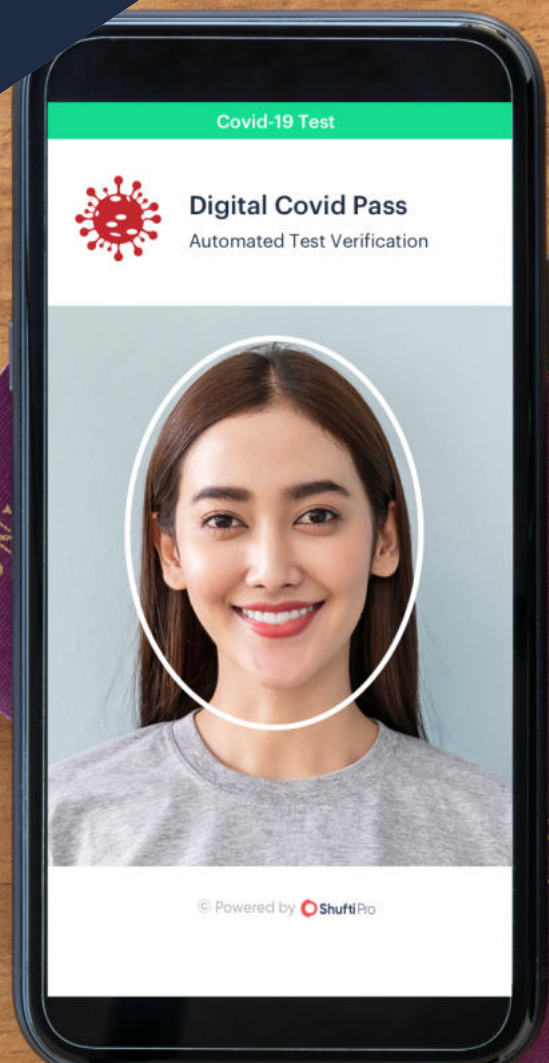




# Digital COVID Pass for PCR Test Verification

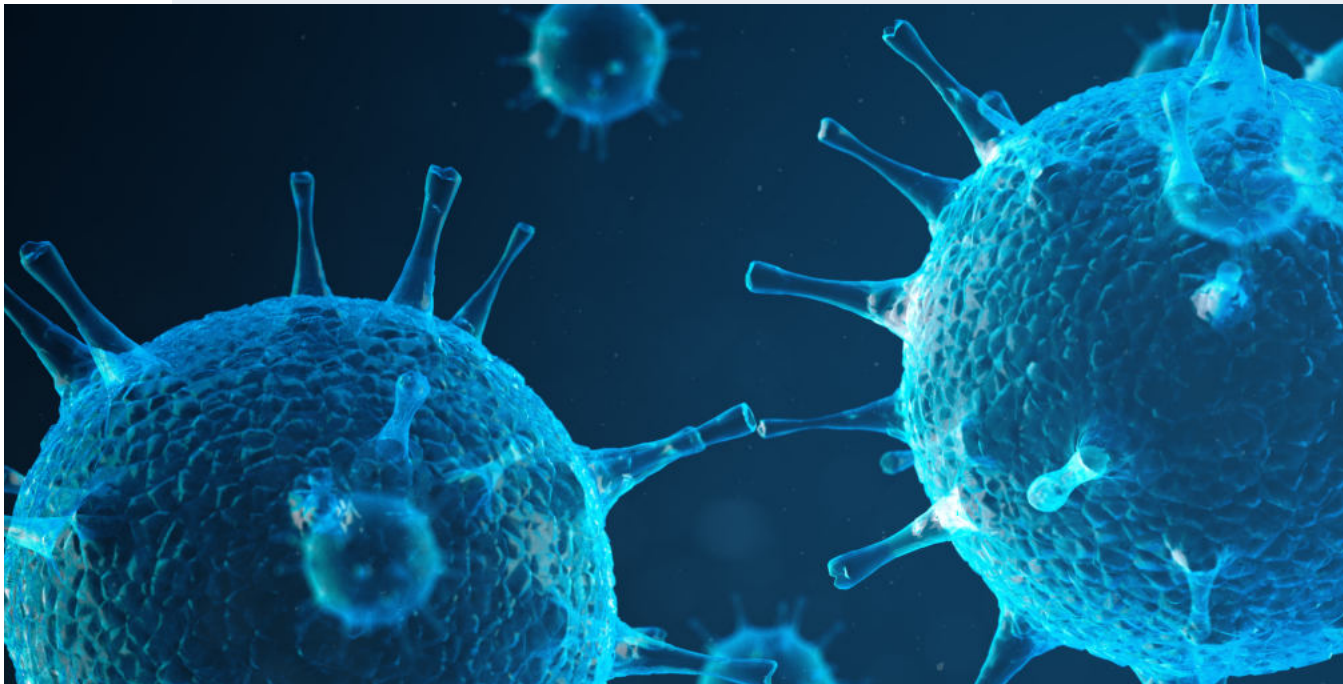


The coronavirus has brought a health emergency all around the globe with over 107 million cases registered worldwide. The number comes as no surprise since emerging variants of the virus continue to affect the world population, especially in the United Kingdom. For the same reason, regulatory authorities have imposed a new set of tourism restrictions in different parts of the world.

[COVID test verification](#) is the new normal for travel and tourism.

Visitors arriving at airports, cinemas, and public transport terminals have to verify a negative PCR test at clearance points. The manual verification of these tests is a growing concern due to the possibility of human negligence. Automated verification of COVID-related documents and certificates through digital means eliminates errors and allows quick tourist onboarding.





## Why are the Variants a Challenge?

The initial variant of the COVID-19 called B.1.1.7 first emerged in the UK in September last year and is rapidly replacing its other types. The novel coronavirus starting from Wuhan, China is not the same as the ones you will find now. Mutations originated in South Africa, Europe, Brazil and other parts of the world are also a growing concern. Even though there does not exist conclusive evidence on which one is more deadly, a demonstration by the Imperial College researchers shows that the first variant is up to 70% more transmissible.<sup>1</sup>

1: [COG-UK Showcase Event](#)

# New Restrictions due to COVID

The new strain of the coronavirus is causing much trouble all across the UK and has spread through other regions as well. To deal with this alarming situation, the UK government has introduced a new set of rules to verify all COVID-related tests and documents of tourists. A recent negative COVID report is a mandatory requirement for individuals going to public spaces, local or international travel. In case the report is three days older or is not verified, the tourist would not be allowed to stay or leave the country. Apart from the UK, many other countries have also implemented changes for COVID-free onboarding, a few of them are listed below:





