embassy or consulate, or undergo a test in China within 20 days of arrival. It is reported that random testing at the point of entry is now unofficial Chinese policy. Entry is denied and deportation is likely for foreigners who are found to be HIV-positive. Testing is not required for entry or residency in Hong Kong.

**Colombia**

A medical certificate is required for those who are applying for a long stay visa, work permit or residency. Anyone who is suspected of being HIV-positive will not be admitted for short visits.

**Costa Rica**

People wishing to work or live in Costa Rica are requested to present a medical certificate. There is no specification regarding HIV status.

**Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast)**

No restrictions for HIV-positive individuals.

**Croatia**

No restrictions.

**Cuba**

Foreign students, foreign workers and long-term foreign residents are screened for HIV; people found to be HIV-positive are reportedly repatriated.

**Cyprus**

All foreign workers and students are required to undergo medical examinations, including an AIDS test. Under immigration laws, any carriers of contagious and infectious diseases, including HIV, are considered illegal immigrants and permission of entry is at the discretion of the Minister of the Interior.

**Czech Republic**

No restrictions.

**Denmark**

No restrictions.

**Dominican Republic**

A negative HIV test certificate is required for a work permit or application for permanent residency.

**Ecuador**

Those applying for a long-term residency are normally requested to test for HIV.

**Egypt**

All foreigners intending to stay in the country for three months or more must have an HIV test on arrival. Spouses of Egyptian nationals are exempt. Foreigners requiring work permits must be tested but their spouses are exempt. No residence or work permit will be granted if test result is positive. Foreign defense contractors at Egyptian military establishments must produce an HIV test certificate.

**Eritrea**

No restrictions.

**Estonia**

No restrictions on entry for HIV-positive individuals unless applying for a work permit or residence.

**Ethiopia**

No restrictions.

**Fiji**

People with HIV/AIDS are not allowed to enter the Fiji Islands.

**Finland**

No restrictions. However, according to a clause in the Finnish law persons who “knowingly transmit” HIV may be deported.

**Gabon**

All travellers require a medical certificate to enter the country. No specific HIV restrictions apply.

**Georgia**

All foreigners staying longer than one month are required to provide evidence of their HIV status, provided that the test certification was issued at least 30 days before arrival.

**Germany**

Foreign nationals applying for residence in Bavaria and tourists staying more than four months must undergo an HIV test. Certain nationalities are exempt.

**Ghana**

No restrictions.

**Greece**

Non-EU foreign students and foreigners wishing to work in Greece are required to take an HIV test, as are women intending to work in ‘entertainment centres’.

**Guatemala**

No restrictions.

**Guinea**

No restrictions.

**Guyana**

All foreigners staying longer than three months are required to provide evidence of their HIV status. However the restrictions may be lifted in the near future.

**Haiti**

No restrictions.

**Honduras**

A medical certificate is part of the visa requirement for those wishing to travel or work in Honduras.

**Hong Kong**

Intending immigrants must undergo HIV-testing.

## **Hungary**

No restrictions for short-term tourist stays. No HIV testing on entry. An HIV test is required for anyone who wants to stay in the country for more than one year. Additionally, some employers may require their staff to undergo HIV testing.

All students over 18, anyone between the ages of 18 and 70 with a visa valid for at least one year and anyone extending a stay to a year or more must provide evidence of their HIV status. Accredited journalists and diplomats are excluded from this requirement.

## **Iceland**

In general, neither a medical certificate nor an HIV test result is required when entering Iceland. Immigration authorities require foreign nationals to perform a health exam when applying for a residence permit. If an infectious disease (i.e. tuberculosis or AIDS) is discovered, the person immediately enters the Icelandic health care system. The general rule, which states that a foreigner has to have been staying in the country for at least six months before he can join the local public health system, is not applied in this case.

## **India**

No restrictions for short-term tourist stays. HIV testing required for anyone wishing to stay in India longer than one year. There are also specific regulations, which apply to all foreign students admitted to an Indian university. People with a known HIV infection are not granted visas.

## **Indonesia**

There are no specific entry or residence regulations for people with HIV/AIDS. Neither a medical certificate nor an HIV test result is required when entering the country. Foreigners with a known HIV infection are not subject to specific residence regulations. There are no regulations regarding the control, deportation or expulsion of those concerned.

## **Iran**

Foreign nationals intending to work in Iran or to stay for more than three months must produce an HIV test certificate.

## **Iraq**

People with HIV are not allowed to enter Iraq. A very recent test result has to be presented on entry, or else the test is performed on the spot. Those concerned are immediately expelled.

