

The following regulations are in effect by order of the Governor of the Virgin Islands
as of September 8, 2020.

No Mask, No Service

Any individuals gathering for any purpose, including but not limited to visitors, patrons, employees, managers, directors, or owners of commercial entities or businesses, public or private, are required to wear a mask or facial covering when entering in any business, office, or any public areas not their private home when 2 or more individuals of different households meet or interact in any manner not able to utilize social distancing techniques.

- Masks or facial coverings must cover both the nose and mouth of the individual.
- Masks with exhalation valves or vents should NOT be worn to help prevent the person wearing the mask from spreading COVID-19 to others.
- Ski masks and stocking caps are prohibited as use for facial coverings.
- Masks or facial coverings should NOT be worn by children under the age of 2 or anyone who is unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance.
- Individuals who have a physician's certification that they have a respiratory medical condition preventing them from wearing facial coverings are exempt from the requirement to wear a mask.
- Masks or facial coverings do not have to be worn during active exercise, indoor or outdoor.
- All passengers and drivers of mass or public transportation, including but not limited to Vitran buses, taxicabs, and automobiles for hire, shall be required to wear a mask or facial covering.
- Violations of this Subsection shall be punishable by a fine of fifty dollars (\$50) for a first offense and one hundred dollars (\$100) for each additional offense pursuant to **Section 4 of the [Twelfth Supplemental Executive Order issued on August 10, 2020](#)**

Social Distancing

In coordination with the Commissioner of the DOH and in alignment with guidance from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), all persons are urged to maintain **social distancing of at least six feet away from other people** that are not of their same household, whenever possible. All individuals are urged to continue to wash their hands, utilize hand sanitizer, and practice proper respiratory etiquette (including coughing into elbow) as often as possible.

Mass Gatherings

For purposes of the Safer-at-Home Phase, a "mass gathering" is defined as any event or convening that brings together more than fifty (50) persons in a single room or single space at the same time. "Spaces" shall include but not be limited to an auditorium, stadium, arena, large conference room, meeting hall, theater, house of worship, restaurant, bar, parking lot, or any other confined indoor or outdoor space. This includes all parades, fairs, festivals, and camping on public beaches or parks.

- Mass gatherings shall be prohibited in the Territory of the U.S. Virgin Islands.
- A mass gathering does not include operations for standard essential services and infrastructure such as grocery stores and big-box stores, operations at airports, seaports, bus stops, medical facilities, or hotels. It also does not include office (government and private) environments, factories, refineries, marinas, construction sites, grocery stores, pharmacies, fuel service stations or other retail establishments that provide essential services and are large enough to accommodate for the practice of social distancing of six feet or more between persons.
- The Enforcement Authority and Penalties established in Section 3 of the Fifteenth Supplemental Executive Order issued on August 28, 2020, shall continue in full force and effect.

RESTAURANTS | BARS | FOOD SERVICE

Restaurants

are allowed to resume dine-in operations under the following conditions:

- No serving of alcohol at bar counters; no congregation of patrons at bar counters.
- No more than six persons per table; Tables must be 6 feet apart
- Employees must wear facial coverings at all times
- Patrons should wear facial coverings whenever they are not seated at a table
- Patrons waiting for take-out orders must wait outside the restaurant. Restaurants may sell alcoholic beverages with take-out orders.
- There shall be no service of alcohol to persons outside of the restaurant.
- All restaurants and any other establishments with a Tavern Keeper A or Tavern Keeper B license in the Territory of the U.S. Virgin Islands shall cease the sale or distribution of alcohol from 11:00 pm until 8:00 am daily.
- Restaurants shall be closed to patrons from 12:00 am until 6:00 am daily.
- Restaurants shall limit the number of patrons in the establishment to 50% of the regular occupancy capacity set by Business License or Fire Marshal prior to the COVID-19 Pandemic, or 50 customers, **whichever is less**, based on which temporary occupancy certificates may be issued.
- Restaurants that have been issued a Certificate of Exemption from DOH pursuant to an inspection of sanitization equipment and procedures shall be exempt from the requirement for the use of disposable dishes, utensils, napkins, and drink containers mandated by the COVID-19 Guidance for Restaurants, Bars and Nightclubs issued in the [8th Supplemental Executive Order on May 30, 2020](#), as amended and supplemented.

Food Trucks

shall operate on a “drive-through”, “take-out”, or “delivery” basis only. If a food truck has a seating area that was previously permitted, the food truck shall then be allowed to operate as Restaurants above.

Bars, Nightclubs, and Cabarets shall remain CLOSED.