## France

According to the new restrictions in France, people having only genuine reasons can go abroad. Tourists from the UK must accompany a negative COVID report and an undertaking that they are not suffering from any symptoms of the virus. The law is applicable to anyone above 11 years and states the report must be not older than three days. A verified negative COVID report is also required to confirm the tourist is not carrying the virus. Apart from these, shopping centers and public places more than 20,000 square meters should be closed, according to the new ruling. Law enforcement authorities are directed to enforce the new restrictions and prohibit unnecessary gatherings.



## Greece

The Greek rules state that tourists do not qualify for travelling if they fail to submit the Passenger Locator Form, 24 hours before their departure or arrival. Moreover, the individual is also subject to a €500 fine if they fail to meet the requirements.<sup>2</sup> A proof should also be displayed to assure they are COVID-free. The negative test report should be recent and fulfil the required time. The restrictions also apply to public conferences, shopping malls, and cinemas where tourists should provide a COVID-negative report.

2: [Greece travel advice](#)



## Germany

If tourists want to travel to or from Germany, they should register themselves ahead of time through a remote onboarding procedure. The digital registration is a compulsory part of the process and the information presented is verified at the check-in by the border control personnel. Tourists coming from virus-struck countries must be placed in quarantine for at least 10 days. The scenario is different if they are COVID-negative after the test at the airport, and have to be put in isolation for only five days. Arenas and public transport facilities are also subject to the restrictions where individuals must verify they are COVID-free.



