

Planning for a lockdown in Tasmania



Tasmania has been planning for a lockdown, in case it is needed as a circuit breaker to COVID-19 being detected in the community.

A lockdown prevents further disease transmission and allows Public Health to trace contacts of cases and ensure they are isolated and tested, while further assessing the risk of community transmission.

These restrictions build on lockdown experiences of other jurisdictions and Tasmania's lockdown in 2020, and have been updated given the increased risk associated with the delta variant of concern.

This high-level summary of the possible restrictions to a lockdown response is provided to assist with planning and preparation. Different outbreak scenarios will require different responses, so the below is a draft that will be adapted in line with Public Health advice if required.

Face masks

Face masks to be worn outside the home by people aged 12 and older (unless still at primary school or otherwise exempt).

Stay at home

Your home is your primary residence when lockdown begins.

If you're not a Tasmanian resident and don't have a suitable place to live under the stay at home direction, you will need to leave the state.

Stay at home unless:

1. Shopping for urgent household or health supplies within 5 km of home, only one person from a household at any one time

2. Attending medical or health care appointments, including COVID-19 testing or vaccinations
3. An essential worker – a person working for an essential provider or business that is permitted to operate
4. Going to school – if the child of an essential worker, or unable to learn at home, or going to childcare
5. Exercising once per day outdoors (including national parks and reserves) within 5 km of home for up to two hours
6. Caring for a vulnerable person or other compassionate reasons

Gatherings

- Indoor and outdoor gatherings not allowed
- No more than 10 guests at funerals, not including children under 12 months of age and funeral directors
- No weddings, unless for compassionate reasons and then only five people – the couple, two witnesses and a celebrant
- Only live-streaming of ceremonies and religious gatherings (one person to conduct and one to video).

Home visits

No visitors to homes unless:

- Supporting a vulnerable person
- Visiting as part of a significant relationship
- Visiting as part of a visitor "bubble" with someone who lives alone.

Education

Schools – child care, primary and secondary including years 11 and 12

Remote learning for all students other than the children of essential workers and those whose learning cannot be supported at home.

Post-compulsory education

Remote learning for all students, unless programs cannot be run from home or reasonably be delayed or completed remotely (eg exams or maintenance of essential research activities).

Aged care and hospitals

Visits to aged care and hospitals will be restricted, including the number of visitors and visit frequency and length. Masks will be required.

Businesses

All open businesses (with and without restrictions) require a COVID-19 Safety Plan.

Open – essential businesses and services

Click and collect (where possible) of time-critical items only.

For example:

- essential retail e.g. supermarkets, post offices, newsagents – density limits will apply and click and collect to be used where possible
- essential services e.g. repairs, laundry, legal, financial, journalism, waste management, pest control, telecommunications, security, removalists – with remote services provided where possible
- emergency services, including compliance and enforcement
- health and community services
- veterinary and animal care
- primary and secondary schools, with restricted attendance
- child care
- farming activities and other operations relating to agriculture, horticulture, viticulture, irrigation, permaculture, apiculture, grains, fibre production, dairy, commercial fishing, aquaculture
- factories and facilities supporting manufacturing, production and processing
- public and commercial transport (including freight, logistics and supply chain operators) and related premises
- provision of utilities e.g. electricity, gas, water, sewerage
- forestry, mining and mineral processing.

Open – with restrictions

- Restaurants, cafes and licensed premises – takeaway only
- Accommodation – for certain travellers only

- Community centres, neighbourhood houses etc – for essential voluntary services, such as food banks and homelessness
- Construction and civil construction

Closed

Any business not listed as open (with or without restrictions) should be assumed to be closed.

This includes:

- Beauty therapy, hairdressing, tanning, waxing, manicure or other nail treatments, tattoos, ear and body piercing, body modification and other similar services
- Spas and float spas
- Massage parlours
- Tourism and tours
- Sports, gyms and swimming pools
- Indoor and outdoor amusement parks, arcades, play centres, skate parks, playgrounds
- Cinemas, entertainment venues, casinos, gaming and other gambling venues, dance venues, night clubs, strip clubs
- Galleries, museums, national institutions, historic sites and similar premises
- Concert venues, theatres, arenas, auditoriums, stadiums and similar premises
- Racing, gaming or gambling premises
- Real estate – auctions and property inspections
- Public events

Travel to Tasmania

Tasmanian residents will be able to return to Tasmania subject to existing requirements for low, medium and high-risk arrivals.

People arriving from low-risk areas will be required to comply with the lockdown measures. People who have been in medium and high-risk areas will quarantine.

Non-residents will not be permitted to enter the state.

Travel within Tasmania

A lockdown may be applied to the whole State or to a regional area only.

If a region is in lockdown, there may be restrictions on reasons for travelling in and out of the area. Restrictions on travel to King Island, Flinders Island and the Furneaux Group of Islands may be introduced.

More detail at www.coronavirus.tas.gov.au/lockdown-plan