**Screen reader COVID-19 restrictions for metropolitan Melbourne and regional Victoria**

The Victorian Government has announced there will be changes to COVID-19 restrictions from 11.59pm on Sunday 19 September for metropolitan Melbourne and some areas of regional Victoria.

There are important changes to restrictions for the **City of Greater Geelong, the Surf Coast and Mitchell Shire.**

Under the changes, Victorians living in the City of Greater Geelong, the Surf Coast and Mitchell Shire will enter a seven-day lockdown.

**Restrictions for Metropolitan Melbourne,** **the City of Greater Geelong, the Surf Coast and Mitchell Shire.**

Residents in metropolitan Melbourne and the City of Greater Geelong, the Surf Coast and Mitchell Shire must **stay at home**. You can only leave your home for six reasons:

1. shopping for necessary goods and services (one person per household, once per day, a support person can accompany if required)
2. caregiving, compassionate and medical reasons
3. authorised work or education
4. exercising (up to four hours per day with one other person plus dependants if they cannot be left alone. The other person can be from another household.) Up to five adults from two households may gather to exercise if everyone over the age of 18 has had two vaccination doses
5. outdoor social interaction
6. receiving a COVID-19 vaccination

You can leave your home at any time in an emergency or if escaping family violence.

The 9pm to 5am curfew in metropolitan Melbourne does not apply in the City of Greater Geelong, the Surf Coast and Mitchell Shire.

The following changes will apply:

**\*Outdoor social interaction\***

* One person can meet another person from another household (plus dependants) for a picnic, a walk, or another outdoor social activity.
* Up to five adults (plus dependents) from two households can gather outdoors if everyone over the age of 18 has received both doses of the COVID-19 vaccine.
* Socialising can take place for up to four hours a day.

**\*Travel limit\***

* You cannot travel more than 10 kilometres from your home for shopping, exercise and outdoor social interaction.
* You may travel more than 10 kilometres from your home to get vaccinated, for authorised work and education, care and compassionate reasons, to visit an intimate partner or a person in your “single bubble”, or where your nearest shopping location is more than 10 kilometres from your home.

**\*Exercise\***

* You can exercise for up to four hours per day.
* Outdoor personal training is allowed with up to two people plus the trainer.
* Outdoor skate parks and outdoor gym equipment will re-open.
* You cannot travel more than 10 kilometres from your home to exercise.

**\*Child-minding\***

* Child-minding for school-aged children is allowed if only one parent is an authorised worker.

**\*Entertainment and leisure\***

* Up to five people can attend an entertainment venue or physical recreation facility to broadcast a performance, class or concert.

**\*Real estate\***

* Real estate inspections can take place by appointment only.
* Only people from the same household can attend the inspection appointment. The real estate agent must stay outdoors during the inspection and the current occupant of the home must not be present.

**\*Construction\***

* Construction workers in metropolitan Melbourne and regional Victoria will need to show evidence to their employer that they have had a first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine by 11.59pm on Thursday, 23 September 2021.
* Construction workers will not be able to cross the metropolitan-regional boundary for work.
* Tea rooms will need to close and food or drink cannot be consumed indoors at work.
* Worker shift bubbles must be in place and all sites will require a COVIDSafe Marshal on site.

**\*Care facility visitors\***

* Prospective residents will be able to visit for:
	+ inpatients in acute hospitals awaiting discharge to residential aged care facilities
	+ residents of care facilities that are due to close and require support to find alternative accommodation before closure of their current accommodation.

**\*Face masks\***

* Must be carried at all times.
* Must be worn indoors and outdoors at all times when you are not at home.
* Recommended that primary school aged children wear a face mask indoors and outdoors when they are not at home but it is not mandatory.

**\*Work\***

* Only authorised workers may go to work. If you can work from home, you must work from home.
* A permit is required when leaving the home for authorised work.

**\*Ceremonies and religious gatherings\***

* No in-person gatherings permitted. Up to five staff are permitted on-site for broadcasting services.
* Places of worship may rotate two teams of up to five people to support livestreaming and recording of religious services. These two teams of up to five people must remain the same each time and there cannot be mixing between the two teams.

**\*Single bubble\***

* If you live alone or are a single parent, you can form a single social bubble with one other person. You can only choose one person, not a whole household.
* This other person can visit your home. You can visit their home when they are alone at home too. The person must be the same person throughout the lockdown.

**\*Funerals\***

* Permitted with a maximum of 10 people plus the people required to conduct the funeral (indoor and outdoor). Children under 12 months old are not counted towards this cap.

**\*Weddings\***

* Only permitted for end of life or for deportation reasons. Involves only 5 persons (including the two persons being married, celebrant, two witnesses).

**\*Open\***

* Essential retail, such as supermarkets.

**\*Closed\***

* Restaurants and cafes (except for take-away or delivery)
* Non-essential retail
* Schools, childcare and kindergartens (remote learning except for vulnerable children and children of authorised workers)
* Higher education and training (remote learning unless permitted study)
* Places of worship (except to broadcast services with a maximum of 5 people)
* Gyms, indoor and outdoor sports facilities and swimming pools
* Community facilities including libraries

**Regional Victoria excluding the City of Greater Geelong, the Surf Coast and Mitchell Shire**

The following changes apply from 11.59pm Friday 17 September 2021.

**\*Exercise\***

* Indoor physical recreation will open with 10 people indoors and 20 people outdoors per venue.
* Pools will open for up to 50 people outdoors and 20 people indoors. Hydrotherapy and swimming lessons can take place.
* Spas, saunas and steam rooms closed.

**\*Travel in Victoria\***

* You can travel around regional Victoria
* You can travel between metropolitan Melbourne and regional Victoria for:
	+ necessary goods and services (if this is the closest to where you live)
	+ care or compassionate reasons (including single bubbles and intimate partners)
	+ authorised work and education
	+ to get a COVID-19 vaccination
	+ other specified reasons, e.g. moving home
* Construction workers will not be able to cross the metropolitan-regional boundary for work.

**\*Tours and transport\***

* Tour transport open with up to 10 people per vehicle.

More information on restrictions is available at [www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au](https://multiculturalaffairsdepartmentofpremierandcabinet.createsend1.com/t/d-l-qluuikk-l-y/).

**Support available**

Information on financial and other support is available at <https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/support>

**Updated exposure sites in Victoria**

Stay up-to-date on any new exposures sites at [www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/case-locations-and-outbreaks](https://multiculturalaffairsdepartmentofpremierandcabinet.createsend1.com/t/d-l-qluuikk-l-j/)

For a full list of testing locations in Victoria, visit [www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/where-get-tested-covid-19](https://multiculturalaffairsdepartmentofpremierandcabinet.createsend1.com/t/d-l-qluuikk-l-t/).

**COVID-19 vaccine**

To find out if you are eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine visit: <https://covid-vaccine.healthdirect.gov.au/eligibility>

To make an appointment to get your COVID-19 vaccine, you can book online by visiting [www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/book-your-vaccine-appointment](http://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/book-your-vaccine-appointment)

You can also call the Victorian Coronavirus Hotline on 1800 675 398. And if you need an interpreter, press 0 when you call.