## Italy

The restrictions in Italy require visitors and tourists to present a negative PCR test at airports, public sites, and transport terminals. People belonging to the following two categories are allowed to enter Italy: (i) Someone with an official purpose or to fulfil an important duty (ii) People under absolute necessity. The process of submitting the 72-hour early negative test report should be carried out, with an instant test at the airport followed by a 14-day quarantine regardless of the test results.

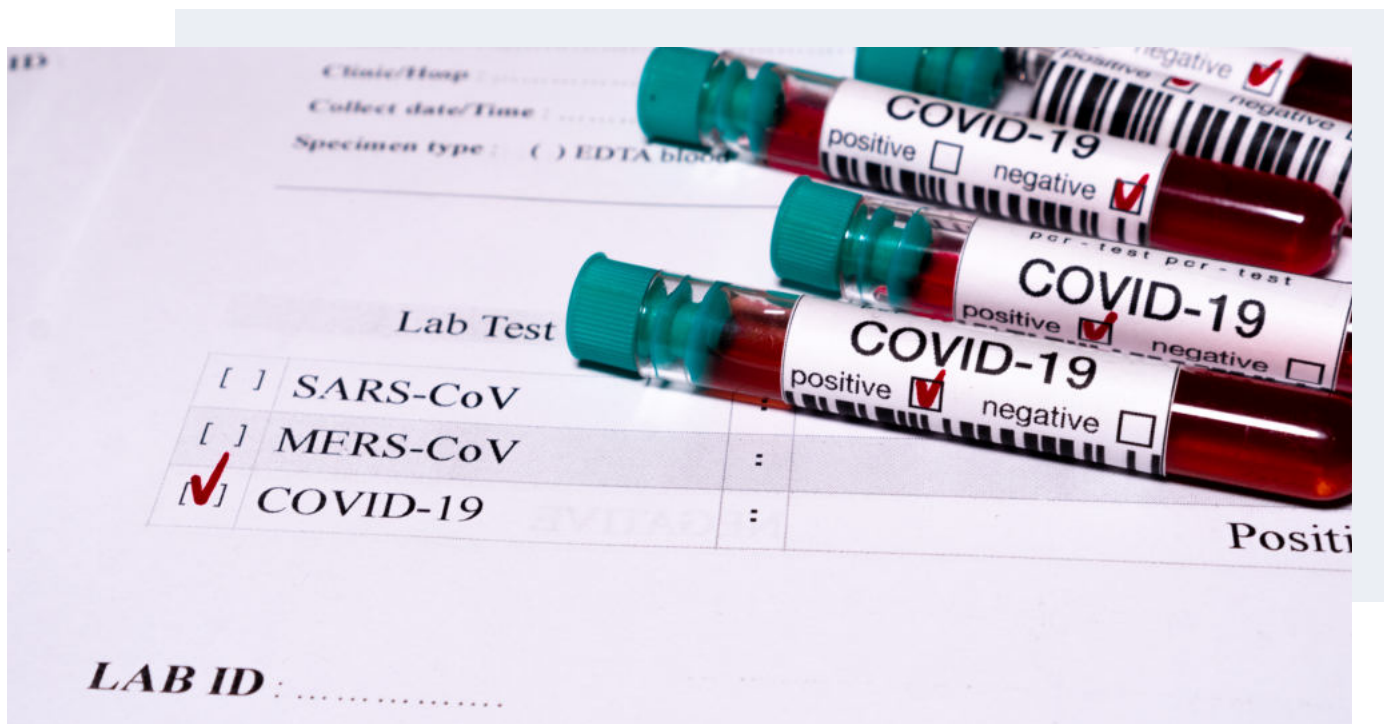
# COVID-19 Test Scams

While the healthcare sector is busy fighting the global outbreak of the virus, fraudsters are busy pursuing their illicit motives. The new restrictions which came into effect because of the pandemic have allowed bad actors to carry out the illicit sale of COVID-19 test documents. Europol, in a press release last week, highlighted the selling of fraudulent test certificates for COVID-19 through an Early Warning Notification.<sup>3</sup> The global regulator mentioned that high-end technology allows criminals to print counterfeit and forged documents to outsmart manual verification at security checkpoints.