Exceptions: Holders of diplomatic passports or service passports while on official duty. People officially invited by the government and staying for 15 days or less. People older than 65. Children under age 12, who are in possession of a declaration from their parents, which states that they are not haemophiliacs and have never received a blood transfusion.

## **Ireland (The Republic of)**

There are no specific entry or residence regulations for people with HIV.

**Israel**

There are no specific entry regulations for people with HIV travelling to Israel. The only condition is that they must have health insurance. People intending to stay more than three months to work or study are required to show a medical certificate which includes information on HIV status.

**Italy**

No restrictions for people with HIV.

**Jamaica**

No restrictions for people with HIV.

**Japan**

There are no restrictions for people with HIV who wish to travel or work in Japan.

**Jordan**

For a stay of more than 30 days, a medical examination by a Health Ministry laboratory is obligatory. In the case of positive test result, the applicant has to leave the country at very short notice.

**Kazakhstan**

A negative test result has to be provided when applying for a work or residence permit. It is recommended to carry a certified copy of a test result certificate in Russian language. This way it can be avoided to undergo an HIV test in Kazakhstan, a procedure that, in some cases, has to be repeated every three months.

**Kenya**

Foreigners may be excluded for refusing to undergo a medical examination. Though no entry restrictions have been specifically adopted relating to HIV.

**Korea (Democratic People's Republic)**

There is no legal provision regarding the entry of people with HIV. Not everybody is requested to present a medical certificate or a specific document of an AIDS examination when entering the country. However, if a person's HIV-positive status becomes known, he/she is sent back to his/her country of origin. The reason given for this is the lack of experience with HIV and the lack of treatment options.

**Korea (South)**

People with HIV are not permitted to enter the country. However, for a stay of up to three months, it is not mandatory to prove one's HIV status (for those visitors who do not require a visa). There are controls at the border regarding the HIV status. If a person's HIV-positive status becomes known, he/she is expelled.



**Kuwait**

No HIV testing is required for visitors or business travellers. The visa application for a long-term stay requires a doctor's certificate. In the case of an HIV infection, no visa is granted.

**Kyrgyzstan**

All foreigners excluding diplomats staying more than one month are required to provide evidence of their HIV status.

**Laos**

There are no specific entry or residence regulations for people with HIV.

**Latvia**

No HIV testing on entry, but anyone seeking a residency permit has to present a test result.

**Lebanon**

Anyone planning to work in Lebanon must undergo an HIV test.

**Lesotho**

It is at the discretion of the border police as to whether or not a person may enter into Lesotho. However, no medical checks are carried out.

**Libya**

No restrictions for short stays, but HIV testing is obligatory for longer stays requiring a residence permit. In the case of a proven HIV infection, foreign nationals are required to leave the country immediately, or are not allowed to enter in the first place.

**Lithuania**

Applicants for permanent residence permits.

**Luxemburg**

No specific regulations regarding the entry of people with HIV, although Luxemburg law stipulates that entry can be denied on health grounds.

**Macedonia**

No restrictions.

**Madagascar**

No restrictions.

**Malawi**

No entry restrictions. A health certificate is not required for longer stays and applications for residence permits either.

**Malaysia**

HIV testing for foreign nationals who apply for a work permit for unskilled labour.

Special provisions for domestic staff and construction workers from developing countries (Bangladesh, Pakistan, Indonesia, the Philippines); denial of permission to enter, or expulsion, if the HIV test result is positive.

**Maldives**

Long-term visitors are required to undergo an HIV test in the Maldivian Islands.

**Mali**

There are no entry restrictions for HIV-positive persons. However, yellow fever vaccination is required. This is not recommended in immune compromised individuals.

**Malta**

No restrictions.

**Marshall Islands**

Temporary visitors staying more than thirty days and applicants for residence and work permits are required to produce evidence of HIV status.

**Mauritius**

HIV test required for foreign nationals who want to work in Mauritius or who apply for permanent residence.

**Mexico**

Foreigners with a known HIV infection are not subject to specific entry or residence regulations. The deportation of an HIV-positive person is only possible in the case of a very severe offence.

**Micronesia**

Anyone staying over 90 days and anyone holding a work permit is required to undergo an HIV test.

**Monaco**

No restrictions.

**Moldavia**

Foreign nationals who are HIV positive are not allowed to enter Moldavia. A medical certificate is required on entry, although tourists are exempt. In addition, foreign tourists need to pass a health exam conducted by the Moldavian Health Authorities. Such a certificate is also necessary if a foreign national wishes to get married in Moldavia. HIV testing is required of anybody wishing to stay longer than three months.

