



**BENTLEY UNIVERSITY**

Cronin Office of International  
Education

175 Forest Street,  
Waltham Massachusetts 02452 USA  
[bentley.edu](http://bentley.edu)

t +1 781-891-3474  
f +1 781-891-2819

December 2, 2021

Dear Spring Study Abroad Students,

Bentley and its partners are closely following the developments regarding the Omicron variant of SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) and the associated tightening of travel restrictions by a number of countries. Infectious disease experts advise that it will take approximately two weeks of studying the new strain to provide definitive information about the severity of and the effectiveness of vaccines against the Omicron variant.

We know that for many of you preparing to study abroad, this news can be overwhelming. Bentley prioritizes the health and safety of our students and will continue to update you if and how Omicron, and related travel restrictions, might impact your study abroad plans. Please monitor your email for any updates from your study abroad advisor or host university.

As a reminder, all Bentley students are required to be vaccinated against COVID-19. In light of the news, we **HIGHLY** recommend that all eligible students receive their COVID-19 vaccine booster prior to departure, if it has been more than six months since becoming fully vaccinated. Students should not rely on being able to get booster shots abroad. A booster shot has become a requirement in Italy and France for a valid health pass, which is needed to enter restaurants, cafes, and museums, and other public venues. Other countries are likely to follow suit; the European Union has proposed that all vaccine certificates, including the CDC or other similar vaccination document from the United States, have a maximum validity of 270 days. Please reach out to your health care provider for more information on when and how to obtain your booster vaccine.

As always, your study abroad advisor remains a resource to you. Please don't hesitate to reach out with questions or concerns.

Best,

**Cronin Office of International Education**

**BENTLEY UNIVERSITY**

175 Forest Street, Waltham, MA 02452-4705 USA

Adamian Academic Center, 161

+1.781.891.3474 | Zoom link: <https://bentley.zoom.us/my/bentleyabroad>