



Request for health information from visiting vessels and yachts

- Health Declaration -

Issued by the Government of South Georgia & the South Sandwich Islands (GSGSSI)

The GSGSSI has updated its Health Declaration in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

GSGSSI is committed to ensure the safety of visitors and personnel based on the island.

The GSGSSI request a series of declarations are completed by the Captain or onboard Doctor.

Declaration A Is to be completed and submitted on entry into the South Georgia & the South Sandwich Islands Maritime Zone (SGSSI MZ)

Declaration B Is to be completed and submitted on entry into Cumberland Bay, before arrival to Grytviken.

Declaration C Is to be completed 14 days after embarkation if any person onboard has since tested positive, or suspected of having COVID-19.

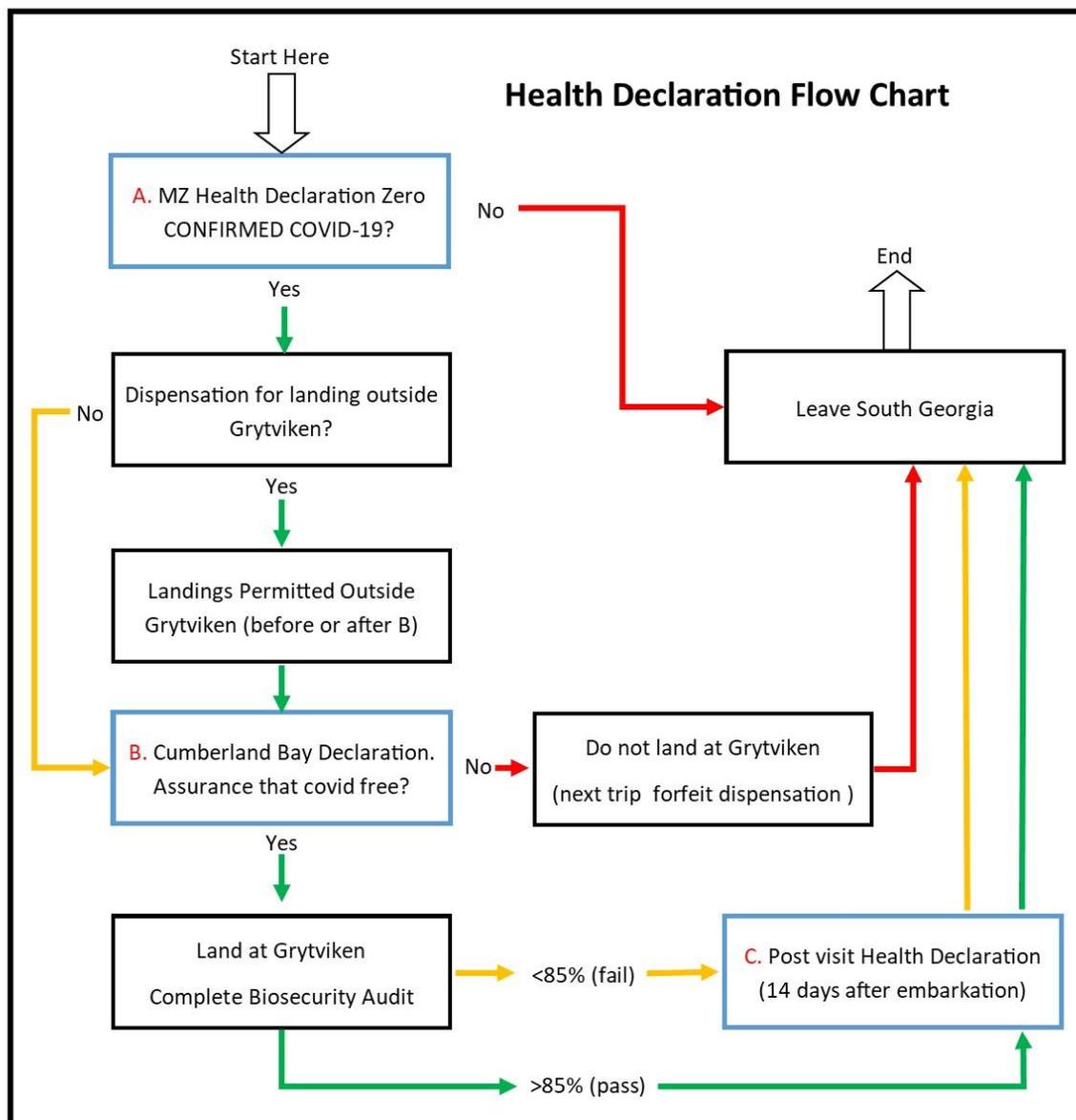
Declaration A, B and C each have to be returned to the Government Officers at King Edward Point (KEP) on go@gov.gs, copy admin@gov.gs. An assessment will be made of the information provided to determine if and where landings are permitted.

Failure to answer the questions to the best of your knowledge, honestly and accurately will result in permission to visit the Territory being revoked and may jeopardise future visit applications.

We appreciate your co-operation in these unprecedented times.

Helen Havercroft
Chief Executive Officer

30 September 2020



RED = Leaving after no/restricted landings.

AMBER = Leaving without dispensation for return visit.

GREEN = Leaving with dispensation after unrestricted landings.

Dispensation

All visits to South Georgia MUST commence with a first landing at Grytviken, unless the Permit Holder has been granted dispensation. Dispensation is gained by first having successfully completed the online Permit Holder Briefing & Assessment, and is maintained by the vessel successfully passing the Biosecurity Audit.

The Biosecurity Audit

The Biosecurity Audit assures GSGSSI that biosecurity systems on board are effective, and that the vessel therefore poses a low risk of introduction to, or transfer around South Georgia of non-native species. The Biosecurity Audit is a key tool in ensuring that visits are environmentally sensitive. The Biosecurity Audit requires a pass mark of 85% or above. In other words, failing a biosecurity audit (or missing an audit) means that the vessel MUST make first landing at Grytviken on their next visit.

What are the implications?

If a vessel does not have dispensation to land outside of Grytviken, and cannot provide assurance they are COVID-19 free, then they will not be able to make any landings. Maintaining dispensation, by practicing thorough biosecurity, reduces the risk of cancelled itineraries.

Notes:

Having dispensation to make landings before arrival to Grytviken does not mean that the vessel must do so. The vessel may choose to visit Grytviken first and other landing sites afterwards.

If the Permit Holder does not have dispensation but they are permitted to land at Grytviken, following submission of declaration B and they successfully pass the Biosecurity Audit, they will have dispensation restored for their next visit.