

COVID TESTING FOR DEPARTURE FROM ZAMBIA

As the world of travel stands now, many visitors require a fresh COVID-Negative Certificate in order to leave Zambia. The information below is intended to reassure The River Club guests this is available in Livingstone and Zambia in general, and that the lodge will facilitate the process of swabbing, testing and certificates for onward travel in Livingstone for The River Club guests.

The process used is a nose / throat swab that detects genetic material of the SARS-CoV-2 virus using a lab technique called Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR). It is also referred to as a Molecular Test.

As more experience is gained taking The River Club guests through the re-testing for departure process, we have learnt how the public and private sectors each manage the process. Although the private sector is now by far the easiest, most convenient and efficient way to go, The River Club Operations team at the lodge will take care of all logistics required whether swabbing and testing is private or public.

- **NOTE: Guest stay itineraries need to be disclosed in full early** in the reservation process so The River Club Operations team at the lodge can assess in advance which day and timing is best to do the swabs in order to ensure certificates are ready in stress-free time before departure.
- While the private system works on any day of the week, arrival and departure info will determine if the public health system will work as an alternative

PROCEDURE IN LIVINGSTONE – i. Swab | ii. Lab Test | iii. Results | i.v. Certificate Issue and Collection

SWABBING & TESTING – PRIVATE MEDICAL PRACTICE – approved by the Africa CDC

The necessity to use a private medical clinic arises when guests have no choice but to be swabbed in the afternoon or over a weekend. Otherwise using a private medical clinic is entirely up to guests. The private clinic is faster and more reliable.

- **Payment arrangements**
 - The River Club facilitates pre-payment in most cases as this is much easier for guests. See costs below.
- **Timing is flexible**
 - Swab any day of the week morning or afternoon
 - A private lab runs the test
 - Swabs in the morning, results out by that evening.
 - Swabs taken in the afternoon, results out next morning.
 - Passports need to be shown at time of swabbing.
- **Africa CDC Trusted Travel Online Portal**
 - Certificates for travel are issued using the PanaBIOS online system.
 - Many guests may already be on this system. If not each guest needs to register as a user – preferably before they leave home – see page 2
 - The private medical practice needs your user name and ID in order to access the site to upload your certificate.

Cost USD 130 per test – Pay at the lodge using a Master or Visa Card or US Cash – Lodge Ops facilitates [all](#)
OR USD 120 per test – Pay the Medical Practice direct in USD CASH – credit cards are not accepted
Plus USD 10 per test – in addition, Guests pay The River Club for Lodge Operations to facilitate all logistics required

ADDITIONAL COST FOR PRIVATE SWABBING AT THE LODGE

USD 120 one-off – **call-out fee** for nurse to swab privately at the lodge – guests pay the Swabber direct in USD Cash
 USD 130 one-off – **call-out fee** Lodge pays Swabber cash – guests pay Master or Visa Card at the lodge or in advance

NOTE: USD CASH NOTES must look clean and not be minted prior to 2007 or they will not be accepted

SWABBING & TESTING - PUBLIC DISTRICT HEALTH SERVICES

- Works well as long as correct procedure is followed
 - Swabbing available only on **Monday to Friday mornings**
 - If swabbing is needed in the afternoon or over a weekend, private medical practice is the only option.
- Arrangements need to be made in advance in good time
 - The River Club arranges pre-payment and a receipt is obtained before swabs are taken.
 - It is not possible to pay at point of swabbing.
- The Swabbing and Testing Process
 - Swabbing is done at the District Health Office in the mornings between 08h30 and 12h30
 - Each morning's batch of swabs is sent to the General Hospital lab for PCR testing that afternoon/night.
- Results delivery
 - Results generally take 24-hours but delays can result when the PCR machine has to be stopped for routine maintenance.
 - Next morning, results are taken as hard copies from the lab to the District Health Office in Livingstone CBD.
- Certificate Issue
 - The District Health Office issues a SARS-CoV-2 Medical Certificate for International Travel.
 - Passport copies are required in order to save guests the often long wait for certificate issue.
 - A member of The River Club Ops Team waits for certificate issue and collects from the DHO on behalf of guests.

Cost USD 85 per test - Includes all logistics required within Livingstone - Pay Master or Visa Card or US Cash at the lodge

TESTING IN LUSAKA – to be arranged by guests themselves

If you need a COVID test in Lusaka prior to departure, there are various COVID-testing facilities for leisure travellers.

