



COVID-19

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Cruise Ship Color and Commercial Travel Status

Updated May 4, 2021

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CDC is committed to helping cruise lines provide for the safety and well-being of their crew members while onboard cruise ships and as they disembark. CDC is allowing crew members to disembark from all cruise ships in U.S. waters with certain precautions. Cruise lines with complete and accurate response plans are able to use commercial travel to disembark crew members from certain ships if the ships meet certain criteria set by CDC. Criteria include no confirmed cases of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) or COVID-19-like illness onboard the ship within the last 14 days. These ships are also able to lessen certain social distancing restrictions onboard. Cruise lines with complete and accurate COVID-19 response plans but not meeting the above criteria will still be able to disembark their crew members using noncommercial travel. Cruise lines must have measures in place to ensure those involved in transport are not exposed to the virus that causes COVID-19 and follow all CDC requirements to prevent interaction of disembarking crew with the public. Additionally, CDC recommends that all eligible port personnel and travelers (passengers and crew) get a COVID-19 vaccine when one is available to them.

Criteria for Commercial Transport of Crew

Ships that request the use of commercial travel for disembarking crew members will need to meet the following criteria:

- **A COVID-19 response plan** that is complete and accurate
 - This does not mean ships are allowed to resume passenger travel, but rather that they have met CDC's requirements to provide a safe environment for crew members to work and to disembark crew safely by noncommercial travel.
 - Cruise company officials must sign an acknowledgment of the completeness

and accuracy of their response plan.

- **No confirmed cases of COVID-19 [1] or COVID-19-like illness [2] for 14 days, as determined by a qualified medical professional.**
- **If the ship has received ship-to-ship transfers, the crew must have come from a ship that does not meet the Red criteria within the 14 days before the transfer occurred.**
- **If land-based crew embarked, they were immediately quarantined for 14 days upon embarking the ship.**
- **Submission of a signed attestation for commercial travel.**

Meeting these criteria does not mean cruise ships can resume passenger operations. Cruise lines need to establish [additional safety measures](#) before sailing with passengers is permitted to resume. CDC will continue to evaluate and update its recommendations as the situation evolves.

All cruise ships operating in U.S. waters, or seeking to operate in U.S. waters, must comply with all of the requirements under the [Framework for Conditional Sailing Order](#) and [Technical Instructions](#) even when outside U.S. waters.

This page will be updated routinely with a list of cruise ships allowed to transport crew members commercially.

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1. Confirmed COVID-19 means laboratory confirmation for SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, by NAAT.
 2. COVID-19-like illness includes acute respiratory illness (ARI), influenza-like illness (ILI), or diagnosis of pneumonia, and additional COVID-19-like illness (aCLI) clinical criteria.

Status of COVID-19 Response Plans and Commercial Transport of Crew

As a prerequisite for requesting commercial travel, cruise lines must have a complete and accurate response plan that provides a safe environment for crew members to work and disembark during the initial phases of the Framework for Conditional Sailing Order. CDC has provided feedback regarding all the response plans that have been submitted and is working with the cruise lines to ensure they are implementing the safeguards outlined in their plans.

The following table lists cruise ships operating or planning to operate in U.S. waters during the initial phases of the Framework for Conditional Sailing Order and have met surveillance reporting requirements.

Determination for [color-coding status](#) and ability to operate in U.S. waters (Green, Yellow, Orange, or Red) can only be made for ships if the following are true:

1. CDC has finished the review of the cruise line's plan.
2. Cruise line has returned an acknowledgement attesting that their No Sail Order response plan is complete and accurate.
3. Ship has submitted at least 4 weeks of surveillance data to CDC in accordance with the Technical Instructions.

This table is updated once a week every Tuesday. Last updated May 4, 2021.

Parent Company	Cruise Line	No Sail Order Response Plan Status	Ship Name	Ship Status
Bahamas Paradise Cruise Line	Bahamas Paradise Cruise Line	Complete and accurate with signed acknowledgement	Grand Classica	Green
Carnival Corporation	Carnival Cruise Lines, Inc.	Complete and accurate with signed acknowledgement	Carnival Breeze	Green
			Carnival Conquest	Green
			Carnival Dream	Green
			Carnival Ecstasy	Green
			Carnival Elation	Green
			Carnival Freedom	Green
			Carnival Glory	Green
			Carnival Horizon	Green
			Carnival Liberty	Green
			Carnival Mardi Gras	Provisionally Green*

