

# QNB Asia Cup Doha 2021 – Entry to Qatar and Covid-19 information for elite athletes and officials

Dear athletes and officials, thank you for considering a trip to Qatar to participate in the Asia Cup.

We would like to reassure you that COVID-19 case rates in our country have been at a low level for a long time and we have suppressed a third wave through extremely high vaccination rates and public adherence to precautions. Qatar has also successfully continued to host major international competitions in 2020/21. We fully expect that November's Asian Cup will go ahead as planned.

This document has been significantly amended since its original release, reflecting a more relaxed testing and quarantine regime.

## Version History

01/11/2021

- Major updates throughout document, defining reduced bubble

25/10/2021

- Qatar Airways removed as travel partner
- Ehteraz app no longer requires a local SIM card

## Quick Reference

- [Qatar's Travel & Return Policy](#)
- [Travel & Entry Requirements \(visa\)](#)
- [Green list countries](#)
- [Red list countries](#)
- [Exceptional red list countries](#)
- [Arrival information submission to LOC](#)

**(complete as soon as possible by all athletes, officials and team staff)**

## The Bubble

A bubble in the sports context refers to an arrangement where competitors and officials stay isolated from the general public.

**All competitors must enter the bubble before 23:59 on Wednesday 24th November.**

Competitors then remain in the bubble until the completion of the competition and related events.

If you are vaccinated and travelling from a [green list](#) country, we recommend that you enter Qatar according to the usual process for visitors. This way you can have the greatest freedom of movement before entering the bubble.

## Special Exemption Certificate

The special exemption certificate allows the holder to bypass the normal covid-19 restrictions for visitors to Qatar. [Find about those restrictions here](#)

We recommend that athletes travelling from or via [red list](#) or [exceptional red list](#) countries request a Special Exemption Certificate. You will enter the bubble on arrival in Qatar and, although you must remain within it throughout your stay, you won't be confined to your hotel room, and we hope to arrange exercise opportunities.

**The approval process takes approximately 10 days and you will be notified by email by the LOC when complete. Following the submission, no flight changes can take place, as then the approval process must be cancelled and restarted. The LOC will not reimburse any flight ticket bought in advance of approval and official communication. As this is a lengthy procedure, we advise all participants to apply in advance of the entries deadline.**

You may also choose to enter Qatar via the normal quarantine rules and requirements if you prefer.

**To arrange a Special Exemption Certificate, contact Salem Ahmed [salema@olympic.qa](mailto:salema@olympic.qa)**

## COVID-19 testing and vaccination requirements

The following tests are required by all:

Type	When	Payment	Notes
PCR	Before travel but within 72 hours prior to <u>arrival</u> in Qatar	By athlete or national federation	Travelers need to arrange their own testing in their home country. Recommend allowing for travel delays
Rapid Antigen	On arrival at the bubble	By LOC	Will take place at the bubble hotel. A positive Covid-19 test will result in isolation and withdrawal from competition.
PCR	Pre-departure (optional, if the PCR on arrival is more than 72 hours old	By athlete or national federation	LOC will provide testing facility in event hotel for those who require a PCR test to return to

	before departure flight time)		their home country. Cost 160 QAR (44 USD approx.)
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## Ehteraz - Pre-arrival & Contact Tracing App

### Pre-registration

Before arrival and after receiving PCR test results, you must pre-register online at [www.ehteraz.gov.qa](http://www.ehteraz.gov.qa).

### Mandatory app

All visitors to Qatar must carry a smart phone with the Ehteraz app. You will not be allowed to leave the airport without it. To ensure compatibility on your device, we recommend it is installed before travel. Ehteraz is available on the App Store and Google Play.

NOTE: Ehteraz is also required to gain access to public places such as shops, hotels and restaurants. Some travellers are reporting a delay to vaccination status being displayed by the app. We therefore recommend carrying hard copies of vaccination or PCR test certificates.

## Accommodation

The competition hotel is JW Marriott, located in Doha's West Bay district, situated ten kilometers and 10 minutes drive from the race venue.

After entering the bubble, it is mandatory to stay in the official hotel and favourable rates have been arranged for you.

If you are eligible to enter Qatar without the Special Exemption Certificate, you may use the hotel's facilities prior to entering the bubble.

Participation and Hotel payment: After LOC receive the completed pre-arrival information form and athletes are registered via World Triathlon's Admin Panel, you will receive the invoice for entry fee and hotel payment.

Please note: Asia Triathlon member federations travelling to Qatar with five elite athletes or more will be offered free full board accommodation for two elite athletes (one of whom must be a female) and 1 official for 3 nights and 4 days.

## Visa

Qatar offers visa free travel to over 80 countries. You can use [this guide](#) to discover what the requirement is for you.

If you require a visa, or you would currently be denied a visa under Covid restrictions, the LOC can arrange a special sport visa on your behalf.

**To arrange a visa, send a clear copy of your passport to Salem Ahmed  
[salema@olympic.qa](mailto:salema@olympic.qa)**

## **Arrival & Departure**

Airport transfers will be arranged for teams travelling together and individual athletes using the Special Exemption Certificate (mandatory).

All solo travellers can take an airport taxi and reclaim the cost on arrival at the event hotel. Please obtain a receipt. Large size airport taxis are capable of fitting two bike boxes plus luggage. Payment can be made in many currencies and they also accept credit cards.

Testing will be carried out on your arrival at the event hotel.

Note: If a PCR test is required for travel to your home country or onward destination, we can arrange this for you at your expense.

You will require the following documentation:

- Passport with minimum six months validity
- Competition visa (if required, arranged by LOC)
- COVID-19 special exemption documentation (if required, arranged by LOC)
- PCR test certificate showing negative result

## **An important disclaimer**

This document is intended to help you to plan your trip to Qatar. However, all information is subject to change driven by mandates by the government of Qatar and other restrictions. You are advised to ensure that your airline and/or travel insurance cover the eventualities of changes of date and cancellation.

Always check the current Covid restrictions and visa requirements, as applied to your specific situation, through the official channels (links given in this document).

Qatar is a world leader in major events organisation and we look forward to providing the best experience for you at the Asian Cup Doha 2021.

## Appendix A - Approved vaccines

Approved Vaccines	Conditionally Approved vaccines*
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Pfizer / BioNTech (Comirnaty) - Two Doses</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Sinopharm vaccine - Two Doses</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Moderna (SpikeVax) - Two Doses</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Sinovac - Two Doses</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● AstraZeneca (Covishield / Oxford / Vaxzevria) - Two Doses</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Sputnik V - Two Doses</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Jansen / Johnson &amp; Johnson (only one dose)</li></ul>	

\*People who have received two doses of a conditionally approved vaccine followed by one dose of Pfizer or Moderna vaccine and after 14 days from the last dose will be considered fully immune