

TRAVEL AND HOSPITALITY

EU removes US from safe-travel list

August 30, 2021



The European Union is reinstating travel restrictions on U.S. tourists. Image credit: Getty

By LUXURY DAILY NEWS SERVICE

As the COVID-19 delta variant continues to spread rapidly throughout the United States and many parts of Europe, the European Union (EU) is **recommending** member states reinstate travel restrictions on U.S. tourists.

Subscribe to **Luxury Daily**
Plus: Just released
State of Luxury 2019 **Save \$246 ▶**

The new safety measures come only two months after the EU lifted travel restrictions on non-essential travel from the U.S., among other countries, when vaccination rollouts picked up. Despite the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine receiving full approval by the U.S. FDA last week ([see story](#)), cases among unvaccinated Americans are surging.

Travel restrictions

The U.S. and Israel were among the five countries the European Council removed on Aug. 30 from its list of countries, special administrative regions and other entities and territorial authorities for which travel restrictions can and should be lifted.

The EU's threshold for "safe" countries is no more than 75 new COVID-19 cases per 100,000 citizens over a 14-day period; however, the Council's recommendations are non-binding and countries that heavily rely on tourism such as Greece and Italy are likely to continue welcoming non-essential travelers from the U.S.



Last month, the U.S. State Department warned against travel to the United Kingdom. Image credit: Four Seasons Hotels & Resorts

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is now **reporting** an average of more than 147,000 new cases per day, and a 7-day moving average of more than 940 deaths per day.

On July 19, the U.S. State Department and CDC both issued warnings against travel to the United Kingdom due to rising COVID-19 cases.

Both the State Department and CDC raised their travel advisories for the U.K. to their highest levels, urging Americans to avoid traveling to the country due to a "very high" level of COVID-19 (**see story**).

Post-Brexit, EU recommendations do not apply to the U.K.

Additionally, French President Emmanuel Macron has ordered all health workers to get vaccinated by Sept. 15, and announced a new requirement for COVID-19 vaccine passports for restaurants, shopping malls and hospitals.

The delta variant accounts for more than half of new infections in France, according to French health minister Olivier Vran. To receive a vaccine passport, individuals must prove they have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19 or have a newly negative test (**see story**).

© 2021 Napean LLC. All rights reserved.

Luxury Daily is published each business day. Thank you for reading us. Your **feedback** is welcome.