		Carnival Miracle	Green
		Carnival Panorama	Green
		Carnival Pride	Green
		Carnival Sensation	Green
		Carnival Sunrise	Green
		Carnival Sunshine	Green
		Carnival Vista	Green
Holland America Line	Complete and accurate with signed acknowledgement	Koningsdam	Green
		Nieuw Amsterdam	Green
		Nieuw Statendam	Green
		Noordam	Red
		Westerdam	Green
		Zuiderdam	Green
Princess Cruises	Complete and accurate with signed acknowledgement	Caribbean Princess	Red
		Coral Princess	Green
		Emerald Princess	Green
		Grand Princess	Green
		Majestic Princess	Green

			Royal Princess	Green
			Ruby Princess	Green
Walt Disney Company	Disney Cruise Line	Complete and accurate with signed acknowledgement	Disney Dream	Green
			Disney Fantasy	Green
MSC Cruise Management (UK) Limited	MSC Cruises	Complete and accurate with signed acknowledgement	MSC Armonia	Green
			MSC Meraviglia	Green
Norwegian Cruise Line Holdings	Norwegian Cruise Line	Complete and accurate with signed acknowledgement	Norwegian Jewel	Green
			Norwegian Sun	Green
			Pride of America	Green
Royal Caribbean Group	Celebrity Cruises	Complete and accurate with signed acknowledgement	Celebrity Edge	Green
			Celebrity Equinox	Green
			Celebrity Solstice	Green
			Celebrity Summit	Green
	Royal Caribbean International	Complete and accurate with signed acknowledgement	Allure of the Seas	Green
			Brilliance of the Seas	Green
			Enchantment of the Seas	Green
			Explorer of	Green

			the Seas	
			Freedom of the Seas	Green
			Grandeur of the Seas	Green
			Independence of the Seas	Green
			Liberty of the Seas	Green
			Mariner of the Seas	Green
			Navigator of the Seas	Green
			Oasis of the Seas	Green
			Rhapsody of the Seas	Yellow
			Serenade of the Seas	Green
			Symphony of the Seas	Green

*Provisionally Green: Ship meets the surveillance criteria for “Green” status, but the ship has not submitted a signed attestation to CDC for crew to travel commercially.

‡Commercial Travel Allowed: Allowed for ships that are “Green” or “Orange” and have submitted a signed attestation to CDC for crew to travel commercially.

Frequently Asked Questions

Is the process for crew disembarkation under the Framework for Conditional Sailing Order different from the process during the No Sail Order period?

No, the process for crew disembarkation required during the No Sail Order period remains the same during the initial phases of the Framework for Conditional Sailing Order.

Why is CDC requiring ships to routinely test all crew members during the phases of the Framework for Conditional Sailing Order, including those on “Green” ships?

The purpose of testing during the phases of the Framework for Conditional Sailing Order is to ensure cruise ship operators have adequate health and safety protections for crew members while they build the onboard laboratory capacity needed to test crew and future passengers. There also continue to be potential exposures on board — including on “Green” ships — such as from newly embarking crew members, crew transfers, and contractors.

What steps is CDC taking to make sure ships stay in compliance with the criteria for commercial transport of crew?

CDC will review daily surveillance data provided by ships, and only those ships that do not meet “Yellow” or “Red” criteria will maintain this status.

What other changes can cruise ships make if they meet the criteria for commercial transport?

CDC is committed to helping cruise lines provide for the safety and well-being of their crew members onboard. As cruise ships are able to show they have no cases of confirmed COVID-19 or COVID-19-like illness onboard, crew members will be able to resume some of their daily interactions with fellow crew members.

Some examples of decreased restrictions on cruise ships if they meet these criteria include resuming in-person meetings, events, and social gatherings; and reopening bars, gyms, or other group settings onboard for crew member use.

What does it mean if a cruise line or cruise ship is not listed on the table above?

If a cruise line or cruise ship is not listed, it means one of the following:

- CDC has not been notified that the ship is intending to operate in U.S. waters during the period of the Framework for Conditional Sailing Order, or

- CDC has not completed the review of the cruise line's plan, or
- Cruise line has not returned an acknowledgement attesting that their No Sail Order response plan is complete and accurate, or
- Ship has not submitted at least 4 weeks of surveillance data to CDC in accordance with the Technical Instructions.

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Content source: [National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases \(NCIRD\), Division of Viral Diseases](#)