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For Immediate Release: November 2, 2021
HTA Release (21-44)

**Statement by John De Fries, President and CEO, Hawai'i Tourism Authority
Re: Responding to the State of Hawai'i Lifting Safe Travels Requirements for
Inbound International Travelers, Effective November 8**

HONOLULU – John De Fries, president and CEO of the Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA), issued the following statement in response to the State of Hawai'i's announcement ending the international portion of its [Safe Travels](#) program, starting November 8.

“The new federal requirements for international arrivals build upon the success of the Safe Travels program, reflecting the solid foundation upon which Hawai'i has been welcoming visitors back. These uniform national requirements will allow us to welcome back visitors directly from international locations, complementing the Safe Travels program that will remain in effect for transpacific travelers arriving from the United States.

“We are only able to reopen the visitor industry because of the measures taken by the people of Hawai'i throughout this pandemic to keep each other safe and keep our community healthy. Thanks to your efforts, we can now continue the work of bringing Hawai'i's economy back to support our local small businesses and kama'āina working families.

“The recovery of Hawai'i's international travel market will be a gradual process extending well into next year and beyond, so we advise our tourism industry partners to continue being patient as visitors become accustomed to these new travel guidelines.”

For the latest updates visit <https://hawaii-covid19.com>. Information on travel requirements to enter the United States is available on the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/international-travel/index.html>.

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About the Hawai'i Tourism Authority

The [Hawai'i Tourism Authority](#) is the State of Hawai'i agency responsible for strategically managing its support of the tourism industry. Established in 1998 to support Hawai'i's leading industry and largest employer, HTA continually strives to help ensure tourism's sustainability and the benefits it brings to residents and communities statewide.

For more information about HTA, please visit www.hawaii-tourismauthority.org. Follow updates from HTA (@HawaiiHTA) on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#) and its new [YouTube Channel](#).

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