## Passengers Using Fake Tests

When it comes to verifying individuals for domestic and foreign travel, a negative PCR test for COVID is an essential requirement. Passengers are able to imitate test results to board flights by using counterfeit documents. The reason behind this is the cost and difficulty of getting a COVID PCR test at the last minute. International and local travel now requires a document or certificate to guarantee the passenger is COVID-free. With fraudsters behind the curtains, tourist verification comes at the expense of compromising the quality of test results.

3: [Europol - Illicit sale of negative COVID-19 tests](#)



A recent case emerged in January this year when almost 40 people tried to enter Croatia using fake COVID test results.<sup>4</sup> The tourists were stopped at the border for not having a satisfactory health certificate or negative PCR test. Even though people presenting forged coronavirus documents is not new, the constant surge in these instances is alarming.

Fake negative tests are being easily created by replacing identity information on someone else's negative COVID report. A tourist from the UK shares their experience, "It is quite simple. Everyone knows someone who has had a COVID test. You can simply get their negative test and change the name and birthdate to your own. You also put a test date on which is within the time limit required. You download the email, change it and then print it."<sup>5</sup>

4: [Fake Covid Tests in Croatia - Independent](#)

5: [Passengers able to 'fake' Covid-19 test results](#)

# Why is Manual Verification a Problem?

Currently, for the verification of COVID reports, manual procedures have been adopted which do not deliver the right amount of precision and satisfaction. In the digital world, cybercriminals are head to head, or even one step further of human expertise. By using sophisticated methods to create an imitation of documents, fraudsters are deceiving not only tourists but also regulatory authorities. With new restrictions in place regarding the pandemic, manual COVID report verification is falling short of meeting compliance standards.

Manually verifying COVID-related documents and certificates has a few problems inducing the possibility of human error, time constraints and tedious procedures. These add fuel to fire when dealing with the sensitive health situation of the COVID itself.





## How can Automated Solutions Help?

Taking down forged and wrongly created COVID test results is a challenge for global regulators. Automated solutions to check these documents is a feasible way to abide by compliance standards and address the tourist needs as well. Digital document verification of COVID-exclusive results and reports can significantly reduce the overall turnaround time. Moreover, the originality of health certificates is another problem which can be properly addressed with verifying documents digitally.

