

MINISTRY FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND INTEGRATION PRESS OFFICE

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France classified as a high incidence area

Mandatory registration and testing upon entry / wide-ranging exceptions to quarantine obligations

Free test service for border commuters

The federal government classified **France** as a **high incidence area** as of today, From **Sunday midnight,** stricter entry regulations will apply to any individuals who have been in France in the last 10 days before entry.

From Sunday, due to federal government regulations, a mandatory obligation to test and provide evidence applies upon entry. In addition, those entering must register digitally before entry.

In order to simplify the procedure and be fair to those living in the common cross-border area, the state of **Baden-Württemberg** has introduced **additional exemptions** to the obligation to test and provide evidence, which **border commuters and travelers** will benefit from especially. Two negative tests per calendar week will be sufficient, plus the test can be carried out immediately after entry. **Antigen rapid tests** can be carried out in Baden-Württemberg **free of charge**. **Daily** cross-border commuters are also exempt from registration obligations.



Baden-Württemberg had already adapted the **quarantine regulations** early on in the event that a state would be classified as a high-incidence area. This is why the same exemption regulations still apply that were previously in force when it was classified as a "normal" risk area. However, if a quarantine obligation applies, it should be noted that in this case you must go into **isolation at home for 10 days**, which cannot be reduced by submitting a negative test.

"Baden-Württemberg has created extensive exemptions from the quarantine requirement when entering from a high-incidence area, provided that the protection against infection allowed it. In addition, we have made it easier for commuters and schoolchildren as well as visitors to relatives in relation to compulsory tests in order to be fair to those in the common cross-border area and the mobility of these people, "Health Minister Manne Lucha said today in Stuttgart. "In particular, the wide range of free tests in Baden-Württemberg is an important component in ensuring that border crossings continue to run smoothly."

The following applies in detail.

- Mandatory test obligation and to provide proof applies. In accordance with the federal government's coronavirus entry regulations, all those entering from high-incidence areas must bring evidence of a negative coronavirus test with them upon entry, which was taken no more than 48 hours before. An antigen rapid test is sufficient as evidence. Exceptions from the obligation to test and provide evidence based on the federal regulations apply only to transient travelers and for stays of no more than 72 hours for individuals who are transporting passengers, goods or merchandise across the border for job-related reasons.
- In addition, there is an obligation to register your entry digitally. The only ones exempt from the obligation to register are passengers in transit as well as individuals who have spent less than 24 hours in France in the context of cross-border traffic or who are entering Germany for up to 24 hours. This means that daily cross-border commuters are also exempt from the obligation to register digitally.
- The classification has no effect on the quarantine obligations. The same exemption rules apply here in Baden-Württemberg as before, which also applied previously to areas classified as normal risk areas. However, if there is a quaran-

- tine obligation, those entering must go into **isolation at home for 10 days**. A **reduction** in the quarantine period (free testing) is **not possible** when entering from high-incidence areas.
- In Baden-Württemberg, general decrees issued by the administrative districts have regulated further exceptions for cross-border commuters and travelers (occupation, training, study) as well as to visit close relatives. For these groups of people there is an exception to the obligation to test and provide evidence to the extent that in these individual cases proof of two negative tests per calendar week is sufficient. In addition, the test can also be carried out immediately after entry. These individuals also benefit from a free of charge test program for PoC antigen tests, as they can take advantage of what is referred to as citizen testing. Commuters can have the test carried out in family doctors' offices and special coronavirus testing practices. Pharmacies provide these tests as well. Community test centers are also available. No specific certification has to be submitted to have these tests done. You can find all the information about testing obligations when entering Baden-Württemberg at: https://www.baden-wuerttemberg.de/de/service/aktuelle-infos-zu-corona/fragen-und-antworten-rund-um-corona/faq-testpflicht-bei-der-einreise-nach-baden-wuerttemberg/. The information is also available in French and English.

Since 2 March 2021, the **French department of Moselle** has also been classified as a **virus variant area**. This does not change anything in terms of France's classification as a high-incidence area. All individuals who have been in the department of Moselle in the last 10 day before entry, are therefore still subject to the stricter testing and quarantine requirements.

The infection situation is still very tense especially given the virus mutations. It is therefore strongly advised not to travel for unnecessary reasons.

Background information

Daily information on the classification of risk areas, high-incidence areas and virus variant areas is available at: https://www.rki.de/risikogebiete.

Information of recognition of diagnostic tests auf SARS-CoV-2 when entering Germany from a risk area: https://www.rki.de/covid-19-tests.

FAQ on the coronavirus regulations / quarantine on entry are available here: https://www.baden-wuerttemberg.de/de/service/aktuelle-infos-zu-corona/faq-tests-fuer-reiserueckkehrer/.

Information on free test program for cross-border commuters: https://www.baden-wuerttemberg.de/de/service/aktuelle-infos-zu-corona/fragen-und-antworten-rund-um-co-rona/frag-testpflicht-bei-der-einreise-nach-baden-wuerttemberg/