- Use this link: <https://cidrz.timetap.com> to make an appointment with the Centre for Disease Research in Zambia.
 - COST USD 150 for 24-hour turnaround | COST USD 100 for 48-hour turnaround | pre-payment in both cases by EFT only

CAUTION - COVID-TESTING RATES

Please note all rates quoted for COVID swabbing, testing and certification are subject to change without notice.

TESTING CHILDREN

- Children under the age of 5 do not require COVID-negative certificates to enter Zambia.
- Children from the age of 5 upwards requiring COVID-negative certificates to depart can be tested in Zambia.

Page 2 | AFRICAN UNION CDC – Trusted Travel Portal – ** please read this very important information

AFRICAN UNION CDC - TRUSTED TRAVEL – COVID PORTAL

The African Union Commission and the Africa Centres for Disease Control (Africa CDC) recently launched an on-line portal to promote hassle-free travel across Africa. This is a [Trusted Travel My COVID Pass](#) tool that simplifies verification of COVID health documentation for travellers during exit and entry across borders. Those who have been vaccinated against COVID can also upload their vaccination statistics onto their profiles.

Here is a link to the Africa CDC website if you wish to read more about it: <https://trustedtravel.panabios.org/>
REGISTERING YOUR INDIVIDUAL PROFILE ONLINE (seems complicated but it's not really)

If you are not already on the system, it is best to register your individual profile [at home](#) before you start your journey as during the process, an OTP will be sent to your cell number.

- o This may not work if you are already in Africa when you try to register as the OTP might fail to arrive or take too long to arrive.
- o Also, it is recommended you use a laptop or iPad as the registration process on this portal is harder to navigate on a phone.

Use this direct link to the sign-up or sign-in:

<https://trustedtravel.panabios.org/trusted-testing/signup/>

- Choose a password you can easily remember or save it somewhere you can readily access during your trip.
- Passwords need a **CAPITAL letter, numbers, and a symbol**. This is not mentioned on the site so it's handy to know!
- An OTP will be sent to your phone after which you can sign in and reach the 'landing' page. This is where you can see your dashboard that shows test results, upload vaccination certificates (if you are fully vaccinated) and validate test results which will either be uploaded by a Trusted Travel lab or you can upload test results yourself if not from a Trusted Travel lab.

THE RIVER CLUB and 'TRUSTED TRAVEL' LABS IN LIVINGSTONE

- The Private Health System – costs more but is highly efficient and available 7-days a week

When you book COVID PCR testing through The River Club using the private medical system in Livingstone, all you need is your [Trusted Travel profile user name and password](#) to give to the nurse when you are being swabbed. Your test results will be uploaded to your profile so that you can download the certificate later to e-mail to The River Club Operations team for printing.

- The Public Health System – costs less but availability is restricted and far less efficient

If you book COVID PCR testing through The River Club using the [public health system](#), the test result will need to be e-mailed to you by the lab and uploaded by yourself onto your profile and converted to a Trusted Travel certificate. Then download the converted certificate and e-mail it to The River Club Operations team for printing.

- o **It is important to note** that swabbing and testing using the [public system](#) is restricted in terms of only being available on week-day mornings, and results take at least 24-hours if not longer.

FINDING OTHER TRUSTED TRAVEL LABS IN AFRICA

Click on the ['Trusted Labs'](#) tab on the left to search for accredited labs by country or by name within the country. The list is not fully updated yet so if you can't find a lab in the place you are searching for one, contact a local lab to check if they are accredited as they may well be. Select ['Country of Departure and Arrival'](#) then click ['NEXT'](#) to see the list of accredited labs.

- If you test at a [TT lab](#), please ask the lab to upload your results onto your [Trusted Travel](#) profile. You will need to give them your user name and password.
- Download the test by selecting ['At a TT Lab'](#) which should show your recent test in a drop-down menu. Select the one you want to validate. Click ['Select the Lab you Visited'](#) from a drop-down menu (if it is present), type in the name of the country, city or lab in the blank space which should narrow the search. Then upload the test result file. Download for printing.

IF YOU USE A PCR LAB NOT ON THE TRUSTED TRAVEL SYSTEM

- You need to receive the results by e-mail as a JPEG or PDF file (less than 10mb). Go to your dashboard and use the ['Validate Test for Travel'](#) link. Select the country of departure and arrival then click [NEXT](#).
- Fill in the blank form with the name and address of the lab, upload the test result which needs to be on the device you are using and this will verify the result. Download for printing.

Create an account

or [Login](#)

First name	<input type="text"/>
Last name	<input type="text"/>
Email Address	<input type="text"/>
Dial Code	<input type="text"/>
Phone number	<input type="text"/>
Password	<input type="password"/>
<input type="button" value="Sign Up"/>	

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