On February 1, 2022, the European Union revised travel guidance to alter regulations regarding travel within the bloc (See COVID-19: Council adopts a revised recommendation on measures affecting free movement, based on the individual situation of persons and no longer on the region of origin). Going forward, eligibility for unrestricted travel will be based on an individual’s vaccination status rather than on a county’s infection rate or similar virus-based metrics. In short, if someone is fully vaccinated/boosted and carries appropriate documentation then travel across borders within the bloc will become more reasonable to manage.

Thus, effective February 21, 2022, students studying with Syracuse Abroad in Strasbourg, Florence, and Madrid may travel for personal reasons freely within the European Economic Area (EEA), Switzerland, the United Kingdom, and to their home country under the following conditions:

- Travel continues to carry the risk of infection from Covid-19. Syracuse Abroad continues to recommend that you confine travel to your host country where program staff are best able to support you should you become infected.
- Students whose home institution is not Syracuse University are subject to the travel policy of their institution as well as that of Syracuse Abroad. Please confirm that your school approves international travel beyond your host country before proceeding.
- For the purposes of this policy, travel is allowed to countries in the EEA, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, and to the student’s home country. See: Countries in the EU and EEA - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
- At this time, travel is NOT permitted outside the EEA, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, and the student’s home country.
- Travel regulations/restrictions may change at any time, without notice. Students are responsible for staying up-to-date with emerging independent travel requirements.
- The student is solely responsible for monitoring travel requirements for their planned destinations. Syracuse Abroad is not financially responsible for any costs associated with the disruption of independent travel.
- Should you elect to travel independently then you must follow the specific guidelines for obtaining a valid EU digital COVID certificate provided by your program staff. The specific process will vary between program locations. You may NOT travel independently without this certificate. Syracuse Abroad has no authority to affect the issuing of these certificates so students are advised to apply early. Please note that even with the EU digital travel certificate, travel rules can change quickly. As noted above, the student is responsible for being fully aware of any travel restrictions for their intended destination(s).
- All usual guidelines for registering independent travel provided by program staff must be followed.
- All expenses associated with isolation or quarantine, including fees for flight or hotel changes/cancelations arising from independent travel, are solely the responsibility of the student.
- Should a student be isolated or quarantined due to independent travel, they will be expected to maintain assigned academic work consistent with local program policy and process. It is the student’s responsibility to contact faculty and make arrangements.