



COVID-19

UPDATE

Getting vaccinated prevents severe illness, hospitalizations, and death. Unvaccinated people should get vaccinated and continue masking until they are fully vaccinated. With the Delta variant, this is more urgent than ever. CDC has updated [guidance for fully vaccinated people](#) based on new evidence on the Delta variant.

Cruise Ship Color Status

Updated July 30, 2021

[Print](#)

While cruising will always pose some risk of COVID-19 transmission, CDC is committed to working with cruise ship operators to ensure that cruise ship passenger operations are conducted in a way that mitigates the risk of COVID-19 transmission among crew members, passengers, and port personnel.

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

The CSO was written as a phased approach to take into account the evolving state of the COVID-19 pandemic in the United States and worldwide. For an infographic on the phased approach, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/pdf/CSO-Phased-Approach-Infographic-p.pdf>.

Eligibility for Ship Color Status

The color-coding system is only applicable to cruise ships operating or planning to operate under the CDC's Framework for Conditional Sailing Order (CSO). Status of ships is contingent upon daily submission of the Enhanced Data Collection (EDC) during COVID-19 Pandemic form.

The ships below have worked through the CSO's phased approach, as detailed in CDC's [technical instructions and operations manual](#). Due to this thorough and structured process, which allowed ships to develop and assess onboard and shoreside protocols, including comprehensive plans for COVID-19 testing, CDC is confident that cruising can resume safely under the CSO.

When a cruise ship notifies CDC of suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19 on board, CDC determines whether an investigation is needed, based on a predetermined investigation threshold. This investigation threshold gives CDC and the cruise industry the ability to work closely together to protect the health and safety of those on board and in communities.

Eligibility for Voyage Status

Voyage status is determined by the cruise ship operator's current CDC approved voyage request or application:

- [Request for Approval to Conduct a Simulated Voyage Prior to Issuance of COVID-19 Conditional Sailing Certificate](#)
- [Application for a CDC COVID-19 Conditional Sailing Certificate](#)

Criteria for Ship Color Status

Ship color status is determined using surveillance data from the previous 7 days—regardless of voyage dates—and CDC investigation findings.

The following persons are not included when determining a ship's color status:

- Passengers who test positive for COVID-19 on the day of embarkation who do not board the ship, or
- Newly embarking crew members who test positive during their embarkation quarantine period.

Cruise Ship Color Status

The following table lists cruise ships operating or planning to operate in U.S. waters that have met the requirements of the CSO.

This table is updated several times a week, as needed. Last updated July 30, 2021 with EDC data submitted July 29, 2021.

Company	Cruise Line	Ship Name	Current Voyage Type	Ship Status	CDC Actions for Ships Reporting COVID-19 Cases
American Queen Steamboat Company	American Queen Steamboat Company	American Countess	Restricted	Green	N/A
		American Empress	Restricted	Green	N/A
Bahamas Paradise Cruise Line	Bahamas Paradise Cruise Line	Grand Classica	Simulated	Green	N/A
Carnival Corporation	Carnival Cruise Lines, Inc.	Carnival Breeze	Restricted	Yellow	CDC has started an investigation.
		Carnival Conquest	Crew Only	Green	N/A
		Carnival Dream	Crew Only	Green	N/A
		Carnival Ecstasy	Crew Only	Green	N/A
		Carnival Elation	Crew Only	Green	N/A
		Carnival Freedom	Crew Only	Orange	CDC is monitoring.
		Carnival Glory	Crew Only	Green	N/A
		Carnival Horizon	Restricted	Yellow	CDC has investigated and ship remains under observation.
		Carnival Liberty	Crew Only	Green	N/A
		Carnival Magic	Crew Only (approved for restricted)	Green	N/A

Company	Cruise Line	Ship Name	Current Voyage Type	Ship Status	CDC Actions for Ships Reporting COVID-19 Cases
Carnival Corporation & plc	Carnival Cruise Line	Carnival Mardi Gras	Crew Only (approved for restricted)	Orange	CDC is monitoring.
		Carnival Miracle	Restricted	Green	N/A
		Carnival Panorama	Crew Only	Orange	CDC is monitoring.
		Carnival Pride	Crew Only	Green	N/A
		Carnival Sensation	Crew Only	Green	N/A
		Carnival Sunrise	Crew Only (approved for restricted)	Green	N/A
		Carnival Vista	Restricted	Orange	CDC is monitoring.
	Holland America Line	Koningsdam	Crew Only	Green	N/A
		Nieuw Amsterdam	Restricted	Orange	CDC is monitoring.
		Nieuw Statendam	Crew Only	Green	N/A
		Noordam	Crew Only	Green	N/A
		Westerdam	Crew Only	Green	N/A
		Zuiderdam	Crew Only	Green	N/A
Princess Cruises	Princess Cruises	Caribbean Princess	Crew Only	Green	N/A
		Coral Princess	Crew Only	Green	N/A
		Emerald Princess	Crew Only	Green	N/A
		Grand Princess	Crew Only	Green	N/A
		Majestic Princess	Restricted	Yellow	CDC has started an investigation.
	Regal Princess	Royal Princess	Crew Only	Green	N/A
		Ruby Princess	Crew Only	Green	N/A

