

Media release

Zurich Airport, 21 September 2021

Network

SWISS welcomes easing of US entry provisions and expects further business travel growth

SWISS observes an increasing demand for leisure, visiting-friends-and-relatives and business air travel following the announcement of the easing of entry provisions for the USA. With its extensive route network, expanded Zurich lounge facilities, flexible rebooking options and status extensions for its Miles & More members, the airline offers a comprehensive air travel package for its business travellers.

North America is the most important air travel market of all for Swiss International Air Lines (SWISS). And the authorities in the USA have now announced the lifting from November of the present restrictions on entry to the country for Europeans, provided they are fully COVID-vaccinated. "We warmly welcome the easing of the US entry provisions that have recently been communicated," says SWISS Chief Commercial Officer Tamur Goudarzi Pour. "And we are now observing a strong increase in demand for leisure, visiting-friends-and-relatives and above all business air travel in the short term. We have a wide range of offers and services, especially for the changing needs and demands of our business travelers."

SWISS is already reporting a substantial increase in the proportion of business travellers among its inflight guests, particularly among Swiss-based small and medium-sized enterprises with an international alignment, which traditionally have a very strong need for personal business contacts. The business community is evidently returning to greater travel activity, to and from both European and North American destinations. While still operating at lower capacities, the extensive SWISS route network has now been restored to cover more than 90% of the destinations which the airline was serving from Zurich and Geneva back in 2019.

Expanded lounge offer, flexible rebooking provisions and status extensions

In response to the rising demand, SWISS is expanding its current lounge offer at Zurich Airport, and will be opening its SWISS Alpine Lounge for Senators and Star Gold travellers between 06:00 and 18:00 daily from 7 October onwards. SWISS customers are already offered Zurich's Lounge Center A including its First Class Lounge and the Dock E Senator Lounge, both of which will also now have extended opening hours.

SWISS is also offering its customers a host of accommodating terms and conditions to give them greater travel flexibility. These include flexible rebooking options (based on their class of travel) if they are unable to take their originally booked flight for reasons such as changed national entry provisions. SWISS is also extending the present status of its Miles & More members by a further year, enabling them to continue to enjoy frequent traveller benefits even if they would no longer qualify for these on the basis of their current travel activity.

Testing facilities at Zurich and Geneva airports

As has been the case to date, all travellers arriving in Switzerland who have been COVID-vaccinated or have contracted and recovered from COVID-19 may enter the country without the need to quarantine, while all non-immunized travellers may only enter upon presentation of a recent negative COVID test result. Under new provisions introduced on 20 September, such persons must also provide the authorities with the results of a further such test conducted in Switzerland between four and seven days after their arrival. [Zurich Airport](#) is home to several COVID testing facilities in both its public and its airside zones. COVID tests are also available at [Geneva Airport](#). All persons arriving in Switzerland must also continue to complete the requisite Passenger Locator Form with their personal contact details.

Carbon-neutral travel

For customers wishing to offset the carbon dioxide emissions that are generated by their air travel activities SWISS offers, via the Compensaid platform, the opportunity to compensate for these or to purchase a corresponding volume of sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) to reduce carbon emissions. The platform also permits the two options to be combined. SWISS also offers Europe-wide corporate rates that already include CO₂ offsetting. Thanks to its customers' environmental commitment via Compensaid and in collaboration with various partner companies, SWISS was able this summer to establish the first-ever integrated logistics chain for importing SAF to Switzerland. SWISS thus became the first commercial airline to use sustainable aviation fuel in its scheduled flight operations from Switzerland.

Swiss International Air Lines (SWISS) is Switzerland's largest airline. Operating one of Europe's youngest and most fuel-efficient aircraft fleets, SWISS provides direct flights from Zurich and Geneva that keep Switzerland connected with Europe and the world. Its Swiss WorldCargo division further offers an extensive range of airport-to-airport airfreight services for high-value and care-intensive consignments.

As The Airline of Switzerland, SWISS embodies its home country's traditional values, and is committed to delivering the highest product and service quality. SWISS is part of the Lufthansa Group, and is also a member of Star Alliance, the world's biggest airline network.



This media release will be found in our [Newsroom](#). If you no longer wish to receive information from SWISS Media Relations, please let us know by email at media@swiss.com.

Contact

Swiss International Air Lines Ltd.
Media Relations
P.O. Box, 8058 Zurich Airport
Switzerland
Phone: +41 44 564 4414
media@swiss.com
SWISS.COM/media
Follow us on Twitter: [@LX_Newsroom](https://twitter.com/LX_Newsroom)