

Germany to add Dutch to COVID high-risk list

April 4 2021



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Germany will place the Netherlands among countries classified as high-risk zones due to elevated numbers of COVID-19 cases, Berlin's infectious disease agency announced Sunday.

Beginning Tuesday at midnight, travellers from the Netherlands will have to present a negative virus test to enter Germany, according to the

Robert Koch Institute.

A quarantine period of 10 days must also be observed with the possibility of halting it after five days on presentation of a negative test.

There will be exceptions for people commuting between the neighbouring countries for work.

Germany, where concern has mounted over a third wave of the pandemic, has already classified neighbouring France, the Czech Republic and Poland as high-risk zones.

The Netherlands borders Lower Saxony and North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany's most populous state with 18 million people.

On March 23, Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte announced an extension of [coronavirus](#) restrictions until April 20 with infections on the rise.

The Netherlands, which has a population of over 17 million, has recorded more than 1.2 million virus cases and over 16,000 deaths linked to the disease.

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Citation: Germany to add Dutch to COVID high-risk list (2021, April 4) retrieved 27 April 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2021-04-germany-dutch-covid-high-risk.html>

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