**Mongolia**

A test result is requested on entry. However, this law is apparently not applied. Foreign students must have an HIV test on arrival, repeated several months later. Foreigners staying longer than 30 days may also be required to undergo testing, though this is not an official law and is only selectively applied.

**Montserrat**

Foreign nationals, including university students who are applying for or renewing work or residence must produce a negative HIV certificate.

**Morocco**

No restrictions.

**Mozambique**

No restrictions.

**Namibia**

No restrictions.

**Nepal**

No restrictions. However some foreign visitors with HIV have reportedly been deported.

**Netherlands**

No restrictions.

**New Zealand**

No restrictions for stays of up to twelve months.

From early 2005, New Zealand started undertaking HIV screening for migrants. The full set of changes, including screening for HIV, and a wider and updated set of tests for other expensive-to-treat conditions, was implemented for people seeking to be in New Zealand for longer than twelve months.

**Nicaragua**

No restrictions for short-term stays. For stays of more than three months, the residence permit has to be extended by the immigration authorities. In this case, the presentation of a medical certificate is requested. Extended residency will only exceptionally be granted to HIV-positive people.

**Nigeria**

Immigration officers may refuse entry to any foreigners who are undesirable for medical reasons. Also, immigration officers may refuse entry to any foreigners living with HIV, whose home country would apply restrictions to Nigerian nationals.

**Norway**

Persons who stay in Norway for longer than three months are offered a voluntary tuberculosis test and an HIV test, in order to arrange for any necessary treatment as quickly as possible.

**Myanmar (Burma)**

No restrictions.

**Oman**

There is no clear information on whether or not HIV testing is required for tourists. Persons whose HIV-positive status becomes known are immediately deported.

Compulsory testing on entry for foreign nationals wishing to settle in Oman.

**Pakistan**

A medical examination is required of returning nationals, refugees and applicants for long-term stays.

**Panama**

An HIV test certificate is required of foreign nationals wishing to stay for more than 1 year, women wishing to work in “entertainment centres” and anyone wishing to extend an existing visa. HIV-positive people are refused entry.

**Papua New Guinea**

HIV testing required when applying for a work permit which is granted only if negative HIV test result can be presented.

**Paraguay**

Anyone applying for permanent residency in Paraguay is required to undergo HIV testing at the regional medical laboratory. No residence permit is granted if the test result is positive.

**Peru**

No specific entry restrictions. Those wishing to obtain a Peruvian marriage certificate are required to take an HIV test.

**Philippines**

No restrictions for short-term tourist stays lasting up to six months. Applicants for a permanent visa must undergo medical examination including an HIV test. This also applies to visitors who wish to extend an existing visa.

**Poland**

Applications for long-term stays require medical testing for HIV/AIDS.

**Portugal**

No restrictions.

**Qatar**

No HIV testing on entry. However, people whose HIV-status is known to the authorities are refused entry. Applicants for a work or residence permit must present a negative HIV test certificate (the date of the certificate must not be older than six months).

**Romania**

No restrictions.

**Russian Federation**

HIV-positive people are not permitted to enter the Russian Federation. No HIV testing is required on entry for short-term tourist stays (up to three months).

**Rwanda**

There are no restriction entries to people living with HIV. However in the case of serious illness permission can be refused.

**Solomon Islands**

Entry can be denied if it becomes known, that the person in question has an infectious disease.

**St Kitts and Nevis**

Foreign nationals seeking permanent residence, undertaking study and those applying for work permits may be asked to undertake an HIV test.

**Saudi Arabia**

HIV testing on entry. HIV-positive foreign nationals are expelled.

**Senegal**

There are no restrictions regarding entry for HIV-positive persons.

**Seychelles**

The law states that foreigners are undesirable if they are carrying infections they are capable of infecting other people with. Applications for residency must be accompanied by medical certification proving that the applicant is in good health. Visitors who are working for the government must produce a negative HIV result. This does not apply to those working in the private sector or who are only applying for a short stay.

**Singapore**

No restrictions for short-term tourist stays lasting up to six months. Compulsory HIV testing when applying for work permits. The main group targeted is foreign domestic staff employed in Singapore. Foreign nationals with HIV-positive are expelled.

**Slovakia**

No restrictions for short-term tourist stays of up to three months.

**South Africa**

No restrictions for tourists with HIV. HIV testing required of all mine workers (irrespective of their positions).

**Spain**

Anyone seeking residence, or a work or student permit, must submit to a medical exam, which may include an HIV test.

**Sri Lanka**

No specific entry regulations for people with HIV. No questions asked about HIV on entry. However in cases in which an HIV infection is suspected, foreign nationals may be denied entry.