# Shufti Pro's Digital COVID Pass

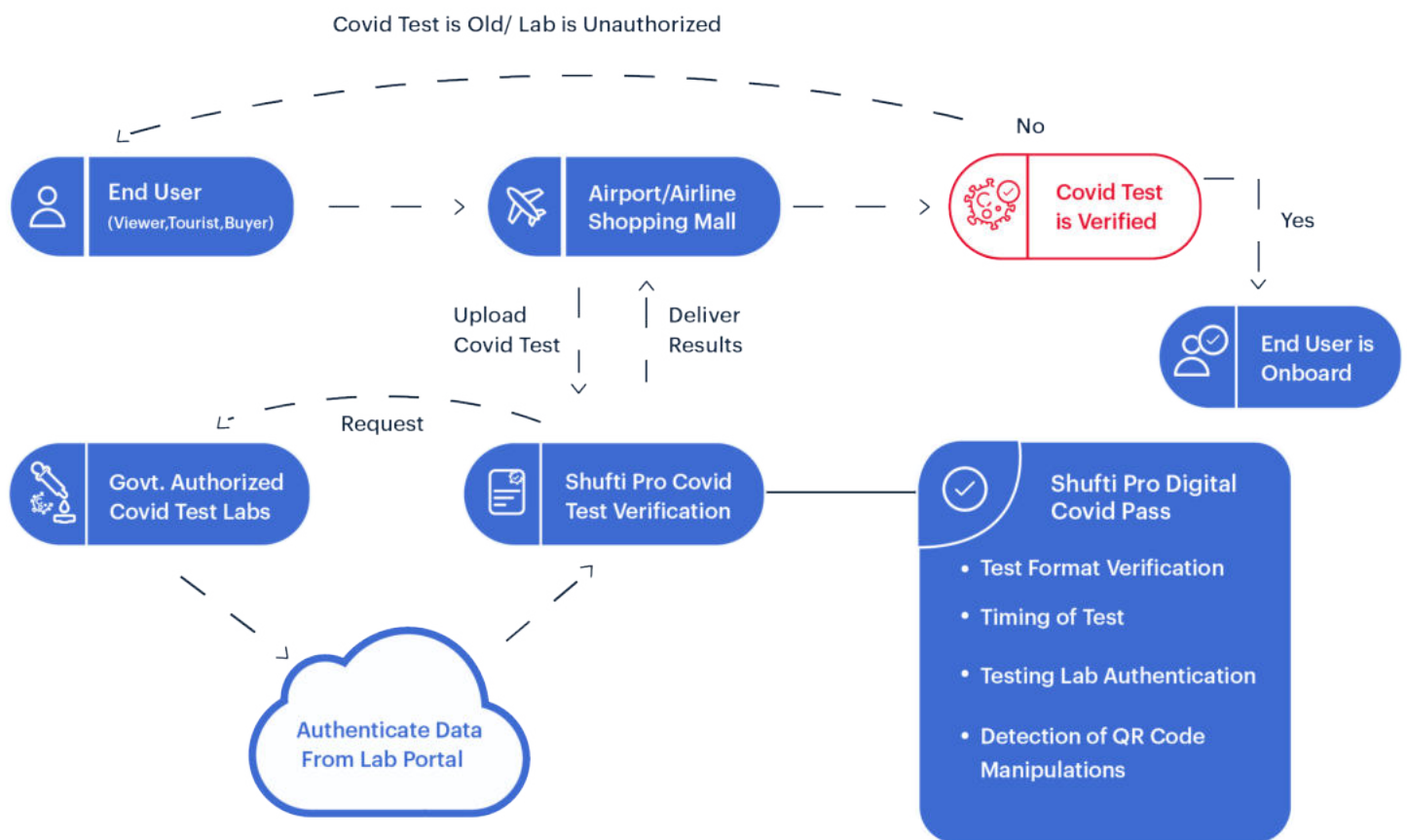
Tourists arriving at airports and public spaces need to verify their COVID-related documents and certificates. [Shufti Pro's Digital COVID Pass](#) allows authorities to verify COVID test results in a matter of seconds which helps in quick tourist onboarding. With the power of QR code verification, fake test results can be taken down by running identity verification checks against their name and related information. Moreover, the Digital COVID Pass verifies reports against official databases of authorized labs that makes global coverage possible.

***The solution does not require any pre-installation or integration and tourists can submit their documents through the webcam on a browser.***

This not only reduces the delay in PCR test verifications but also makes COVID-free onboarding effortless. The Digital COVID Pass also comes with the feature of cross integration, through which the verification staff can expand their security systems and apps for COVID test screening. Security and clearance checkpoints can also install Shufti Pro's Touchless Kiosks or integrate the Digital COVID Pass API into their existing systems to take down fake test results and streamline their COVID report verifications.

**[Get Digital COVID Pass Now](#)**

# How Shufti Pro's **Digital COVID** **Pass Works?**



# Start Using Digital COVID Pass Right Away and...

- Quickly onboard tourists without any pre-installation
- Verify COVID test reports from authorized labs
- Take down fake test results with QR code verification
- Perform COVID test authentication in real-time
- Identify legitimate PCR reports with global coverage

[Watch Demo](#)



## Contact Us



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Expanding services to 230+ countries and territories in a short period of time, Shufti Pro envisioned playing a pivotal role in creating cyberspace where every transaction is verifiable and secure. With enough experience in technologies like machine learning (ML), OCR, artificial intelligence, and Natural Language Processing (NLP), Shufti Pro strives to provide the best identity verification services to verify customers and businesses online.

Shufti Pro's cost-effective solutions help businesses to prevent fraud and illicit crimes that can ruin the integrity and brand reputation of your business. Our perfect solution suite consisting of KYC verification, AML screening, ID verification, Facial Recognition, Biometric Authentication, Video KYC, OCR, and KYB helps to improve your company's fraud prevention, Know your Customer (KYC) and Anti Money Laundering (AML) regulatory efforts by automating the workflow. With single API integration, Shufti Pro empowers you to verify customers with document checks from 3000+ ID templates and business entities from 200 million companies data.

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