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# United States warns residents to 'avoid travel to Australia' after CDC upped the COVID-19 rating to 'level four: very high'

Americans have been directed to stay away from Australia after the Centre for Disease Control and Prevention deemed the country's COVID-19 levels "very high".

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less than 2 min read January 19, 2022 - 4:46PM

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The United States has told residents to "avoid travel to Australia" after the Centre for Disease Control and Prevention upped their rating of the COVID-19 levels.

Australia joins a long list of nations who are deemed to have "level four: very high" levels of coronavirus by the CDC with residents venturing to any country on the list told not to travel unless they are fully vaccinated beforehand.

"Because of the current situation in Australia, even fully vaccinated travellers may be at risk for getting and spreading COVID-19 variants," the [CDC website read](#).

"Travellers should follow recommendations or requirements in Australia, including wearing a mask and staying 6 feet apart from others."

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White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki has yet again been probed on the government's inability to provide enough rapid antigen tests as COVID cases surged over the holiday period.

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Australia was one of 22 countries to be added to the “very high” levels of coronavirus list this week.

There are over 100 nations the CDC has deemed to have a “very high” level of COVID-19 including Canada, Sweden, France and the United Kingdom.

For a nation to be seen as having a “very high” level of COVID-19 it must have an infection rate of more than 500 infections per 100,000 people in the past 28 days.

Australia currently has more than 708,000 active cases of coronavirus, according to [government statistics](#).

The CDC has explicitly told residents only to travel internationally if they are fully vaccinated.

Virgin Australia has cancelled a quarter of its flights over the next two months as the Omicron outbreak inflicts staff shortages and reduces travel demand. The airline has suspended 10 routes from late January including its only international route...

"Getting vaccinated is still the best way to protect yourself from severe disease, slow the spread of COVID-19, and reduce the number of new variants," the CDC website reads.

"People who are not fully vaccinated should follow additional recommendations before, during, and after travel."

For travellers heading to the United States they must show a negative COVID-19 test which was taken no more than 24 hours before travel.

The CDC confirmed that there was also an option for those who have previously been infected and recovered from COVID-19 in the past 90 days.

Once in the US, it is recommended that arrivals get a COVID-19 test three to five days after touching down, monitor for symptoms and isolate immediately if they arise and follow all state and local recommendations and requirements.

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