

**SERIES** Recommendations to Minimize the Risk of COVID-19  
Transmission in the Latin America and the Caribbean Tourism Sector

# Reading Guide



<https://www.shutterstock.com/es/image-photo/travel-after-lifting-restrictions-during-coronavirus-1735364609>

With the participation of



With the support of





<https://www.shutterstock.com/es/image-photo/closeup-sea-sand-beach-panoramic-landscape-1909038652>

The series of documents titled *Recommendations to Minimize the Risk of COVID-19 Transmission in the Latin America and the Caribbean Tourism Sector* is the result of a diagnostic assessment, carried out between December 2020 and April 2021, to determine the adequacy of current COVID-19 protocols in the tourism subsectors of hospitality (tourist accommodations and food and drink) and local transport, as well as beaches, airports and ports. These protocols were assessed using a comparative methodology for Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) compared to other regions of the world, identifying the main infection risk nodes (RNs) throughout the service process in these tourism subsectors and spaces, as well as assessing the suitability and management (implementation, communication and control) of current protocols.

In the race to **revive tourism**, it is essential to have **adequate COVID-19 protocols in different countries and keep them updated**, taking into account the **lessons learned to date**. This *Recommendations to Minimize the Risk of COVID-19 Transmission in the Latin America and the Caribbean Tourism Sector* series stems from this need and from the results of the diagnosis on the **suitability of current protocols**. This set of documents includes general recommendations to tackle COVID-19, as well as specific recommendations for the different tourism subsectors and spaces analyzed in the LAC region. The documents are as follows:



# General Recommendations to Minimize the Risk of COVID-19 Transmission in Tourist Establishments and Spaces

Document **R01**, identified throughout the recommendations in **blue**, has a practical review on preventive measures against the **three transmission routes of the SARS-CoV-2 virus known to date**. There is a strong focus on the **aerosol route of airborne transmission, which so far has been considered the least** in most countries<sup>1</sup>, and yet it is the main route of infection compared to droplet transmission or through contact with contaminated surfaces (fomites)<sup>2</sup>. Document **R01** also covers **infection risk variables**, which will affect the specific preventive measures established for each tourism subsector or area against the RNs (included in documents **R02.1** to **R02.5**). **Document R01 should be read first as a starting point to understand the rest of the documents in this series of recommendations.**

1. Inter-American Development Bank (2021): <https://publications.iadb.org/publications/english/document/Diagnosis-Biosafety-Protocols-in-the-Tourism-Sector.pdf>
2. Lewis, D. (2021). COVID-19 Rarely Spreads through Surfaces. Nature: 590, 26-28



# Specific Recommendations to Minimize the Risk of COVID-19 Transmission in Tourist Establishments and Spaces

The **R02** series comprises five documents, identified throughout the recommendations in **orange**. They include the minimum preventive measures to be considered in the different **RNs of each of the tourism subsectors and spaces** included in these recommendations:

**R02.1** Recommendations to Minimize COVID-19  
Transmission in Tourist Accommodation

**R02.2** Recommendations to Minimize COVID-19  
Transmission in Restaurants

**R02.3** Recommendations to Minimize COVID-19  
Transmission on Local Transport

**R02.4** Recommendations to Minimize COVID-19  
Transmission on Beaches

**R02.5** Recommendations to Minimize COVID-19  
Transmission in Airports and Ports

**Before reading any of the R02 documents, it is necessary to read document R01. The R02 documents can be read individually, in any order, as they are self-contained documents.**



## Recommendations to Manage COVID-19 Prevention Protocols in Tourist Establishments and Spaces

# R03

Document **R03**, identified throughout the recommendations in **green**, sets out the necessary management mechanisms for the tourism subsectors and spaces included in the recommendations to adequately **implement, communicate and control the protocols**. **Reading this document after document R01 and the applicable R02 document is recommended.**



## Specific Tools to Minimize COVID-19 Transmission in Tourist Establishments and Spaces

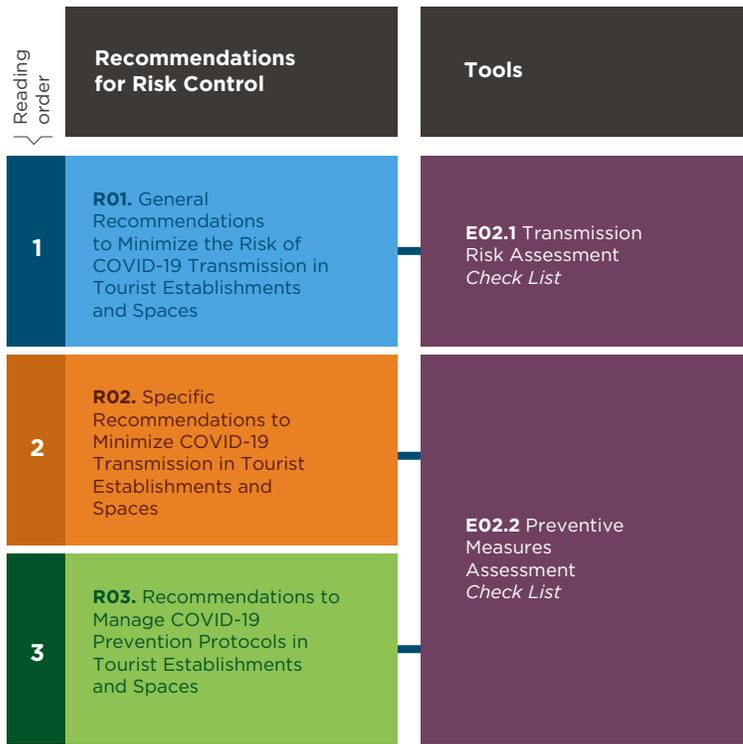
# E02

The aforementioned documents are complemented by two **tools**, which are identified in **purple**. These tools provide a guide to help tourism organizations determine, in their own context, the aspects that need to be improved, based on the established recommendations:

