

# Coronavirus (COVID-19) Information about staying home and going out

Home Confinement, Movement and  
Gathering Direction (No.2)



## Questions and answers about staying home and going out in Queensland

### What does the Direction mean?

Under the *Home Confinement, Movement and Gathering Direction*, you should not leave your home unless necessary for one or more of the following permitted reasons:

- to obtain food and essential goods and services
- receive medical treatment or health care services
- exercise
- do work or volunteering that is essential and cannot be done from home (this is any type of work that is not restricted under the latest 'non-essential business activity and undertaking closure' direction)
- visit another person's house, as long as there are no more than 2 people who are not ordinarily members of that household
- visit a terminally ill relative or attend a funeral
- assist, care for or support immediate family members
- attend Court or comply with a Court order
- attend a childcare facility, school, university, or other educational institution to receive care or instruction that is not possible to receive at home.
- assist with an investigation by police or other law enforcement authority
- all shared custody arrangements of children under 18 years of age, whether informal or court-ordered, can continue as normal. You are allowed to leave the house to take children from one parent's home to the other parent's home
- to avoid illness, injury or the risk of harm
- to comply with directions of a government agency.

### In addition to leaving my home for essential reasons, from 2 May 2020, what else can I do?

You are allowed to leave your home within a 50km radius for recreational purposes including:

- go for a picnic (as a household or as an individual + friend)
- visit a national park
- drive a car, ride a motorbike, jet ski, go boating or other vehicle for pleasure
- teach someone in your household how to drive
- shop for non-essentials as long as you maintain a 1.5 metre distance.

### How far am I able to travel to do these activities?

You are allowed to leave your home for recreational purposes within a 50km radius of your home.

#### Further information

visit [www.health.qld.gov.au/coronavirus](http://www.health.qld.gov.au/coronavirus)  
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There are only small pockets of community transmission in Queensland, and these are well controlled. 50km generally keeps people within their community/village therefore reducing the risk of transmitting COVID-19 from one community to another. Some areas such as Minjerribah (North Stradbroke Island), still have restricted access.

#### Can I visit a parent or partner that is more than 50km away? For example, my Mum lives on the Sunshine Coast – can I visit her?

We're still trying to keep Queenslanders from travelling between major cities. If visiting your family, partner or children is part of your normal routine and they need your assistance this can continue. However, only two visitors who don't normally live there can visit another household.

#### Is the 50km from my work or from my home, or both?

You can travel within 50kms of your home for recreational activities, as long as you practice social distancing, good hygiene, only go out with one other person or the people you live with.

#### If I need to travel more than 50km within a region, such as within the Gold Coast Region (from Hope Island to Kirra), or because I live on a remote property, is that allowed?

If you're leaving your home for work or other essential reasons, you can travel more than 50km. There is no limit to how far you can go. If you are leaving your home for recreational activities, you can only travel within 50kms of your home. At all times, practice social distancing, good hygiene, only go out with one other person or the people you live with.

#### If I live within 50kms of the Gold Coast/Sunshine Coast, can I go there? Why/why not?

We're still trying to keep Queenslanders from travelling between major cities. Even though the allowed travelling distance is 50kms, we still encourage you to stay as local as possible. While this isn't returning to life as normal just yet, we need to be careful because we are still in the midst of a pandemic.

#### Has social distancing changed?

No. You should continue to practise social distancing when you leave the house.

#### Can I go to a national park on the Sunshine Coast if I live in Brisbane?

If the distance is greater than 50km then you cannot travel for recreational purposes. Also, a number of national parks remain closed. There will be a gradual reopening of some areas in some national parks. To find out if your local national park is open, visit [www.parks.des.qld.gov.au](http://www.parks.des.qld.gov.au).

#### Can I access National Parks and State Forests with motorbike, quad bike, etc?

As part of this exemption, you are now allowed to take a leisurely ride on your motorbike. There will be a gradual reopening of some areas in some national parks. To find out if your local national park is

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open, visit [www.parks.des.qld.gov.au](http://www.parks.des.qld.gov.au). Remember, you can only visit a national park if it is within 50kms of your home.