**Sudan**

Officially, people with HIV are not granted a visa and are not permitted to enter Sudan. A negative HIV test result must be presented at a Sudanese embassy or at Khartoum airport in order to obtain a visa. According to the embassy, this requirement is not enforced in practice.

**Swaziland**

There are no entry restrictions for people living with HIV.

**Syria**

Foreign nationals applying for work permits and foreign students must undergo an HIV test at one of three specified centres in Syria. A foreigner wishing to marry a Syrian national is required to take an HIV test.

**Sweden**

No restrictions for people with HIV. In case of doubt, the health authorities may oblige a foreign national to undergo an HIV test. According to Swedish law, persons who come to Sweden and who have reason to believe they could be HIV-positive must consult a doctor and follow that doctor's advice.

**Switzerland**

No restrictions.

**Tadjikistan**

So far, it has been possible to enter the country without having to present an HIV test certificate. HIV testing is required for stays of more than 90 days.

**Taiwan**

An HIV test result must be presented by anyone wishing to stay longer than 90 days or applying for a residence or work permit. If the result is positive or if the person in question refuses to take the test, he/she is expelled.

**Tanzania**

No restrictions.

**Thailand**

According to the law, people with communicable diseases are not allowed to enter Thailand. However, no doctor's certificate is required at the border, so that an illness (as long as is not known) does not affect the granting of a visa. In some cases, a doctor's certificate including an HIV test has to be presented when applying for a visa extension (especially when applying for a long-term visa or a residence permit).

**Trinidad and Tobago**

All foreign nationals applying for residence or to stay more than one year must undergo a medical examination. Those found to be HIV-positive will be refused permission to stay.

**Tunisia**

There are no specific entry restrictions for HIV-positive people. Foreigners and students who intend to stay in the country for a long period are required to get tested on HIV.

**Turkey**

There are no entry or residence restrictions applicable to HIV-positive persons.

**Turks and Caicos**

All foreign nationals applying for work and residence permits must have a medical examination on arrival, including an HIV test.

**Turkmenistan**

No restrictions for short-term tourist stays. A positive test result may, however, lead to deportation.

**Uganda**

As a rule, health certificates or HIV test results do not have to be presented on entry or when applying for a long-term stay.

**Ukraine**

No restrictions.

**United Arab Emirates**

Foreign nationals aged 18 or above, applying for or renewing work or residence permits must undergo an HIV test. Entry will be refused to those who test positive.

### **United States of America**

In principle, the USA refuses entry to foreign nationals known to be HIV positive. In exceptional cases, a stay of 30 days may be granted (for family visits, medical treatment, business travel or participation in a scientific, health-related conference).

HIV testing or a medical exam are not required. In the visa application form, the applicant has to say if he/she has a “communicable disease of public health significance”. The visa will be denied if this is the case. An applicant who answers “no” despite better knowledge commits an immigration fraud, which leads to immigration prohibition.

HIV-positive foreign nationals lose their right to remain in the USA and are expelled if their status becomes known.

### **Uruguay**

No restrictions for short-term tourist stays. If a routine examination reveals that a person is HIV positive, or if a person informs a doctor that he/she is HIV positive, that person must be reported to the Ministry of Health and undergo medical treatment. However this does not lead to expulsion or to any other immigration law restrictions.

### **Uzbekistan**

Anyone staying for more than 15 days is required to provide an HIV certificate and longer term visitors must renew their HIV certificate after the first three months in the country, and annually thereafter.

### **Venezuela**

No regulations regarding the entry or residence of people with HIV.

### **Vietnam**

No specific entry or residence restrictions for people with HIV/AIDS. However the Vietnamese law requires HIV positive people to report to the health control authorities on entry.

### **Yemen (South)**

No restrictions for tourist stays of up to two months. A negative test result has to be presented for stays of more than two months and HIV positive people are expelled immediately.

### **Zambia**

No restrictions.

### **Zimbabwe**

No restrictions.



### **Problems getting into the UK**

Visitors `suspected of having AIDS' have been refused entry by individual immigration officers on questionable legal grounds.

The Home Office claims that the policy is only to exclude people if it is suspected that the person needs extensive medical treatment without being able to pay for it. For further information on UK immigration law and HIV see Immigration and asylum and HIV.

The best advice and help for anyone encountering difficulties is available from:

Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants  
[www.jcwi.org.uk/](http://www.jcwi.org.uk/) - 020 7251 8708 - [info@jcwi.org.uk](mailto:info@jcwi.org.uk)  
United Kingdom Immigration Advisory Service  
<http://www.iasuk.org/> – 020 7967 1200

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