

Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft Confédération suisse Confederazione Svizzera Confederaziun svizra

Short Newsletter

Doha, 3 February 2021





Dear Swiss Citizens in Qatar,

The Embassy team hopes that you have started well into 2021 and are all in good health. A New Year brings fresh hope and carries the wish to set out for new shores. The ongoing pandemic brought many restrictions, including for travelling abroad. In order to comply with tightened documentation requirements it is more important than ever to keep civil status registration, identity and travel documents always up to date.

If not done so yet, now is the time to update and prepare your travel documents.

My colleagues from the consular section are here for you and may be contacted as follows:



- By e-mail: <u>doha.gcc@eda.admin.ch</u>
- By phone: +974 4020 3400
- Through our <u>virtual counter</u> for Swiss nationals abroad, where you can manage your data online and stay in touch with our consular section more easily
- For passport and/or identity card renewal please refer to:
- www.schweizerpass.ch www.passeportsuisse.ch www.passaportosvizzero.ch



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Travelling to Switzerland



(Postauto.ch)

In Qatar, the free vaccination program has started successfully, and with this the hope for more carefree travelling may grow back. At the same time, several regions in the world are facing an overwhelming second or even third COVID wave.

To prevent further spread of COVID infections in Switzerland, the Federal Council has adjusted the entry regulations to Switzerland as of February 8, 2021:

All airlines must inform passengers that they have to undergo molecular biology testing for Sars-CoV-2 (PCR-test) before departure and that only those presenting a negative test result not older than 72 hours will be admitted to board the aircraft. This new requirement is valid for all travelers to Switzerland arriving by plane, regardless of the country of departure.

For the time being, travelers already vaccinated are **not exempt** from showing a negative COVID-test to board a plane.

Travelers to Switzerland will also have to leave their contact data to enter Switzerland.

You can find more information on the website of the <u>Federal Office of Public Health</u> and through the respective airlines.

The whole Embassy team, my wife Junko and I hope to have more occasions to meet you again in person this year.

With my best wishes and kind regards,

Edgar Doerig Ambassador of Switzerland to the State of Qatar