#### How many visitors can I have at my home?

You can only have 2 visitors in your home at the same time.

- 'Visitors' do not include:
  - people who live with you
  - workers or volunteers providing goods or services, including disability services

You and your visitors must practise social distancing as much as possible. This means:

- keep at least 1.5 metres away from other people
- wash your hands regularly
- avoid hugs, kisses and handshakes.

#### Can I meet with a group of people outside of my home or organise a gathering in the park or another public space (other than my home)?

No. You cannot organise a gathering in an outdoor place, such as a park. You are only permitted to participate in a lawful activity outside of your home with one person who is not a member of your household.

There are no restrictions on the number of people you can be with as long as those people are part of your household. For example, if four people are living together, those four people can exercise together outside of their home. If one other person wishes to join them this would be permitted.

#### Can I have people come to my home to help me or complete repairs?

Yes. You may have a worker or volunteer come to your house, such as a tradesperson, to help you or complete repairs on your home. Volunteers and workers are not counted as visitors. It is important to note that social distancing measures should be observed to the greatest extent possible.

#### I have a disability and need support from more than two people in my home. What does the Direction mean for me?

If you have a disability, support workers are not counted in the visitor limit and you may have more than two people in your home if that is necessary to meet your needs. However, as per the public health advice, please ensure that where there are people in the home, social distancing and good hygiene practices must be observed to the greatest extent possible.

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#### Can I pick up takeaway food, groceries or coffee?

Yes, however you should spend as little time as possible in these places, and always follow social distancing rules. Don't stop to eat or drink at food outlets or cafés—take your food home or to a local park.

#### What if I want to celebrate events such as birthdays?

You cannot have gatherings of people at your home or outside of your home. You can have up to two visitors at any one time to your home. If you go outside it should only be for the reasons allowed.

This means no house parties, large dinner parties or big barbecues.

#### I run a childcare service at home. Can I look after more than 2 children a day?

Yes. If you are a childcare provider operating a business from your primary place of residence you are allowed to have more than 2 visitors.

#### Can I learn to drive?

Yes, but only with someone from your household.

#### Are there penalties if I don't comply?

Yes. If you don't comply you may be fined up to \$1,330 for individuals and \$6,670 for corporations under the *Public Health Act 2005*.

#### Is this the start of loosening restrictions?

Yes. We're working towards getting Queenslanders back to normal living, while ensuring we continue to slow the spread of COVID-19. We can't undo all the good work we've done to date, which is why we're slightly easing restrictions to allow Queenslanders a little more freedom in their day to day lives.

#### When will more restrictions be lifted?

We're working towards getting Queenslanders back to normal living, while ensuring we continue to slow the spread of COVID-19. Getting back to our normal way of life is our ultimate priority, and these restrictions are in place to keep us safe.

#### Why are we introducing this new direction? Why now?

Queenslanders have followed the rules. It's for this reason that we're in a position to ease off on some restrictions. We've added this exemption to the home confinement, movement and gathering direction because of the success of the restrictions we've had in place that are slowing the spread of COVID-19.

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#### Will the original restrictions be put back in place again? Why/Why not? When?

While we're easing some restrictions, it's essential Queenslanders continue to do the right thing and abide by the restrictions that are in place. The last thing we want is to see the number of cases in Queensland grow. We're working towards getting Queenslanders back to normal living.

#### Does this apply to all Queenslanders, or are older Queenslanders and those at risk still advised to stay at home as much as possible?

Older Queenslanders and people with compromised immune systems are at greatest risk of getting really sick from COVID-19. This means they should stay at home as much as possible and limit contact with other people.

#### Should I be limiting the time I spend out or can I spend the whole day away from home? For example, can I spend the whole day in the park?

