



## NOTICE

**SUBJECT: "UPDATE OF THE MEASURES TAKEN BY THE HELLENIC MARITIME ADMINISTRATION TOWARDS THE PROGRESSIVE RESTORATION OF MARITIME TRANSPORT SERVICES AND CONNECTIVITY WITH RESPECT TO COVID-19"**

### 1. General

During the outbreak of COVID-19, the Hellenic Maritime Administration pursued the maintenance of the smooth operation of the international maritime transport while securing high standards for the protection of public health

By this Notice the Hellenic Maritime Administration wishes to inform the shipping community of the following measures adopted aiming to the progressive restoration of maritime transport services and connectivity. The measures take into consideration the challenges emerging from COVID 19 as well as the prescriptions of the WHO and the National Organization of Public Health, the European Commission's communications and guidelines<sup>1</sup> and the relevant IMO Circulars and initiatives.

Updated information as regards circulars, decisions and health guidance provided by the international and national institutions are available online at the [Hellenic Coast Guard website](#).

### 2. General Restrictions of Ships Operations

Taking into consideration the epidemiological facts of COVID 19 the Greek Government decided to maintain the restrictions concerning the:

**(a) Movement of passengers by ships to and from Greece to/from Albania, Italy & Turkey until 31.05.2020. The measure does not affect trade operations.**

**(b) Entry at Greek ports and passenger disembarkation of incoming from abroad: (i) professional tourist vessels, incl. cruise ships, (ii) incoming private recreational vessels and (iii) private and professional tourist vessels, operating/ being within Greek territory, until 31.05.2020.** Similar restrictions apply with regard to internal traffic of the said vessels until **25.05.2020**. In both cases, certain exceptions apply, which can be found in [Gov. Gazzete no 1860 and 1871 B](#))

**(c) Transportation of passengers by ships** (including RO-ROs, Ro-PAXs, ferries and sea taxi) operating from the mainland of Greece to the islands and between the islands of the country **until 25.05.2020** (passenger maritime cabotage)<sup>2</sup>. **These restrictions do not affect sea connections from**

<sup>1</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/info/files/covid-19-guidelines-progressive-restoration-transport-services-and-connectivity\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/files/covid-19-guidelines-progressive-restoration-transport-services-and-connectivity_en)

<sup>2</sup> The measure does not affect transportation of: (i) the permanent residents of the islands moving from/to the islands to the mainland/ other islands, (ii) Armed and Security Forces personnel, as well as personnel involved in the operations of the European Border and Coast Guard & Civil Protection personnel moving for reasons related to their service, (iii) public sector officials, (iv)



mainland Greece to Crete Island as from 18.05.2020. It however still applies to sea connections to Evia and Lefkada.

(d) Entry into the country of third-country nationals, including by air, sea, rail and road, **until 15.06.2020. The measure does not affect trade operations**, EU citizens, diplomatic missions' representatives, third country nationals who are permanent residents at an EU country, **and essential workers (i.e. track drivers, seafarers e.tc.)**.

### **3. Conditions for Performing Passenger Maritime Cabotage & International Voyages**

**After 25.05.2020, 06.00am restrictions** on the transportation of passengers by ships (including RO-ROs, Ro-PAXs, ferries) operating from the mainland of Greece to the islands and between the islands of the country, **shall be lifted**.

The following preventive guidance shall apply to passenger and Ro-Ro ferries that perform cabotage as well as Greek flagged vessels engaged in international voyages **until 15.06.2020**:

- Maximum number of passengers shall be **50% of the ship's total passenger capacity**, as specified in the ship's safety certificate or 55% if cabins are available.
- Temperature measurement and **completion of a "Health Status Questionnaire"** before boarding the ship, which will be maintained by the shipping company. The template will also be available online and at the Shipping Agencies<sup>3</sup>.
- **Social distance of 1.5 meters** during boarding, disembarkation and in all areas of the ship.
- **Use of each cabin by one (1) person**, unless it is occupied by a family (first degree relatives up to 4 persons) or a person with disability with their escort(s).
- **Use of a mask** (fabric/non-medical recommended) by passengers and crew members.
- **Specific layout of the passengers in air-type seats** (one seat occupied and one adjacent seat empty on each side as well as front and rear).
- **Informative spots** with leaflets and audio messages by the National Organization of Public Health.
- **Additional training** for members of the crew on COVID 19.
- **Strict application of rules of personal hygiene and protection** - Existence of **sanitizing stations** in various points of the ship.
- **Increased ship cleaning and disinfection procedures.**
- **Specific ventilation and air conditioning procedures**
- **Management procedures of a suspected COVID-19 incident** (isolation in a quarantine area, disembarkation at the next port which has the necessary capacity for its management, contact tracing, etc.).
- **Stricter rules for on-board passenger services** (bars, restaurants, dining rooms).

Passengers should strictly follow the instructions of the operators upon issuing tickets and crew members on board.

The detailed guidance and questionnaire templates can be found [here](#).

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medical and nursing staff of the public and private sectors; health professionals and practitioners as well as the staff of the National Organization of Public Health and (v) workers and (vi) persons moving for officially certified emergency reasons.

<sup>3</sup> For passengers in Greece-Italy lines, apart from temperature measurement, the **submission of a "Health Declaration"** will be required before departure.

