



The Government of Sark

PANDEMIC EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

**A COMMITTEE OF THE CHIEF PLEAS OF SARK
COMMITTEE OFFICE, LA CHASSE MARETTE, SARK GY10 1SF**

Telephone: (01481) 832118 E-mail: PandemicEmergencyCommittee@sarkgov.co.uk

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During the COVID 19 pandemic, Sark has followed the advice given by Guernsey's MOH, Dr Brink and Bailiwick authorities. We have implemented extra safeguards to protect our population and are now enjoying the freedom to continue our normal activities.

As we have moved through the exit from lockdown phases, we have continued to meet with Dr Brink and Bailiwick authorities on a very regular basis. In this unprecedented pandemic information is being constantly updated to reflect evidence-based decisions.

The Bailiwick cannot continue to remain isolated, people need to visit families and friends. Every phase has been very carefully considered before being actioned. Recent studies have shown that a test on day seven will identify 94% of cases, previously it was thought that only 81% of cases would be identified on day seven

After the 17th August 2020 Sark, along with Guernsey, will be moving to phase 5b of the exit from lockdown regulations.

The next phase sees the reintroduction of **Group A, B & C** countries as follows:

Anyone travelling from a **Group A** country within the previous 14 days must enter compulsory self-isolation for 14 days.

Anyone travelling from a **Group B** country can:

- Self-isolate for 14 days; or
- Elect to self-isolate for 7 days then take a test for SARS-CoV-2, with release on receipt of a negative result to 'passive follow up'.

Passive follow up means a person:

- Must report any symptoms consistent with COVID-19 and return to self-isolation and arrange for a test for SARS-CoV-2;
- Must not visit a hospital unless for emergency care. In this case prior notification should be given if possible;
- Must discuss with the relevant healthcare service, for example the GP or Hospital Clinic, if attending an appointment during the period of passive surveillance; and,
- Must not visit a care and residential home without prior arrangement with the Care Home Manager.
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Anyone travelling from a **Group C** country is not required to undertake any self-isolation or testing. These countries relate to those with agreed air bridges with the Bailiwick.

The countries included in Group A, B & C are subject to change at short-notice.

Alderney will not be taking part in this Phase 5b arrangement but have indicated that they will review their decision at the beginning of September. **Passengers from outside the Bailiwick returning to Alderney** in the meantime will need to self-isolate for 14 days. Sark will be taking part in Phase 5b – details of the requirements regarding travel to Sark below.

There remains no restriction on travel between the islands of the Bailiwick

Travellers from outside of the Bailiwick coming to Sark must contact the Pandemic Emergency Committee prior to travel. In the event of travel disruption requiring an overnight stay in Guernsey, information regarding accommodation can be provided.

Sark has limited resources and a vulnerable population, therefore travel to Sark will only be by private charter on Tuesdays and Thursdays and limited to six people per trip. The test on day seven will be carried out by the practice nurse and sent to Guernsey. If there are boat timetable restrictions or travel disruptions, then the test will be carried out as soon as possible after the seven-day period.

Anyone travelling through Guernsey ports with Sark as a final destination will need to adhere to the following regulations:

Masks must be worn at all times until arrival at the designated private residence.

Travellers will be met by the ambulance and taken to their residence. Travel is not permitted on Isle of Sark vessels, or private vessels. All travel costs, including the ambulance transfer, must be paid by the traveller.

Transport from the airport to the Harbour will be by pre-booked taxi.

The Sark Constable will be aware of the isolation address and checks will be made to ensure compliance.

The Sark Medical Practice (01481 832045) should be contacted to arrange for the seven-day test, costs will be met by the individual.

Should any traveller develop symptoms, however mild they must contact the medical centre immediately and remain in their accommodation until advised by the Doctor.

Following a negative test, travellers must follow the passive surveillance guidelines, detailed above, up to day fourteen.