Yes, as long as you are following the guidelines within this direction, such as only being out with people you live with, or if you live alone, being out with only one other person. We're asking Queenslanders to practice social distancing with common sense.

#### What is the full list of activities we can do now? What if my activity isn't on the list?

Queenslanders have come to understand the purpose of social distancing and what can happen when everyone works together. While we've only listed a few activities as examples, we're asking Queenslanders to practice social distancing with common sense. Key conditions to remember; practice social distancing, good hygiene, only go out with one other person or the people you live with and stay within 50kms of home.

#### Can I go to the beach?

If a beach is within 50kms of your home, you can go there, as long as you continue to follow social distancing and public gathering guidelines in the direction.

#### What if I go to a beach and someone sits too close to me?

We're urging all Queenslanders to maintain a social distancing of 1.5 meters and use common sense. Queenslanders have been doing a great job so far.

#### Can I go fishing?

If your fishing spot is within 50kms of your home, you can go there, as long as you continue to follow social distancing and public gathering guidelines in the direction.

#### Does recreation allow for combat fun like wrestling, tackle footy between brothers, etc?

Social distancing involves keeping 1.5 meters away from others as much as possible – think two big steps.

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#### How many people can I take in the boat?

You can only go out with one other person or the people you live with, and you must stay within 50kms of home.

#### Can I go water-skiing?

If you're water-skiing within 50kms of your home, you can go there, as long as you continue to follow social distancing and public gathering guidelines in the direction. There can only be household members in the boat or a maximum of two people if they don't live in the same household.

#### Can we now eat meals on benches in parks or in the city?

Yes, as long as you continue to follow social distancing and public gathering guidelines in the direction.

#### Can I go camping? Why not?

No. While we're easing some restrictions, camping still remains off limits.

#### Can my kids go on playgrounds?

No. Playgrounds remain closed under the Non-essential business, activity and undertaking Closure Direction (No. 7).

#### Can I access islands (such as North Stradbroke and Magnetic via ferry) if it is within 50km?

K'Gari (Fraser Island), Mulgumpin (Moreton Island) and Minjerribah (North Stradbroke Island) remain closed. You can travel to other open islands within 50kms of your home for recreational activities.

#### Can we play touch footy or other ball games in the park?

You can play games in a park as long as you only travel within 50kms of your home, practice social distancing, good hygiene, and only go out with one other person or the people you live with.

#### Can I do personal exercise in the parks? Can I bring a friend?

The home confinement, movement and gathering direction has always allowed for personal exercise. You are allowed to exercise outside of your house with one other person who you don't live with, as long as you practise social distancing. Please note that outside gyms, including exercise equipment in Council parks remains closed.

#### Can personal training 1 on 1 be restarted in parks?

The Non-essential business, activity and undertaking closure direction has always allowed for personal training with two people, including the trainer, as long as everyone is practising social distancing.

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**What proof of address will be accepted? For example, I've recently moved from Mackay to Brisbane and my driver's license has not been updated yet.**

It's important to be able to prove where you live with genuine identification. Queensland Police Service will follow their usual practices when determining where you live.

**Does this mean cafes, restaurants and bars can offer dine-in options again, if they maintain social distancing and gathering rules?**

At this stage, as part of the Non-essential business, activity and undertaking closure direction, cafés, restaurants and fast food outlets can remain open for takeaway purposes only. Nightclubs are closed.

**If I had to close my retail store because of the effects of COVID-19, can I re-open it?**

While we understand some retail stores have closed their shopfronts, there was no public health direction to do so.

**What restrictions are there on crowd numbers in shopping centres?**

All businesses are required to ensure that the number of people in their store meets the guidelines of one person per four-square-meters. Queensland businesses have been doing a great job so far with new social distancing measures.

**Can food courts re-open?**

At this stage, as part of the Non-essential business, activity and undertaking closure direction, food courts must stay closed. Food businesses within a food court can operate but only on a takeaway basis.

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