Company	Cruise Line	Ship Name	Current Voyage Type	Ship Status	CDC Actions for Ships Reporting COVID-19 Cases
Walt Disney Company	Disney Cruise Line	Disney Dream	Crew Only (approved for restricted)	Green	N/A
		Disney Fantasy	Crew Only (approved for simulated)	Green	N/A
		Disney Wonder	Crew Only	Orange	CDC is monitoring.
MSC Cruise Management (UK) Limited	MSC Cruises	MSC Armonia	Crew Only	Green	N/A
		MSC Divina	Crew Only	Green	N/A
		MSC Meraviglia	Crew Only (approved for restricted)	Green	N/A
Norwegian Cruise Line Holdings	Norwegian Cruise Line	Norwegian Encore	Crew Only (approved for restricted)	Green	N/A
		Norwegian Gem	Crew Only (approved for restricted)	Green	N/A
		Norwegian Jewel	Crew Only	Orange	CDC is monitoring.
		Norwegian Sun	Crew Only	Green	N/A
		Pride of America	Crew Only	Green	N/A
	Oceania	Insignia	Crew Only	Green	N/A
		Regatta	Crew Only	Green	N/A
Royal Caribbean Group	Celebrity Cruises	Celebrity Edge	Restricted	Orange	CDC is monitoring.
		Celebrity Equinox	Restricted	Green	N/A
		Celebrity Millennium	Restricted	Yellow	CDC has investigated and ship remains under observation.
		Celebrity Reflection	Crew Only	Green	N/A
	Royal Caribbean International	Allure of the Seas	Simulated	Orange	CDC is monitoring.

Company	Cruise Line	Ship Name	Current Voyage Type	Ship Status	CDC Actions for Ships Reporting COVID-19 Cases
Royal Caribbean International		Brilliance of the Seas	Crew Only	Orange	CDC is monitoring.
		Enchantment of the Seas	Crew Only	Green	N/A
		Explorer of the Seas	Crew Only	Orange	CDC is monitoring.
		Freedom of the Seas	Restricted	Yellow	CDC has investigated and ship remains under observation.
		Independence of the Seas	Crew Only (approved for simulated)	Orange	CDC is monitoring.
		Mariner of the Seas	Crew Only (approved for simulated)	Green	N/A
		Oasis of the Seas	Simulated	Green	N/A
		Odyssey of the Seas	Crew Only (approved for simulated)	Green	N/A
		Ovation of the Seas	Crew Only (approved for simulated)	Orange	CDC is monitoring.
		Rhapsody of the Seas	Crew Only	Green	N/A
		Serenade of the Seas	Restricted	Yellow	CDC has started an investigation.
		Symphony of the Seas	Crew Only (approved for simulated)	Green	N/A
		Vision of the Seas	Crew Only	Green	N/A
	Silversea Cruises LTD	Silver Muse	Crew Only (approved for restricted)	Green	N/A

- Green status means the ship has no reports of cases of COVID-19 or COVID-19-like illness.
- Orange status means the ship has reported cases of COVID-19 but is below the threshold for CDC investigation.
- Yellow status means the ship has met the threshold for CDC investigation because the ship has met one of the following criteria:
 - at or above the investigation threshold for crew COVID-19 cases,

- at or above the investigation threshold for passenger COVID-19 cases; or
- state or local health department notified CDC of passenger COVID-19 cases occurring within 5 days of disembarkation.

- Red status means the ship is at or above the threshold for passenger and crew COVID-19 cases. Based on CDC's investigation, additional precautions, such as returning to port immediately or delaying the next voyage, will be taken if it is suspected that continuing normal operations may subject on board travelers or newly arriving travelers to disease.

CDC will follow up with cruise ships when an investigation is required as ships begin passenger operations on simulated or restricted voyages under the CSO. For more details about the thresholds for investigation or red status, see [Technical Instructions for Mitigation of COVID-19 Among Cruise Ship Crew](#).

Frequently Asked Questions

How did CDC determine the threshold of COVID-19 cases for investigating a cruise ship?

The threshold for investigation was developed based on several factors, including the need for transparency while acknowledging that cruising is not a zero-risk activity. This investigation threshold gives CDC and the cruise industry the ability to work closely together to protect the health and safety of those on board and in communities. CDC's objectives for establishing the threshold included mitigating on-going COVID-19 transmission between voyages and ensuring medical resources on board are not overwhelmed. This threshold may be modified for future restricted passenger voyages based on lessons learned from simulated voyages or completed restricted passenger voyages, the evolution of the pandemic, or other factors.

What happens if there are cases of COVID-19 reported on board a restricted passenger voyage?

CDC will investigate cruise ships that reach the investigation threshold for COVID-19 cases among crew or passengers. As part of the investigation, CDC will obtain additional information from the cruise ship, such as case exposure histories, details about [close contacts](#), traveler vaccination rates, and medical capacities.

CDC will work closely with the cruise line and consider multiple factors before assigning a "Red" status to the ship.

Should I be concerned if a cruise ship status is "Orange" or "Yellow"?

CDC acknowledges that it is not possible for cruising to be a zero-risk activity for spread of COVID-19. Cruising will always pose some risk of COVID-19 transmission. Therefore, public health measures, including testing and vaccinations, will continue to play a role. CDC recommends that all travelers (passengers and crew) get fully vaccinated against COVID-19. CDC [recommends](#) that people who are not fully vaccinated avoid travel on cruise ships, including river cruises, worldwide.

Why is CDC requiring ships to routinely test all crew members during the CSO, including those on "Green" ships?

The purpose of testing during the CSO is to quickly identify cases of COVID-19 (and test and quarantine their close contacts who are not fully vaccinated) to prevent ongoing transmission between voyages.

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 that the ship is not operating or intending to operate in U.S. waters during the period of the CSO or that the ship has not yet completed all requirements for operating under the CSO (e.g., the ship has not yet submitted at least 14 days of surveillance data to CDC in accordance with the [Technical Instructions](#)).

