

TUNISIAN TOURISM REJOICES OVER REOPENING THE COUNTRY'S BORDERS



The Tunisian government announced the opening of its land, air and sea borders to travelers as of June 27. These had been closed since the middle of March in order to cope with the coronavirus pandemic. Tunisian tourism companies get ready for customers.

While clarification must be provided quickly on the conditions of entry into the territory, it is possible that this reopening of the borders will be accompanied by a testing obligation for tourists. "This is what the director of the National Observatory of New and Emerging Diseases, Nissaf Ben Alaya, confirmed on Tuesday, June 2, 2020, by indicating to the TAP agency that **visitors will have to present a negative test for the coronavirus before entering Tunisia**," reports the Tunisian Webdo site.

A few days ago, the destination had also announced the launch of its "Ready & Safe" label, accompanying a health protocol for Tunisian anti-Covid-19 tourism. Objective: to take all necessary precautions and hygiene measures to ensure the safety of travelers. Among the measures taken are the wearing of masks by all staff members of tourist establishments, a maximum of 50% of the authorized bed capacity, the mandatory presence of a nurse, taking the temperature of customers, etc.

Prior to the arrival of tourists, the country is also beginning to break out of the confinement, including the reopening of cafés and mosques as of 4 June. **This is important news for the Tunisian tourism sector, which accounts for nearly 14% of GDP.** "Tunisian tourism is suffering a loss of six billion dinars (two billion euros) in revenue because of the Covid-19 pandemic," the Tunisian National Tourist Office (ONTT) estimates, with 400,000 jobs at risk".

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