



# GMS Flash Alert

## Immigration Edition

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## Finland – COVID-19: Some Travel Restrictions Eased

Finland decided on 3 June 2021, to further extend the current restrictions on entry into Finland until 27 June. (For prior coverage, see [GMS Flash Alert 2021-042](#), 26 February 2021.) However, the government has decided to ease the restrictions on work-related travel. Starting 7 June 2021, travel for work is permitted by air traffic to Finland from the EU or Schengen countries.<sup>1</sup> Additionally, cross-border traffic under certain conditions from a few countries – including Iceland, Malta, Australia, Israel, New Zealand, Rwanda, Singapore and South Korea – has returned to normal.

### WHY THIS MATTERS

After a long period of tight restrictions on employment-based travel from the EU and Schengen countries, Finland is now allowing commutes via air based on an employment relationship or commission. This will facilitate employees and business travellers' entry into Finland.

### Permitted Travel

The new amendments allow travel by air based on an employment relationship or commission to Finland as follows:

- Countries to which internal border controls are still applied: Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Lithuania, Poland, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Sweden and Switzerland.
- External border countries: Andorra, Bulgaria, Ireland, Croatia, Romania, San Marino, Cyprus and Monaco.

Visitors are to explain the purpose and conditions of the travel upon arrival at border control. The visitor must be prepared to present the grounds for the trip and, in particular, the documents related to the employment or assignment

in Finland. In the case of work-related immigration, the family members (spouse and minor children) of the person travelling for work and arriving in the country are also permitted entry.

Border traffic from the following countries has returned to normal:

- Countries for which internal border controls have been lifted: Iceland and Malta and by pleasure craft between the Schengen countries;
- Countries for which external border traffic restrictions have been lifted: the Vatican;
- Residents of Australia, Israel, New Zealand, Rwanda, Singapore and South Korea, when arriving in Finland from their country of residence (only direct flights).

Return travel of Finnish nationals and residents to Finland continues to remain permitted. Third-country nationals holding valid Finnish residence permits may also continue to arrive in Finland.<sup>2</sup>

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## KPMG NOTE

The KPMG International member firm in Finland continues to monitor these matters closely, and further information is expected to be received in the forthcoming weeks.

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## FOOTNOTES:

- 1 See (in English) "[Restrictions on entry into Finland extended until 27 June \(valtioneuvosto.fi\).](#)"
- 2 See (in English) "[Guidelines for border traffic during pandemic - The Finnish Border Guard \(raja.fi\).](#)"

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## Contact us

For additional information or assistance, please contact your local GMS or People Services professional\* or one of the following professionals with the KPMG International member firm in Finland:



**Anna Kurronen**

Tel. +358 20 760 3856

[anna.kurronen@kpmg.fi](mailto:anna.kurronen@kpmg.fi)



**Ali Najafi**

Tel. +358 50 464 1739

[ali.najafi@kpmg.fi](mailto:ali.najafi@kpmg.fi)

*\* Please note that KPMG LLP (U.S.) does not offer immigration services or labour law services. However, KPMG Law LLP in Canada can assist clients with U.S. immigration matters.*

**The information contained in this newsletter was submitted by the KPMG International member firm in Finland.**

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