

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 our guests this is available in Livingstone and Zambia in general, and that the lodge will facilitate the process in Livingstone of swabbing, testing and certificates for onward travel 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 process of re-testing for departure, we have learnt how the public and private sectors each manage the procedure. 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 facilitate and take care of all logistics required whether swabbing and testing is private or public. More time is needed if using the public health system.

- **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, day of the week and times of arrival and departure 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 as this is much easier for guests who otherwise would need to pay cash.
 - See costs below.
- **Timing is flexible**
 - Swab any day of the week morning or afternoon
 - A private lab runs the test
 - Swab in the morning, result out by that evening.
 - Swab in the afternoon, result out next morning.
 - Passports need to be shown at time of swabbing.
- **Cost** USD 150 per test – Pay at the lodge using a Master or Visa Card or US Cash – Lodge Ops facilitates all
- **OR** USD 140 per test – Pay the Medical Practice direct in USD CASH (notes newer than 2013) – credit cards not accepted
- **Plus** USD 10 per test – in addition, Guests pay The River Club for Lodge Operations to facilitate all logistics required
- **Africa CDC Trusted Travel Online Portal**
 - When possible, certificates for travel are issued using the Trusted Travel PanaBIOS online system.
 - If not each guest needs to register as a user – preferably before they leave home – see page 2
 - The private medical practice needs the user mail address and password in order to upload test results.
 - Read more about the Africa CDC and Trusted Travel here: <https://africacdc.org/trusted-travel/>
- The PanaBIOS online system has lately been prone to failure due to technological constraints.
 - When the PanaBIOS online system cannot be accessed, we revert to the manual hard-certificate attached to the lab test result.

ADDITIONAL COST FOR PRIVATE SWABBING AT THE LODGE

USD 150 per trip – **call-out fee** for nurse to swab privately at the lodge – guests pay the Swabber direct in USD Cash
 USD 160 per trip – **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 2013 or they will not be accepted

SWABBING & TESTING - PUBLIC - DISTRICT HEALTH SERVICES

- Works 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, the 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 the swabbing appointment.
 - It is not possible to pay at time 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.
- Please check costs and test results turn-around time, as well as payment options, direct with the service provider.

CAUTION - COVID-TESTING RATES are linked to the rate of exchange and can fluctuate

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.

THE RIVER CLUB OPERATIONS TEAM (based at the lodge in Zambia) - CONTACT DETAILS

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