

Sri Lanka reopens on-arrival ETA counter at two airports

A Monitor Report

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Colombo : The Department of Immigration and Emigration of Sri Lanka has commenced issuing ETA at arrival by reopening the on-arrival ETA counter at Bandaranaya International Airport and Mattala International Airport.

The move is aimed to encourage the arrival of fully vaccinated tourists, said the Department in a notice.

It may be mentioned here, issuing on-arrival ETA will be facilitated for tourists who are unable to obtain ETA by online method due to time constraints experienced when arranging their journey to Sri Lanka within a very shorter period, added the notice.

Also, this facility will be provided considering as an essential service requirement by adhering to all Covid-19 preventive measures declared by the Sri Lankan Government, said the notice.

Fully vaccinated travellers will be released from the airport in Sri Lanka and do not need to do day-01 PCR test or undergo quarantine after arrival.

Travellers who have not fully vaccinated need to do Day 01 PCR test and they should undergo 14-days mandatory quarantine at a safe and secure certified level 01 hotel, mentioned the notice.

Furthermore, travellers not fully vaccinated have to abide by Covid-19 preventive

operational guidelines issued by the Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority after arrival in the country.

However, despite the facility, the controller general advised travel operators to encourage incoming tourists to obtain the online ETA prior to their arrival in the country to avoid unnecessary delays at the airport.

Sri Lanka saw the highest tourist arrivals growth in September with 13,547 arrivals while the country recorded 37,000 tourists from January to September.