- **E02.1 Transmission Risk Assessment Check List:** this document applies to all tourism subsectors and spaces, and helps tourism organizations identify the level of transmission risk (high - medium - low) in specific activities and areas, based on the combination of infection risk modulating factors classified by Jones et al (2020)<sup>3</sup>. It therefore helps to prioritize where each organization should place their prevention efforts.
- **E02.2 Preventive Measures Assessment Check List:** this is a self-assessment model that helps tourism organizations determine how well they comply with the minimum preventive measures. The results of this self-assessment will help tourism organizations identify which aspects they need to improve.

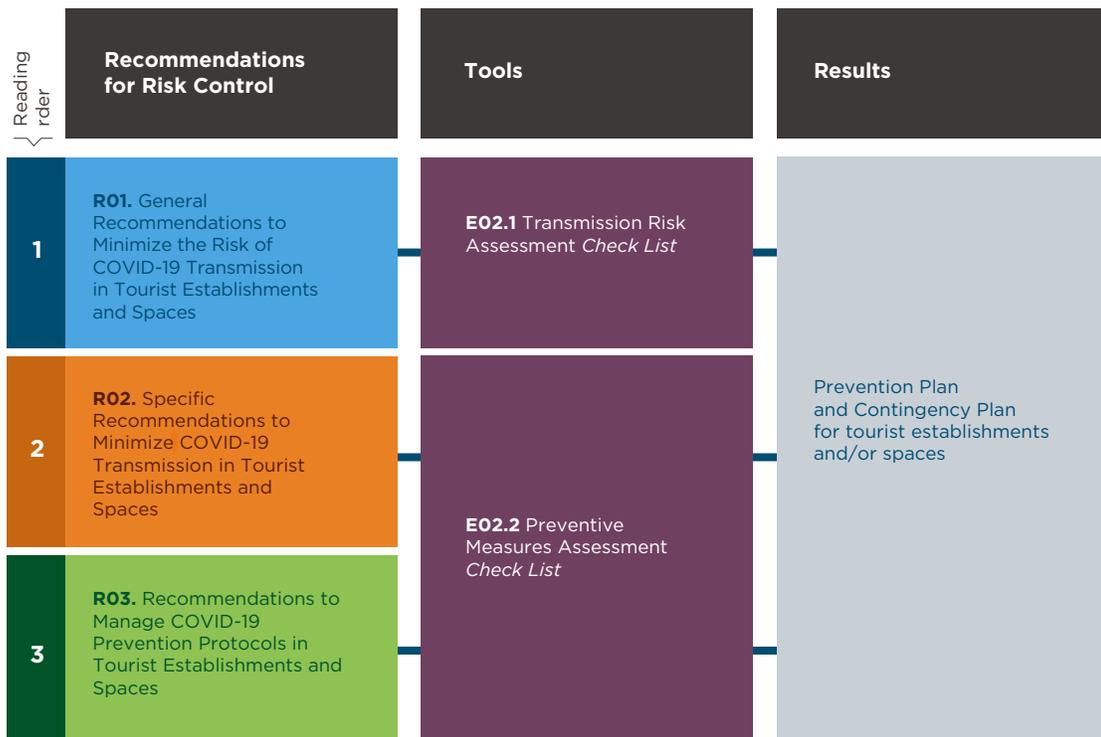
3. Jones NR et al (2020). Two metres or one: What is the Evidence for Physical Distancing in Covid- 19? <https://www.bmj.com/content/370/bmj.m3223>.

The following reading order is suggested to facilitate the reading and understanding of the *Recommendations to Minimize the Risk of COVID-19 Transmission in the Latin America and the Caribbean Tourism Sector*:



**Figure 1.** Reading order for Recommendations to Minimize the Risk of COVID-19 Transmission in the Latin America and the Caribbean Tourism Sector

After reading these recommendations and obtaining the results of the Check Lists, the tourism organization should develop a Prevention Plan and a Contingency Plan.



**Figure 2.** Action plans to be developed based on the recommendations

**This document has been prepared for the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)  
by the Institute for Spanish Tourist Quality (ICTE)  
August, 2021**

Pictures: [www.shutterstock.com](http://www.shutterstock.com)

Copyright © 2021 Inter-American Development Bank. This work is licensed under a Creative Commons IGO 3.0 Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives (CC-IGO BY-NC-ND 3.0 IGO) license <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/3.0/igo/legalcode> and may be reproduced with attribution to the IDB and for any non-commercial purpose. No derivative work is allowed.

Any dispute related to the use of the works of the IDB that cannot be settled amicably shall be submitted to arbitration pursuant to the UNCITRAL rules. The use of the IDB's name for any purpose other than for attribution, and the use of IDB's logo shall be subject to a separate written license agreement between the IDB and the user and is not authorized as part of this CC-IGO license.

Note that link provided above includes additional terms and conditions of the license.

The opinions expressed in this publication are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Inter-American Development Bank, its Board of Directors, or the countries they represent.

