



Global Immigration alert

November 2024

Costa Rica

Costa Rica updates list of regions at risk of yellow fever transmission

Executive summary

Costa Rica recently announced an updated list of regions at risk of yellow fever transmission. Effective 11 January 2025, most individuals traveling between Costa Rica and any of these regions will be required to be vaccinated against yellow fever.

Key developments

According to amendment DM-RC-2214-2024, which was announced on 16 October 2024, the entire territories of the following jurisdictions will be considered at risk for yellow fever starting 11 January 2025 (previously, only specific locations in these jurisdictions were considered at risk):

- ▶ Americas: Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, French Guyana, Guyana, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago and Venezuela.
- ▶ Africa: More than 30 countries. See the full list [here](#) (currently available only in Spanish).

The yellow fever vaccination requirement applies to:

- ▶ Costa Rican citizens and nationals who travel to any of these countries and intend to return to Costa Rica
- ▶ Foreign nationals or residents who were present in any of these countries in the six days prior to their travel to Costa Rica

These individuals will be required to present a certificate of vaccination against yellow fever issued by their home country's health ministry, which confirms that they were vaccinated

at least 10 days prior to travel. Those who do not present this certificate will not be allowed to enter.

The vaccination requirement does not apply to the following categories: children aged nine months or under; and individuals with severe egg allergies, immunosuppression, or history/presence of thymus disease. The following categories may also be exempt from the vaccination requirement subject to medical evaluation: persons aged 60 years or older, pregnant or breastfeeding women, and individuals with hypersensitivity to gelatine or asymptomatic HIV infection.

Impact on employers

Employers that send impacted individuals to Costa Rica for business or work purposes may support them in meeting the vaccination requirement prior to travel to ensure compliance with entry requirements and mitigate potential business disruptions.

Key steps

EY will continue to monitor these developments. Should you have any questions, we encourage you to contact one of our immigration professionals.

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