BUSINESS & RECREATION

All non-essential businesses

shall be allowed to open, as limited below and further by any other sections and subsections of this ORDER and any applicable terms and conditions of the previous orders still in effect:

- **Private business offices** currently closed are allowed to re-open. All employees that are not critical to in-person operations or that are not classified as essential are recommended to continue working from home or remotely.
- **Retail stores** are allowed to re-open but **shall not permit more than 10 individuals** into the establishment at any given time. This limitation of 10 individuals shall not apply to establishments previously exempted to include grocery stores, big-box stores, grocery stores, pharmacies, and fuel service stations. **Still, the practice of social distancing of six feet or more between persons must be maintained.**

Indoor/Outdoor Recreations Facilities

such as bowling alleys and movie theaters are allowed to re-open **as of September 8, 2020** and **Casinos and Gaming Centers are allowed to reopen as of September 19, 2020** under the following conditions:

- The sale of food and beverages or hosting of parties shall be prohibited.
- Facilities should be closed to patrons from 12:00 am until 6:00 am daily.
- Facilities shall limit the number of patrons in the establishment to 50% of the regular occupancy capacity set by Business License or Fire Marshal prior to the COVID-19 Pandemic, or 50 customers, **whichever is less**, based on which temporary occupancy certificates may be issued.

Athletic Facilities

such as wellness centers, fitness centers, gyms, tennis courts, and golf courses are allowed to re-open in accordance with COVID-19 GUIDANCE FOR GYM AND FITNESS CENTER RE-OPENING issued in the [8th Supplemental Executive Order on May 30, 2020](#), as supplemented or amended by the following terms and conditions:

- recommended social distancing requirement of 6 feet or more between individuals is maintained, and group limits are set within the mass gathering limitations.
- All equipment must be properly sanitized before and after each use and not shared.
- The overall facility must be sanitized regularly throughout the day. Hand sanitizer must be provided for all patrons entering the establishment.
- Contact sports, including but not limited to basketball, volleyball, and football, are strictly prohibited.

Personal Grooming Services

businesses such as barbershops, hair salons, nail salons, massage therapists are permitted to re-open as long as:

- All equipment, furniture, and counters are disinfected after use with each client, and the facility is sanitized regularly throughout the day. Hand sanitizer must be provided for all patrons entering the establishment.
- All customers awaiting services are to wait outside of the business establishment and must be socially distanced.
- Any additional guidelines for these types of services provided by the Department of Health shall be strictly followed.

COMMUNITY

Houses of Worship

Although we encourage churches to protect their members by continuing to provide virtual services to the greatest extent possible, churches are allowed to re-open to conduct service, in accordance with the COVID-19 GUIDANCE FOR RE-OPENING HOUSES OF WORSHIP FOR SERVICES issued in the [8th Supplemental Executive Order on May 30, 2020](#), as supplemented or amended by the following terms and conditions:

- No more than 50 individuals, including pastoral leaders, employees, and volunteers, are allowed in the establishment.
- Everyone, including the pastoral leaders, employees, and volunteers, must wear a facial covering at all times.
- Religious leaders may conduct service without a mask provided that they stay 10 feet away from all persons while unmasked.
- Attendance at a funeral or memorial is limited to immediate family only, and no more than 10 family members at any one time.
- Churches are permitted to provide communion provided it is presented to the receivers in protected containers that do not require any administration by the officiant.

Nursing Homes: Visitation to nursing homes is strictly prohibited

Beaches all beaches in the Territory of the U.S. Virgin Islands shall be ***closed from 4:00 p.m. until 6:00 a.m. the following day on Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays.*** Only fishermen may be on the beach during the beach closure to access their vessels or cast their nets. There shall be no picnics, no parties, no disc-jockey (DJ), no DJ equipment or the likes, no camping, no bonfire, no cooking, no barbecuing or grilling allowed on any beach in the Territory of the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Schools Childcare facilities are to remain closed subject to guidance provided by the Department of Human Services.

- All public school campuses will be closed for students. Virtual learning programs or classes are allowed as scheduled by the Virgin Islands Department of Education.
- All private and parochial school campuses are allowed to re-open subject to review and approval of guidelines provided by the Department of Health and continued adherence to all Department Of Health guidelines.
- All other terms, conditions, and requirement of the Executive Orders issued from March 13, 2020, through August 28, 2020, as amended, supplemented, renewed, and extended, not in conflict with this Order, shall remain in full force and effect.

Boating Guidelines DPNR is to enforce anchoring guidelines per the [12th Supplemental Executive Order on July 28, 2020](#) so long as the Territory remains in a State of Emergency.

- There shall be NO rafting (vessels tying up together) at any time in any of the bays or anchorages of the Territory and such vessels must maintain at least twelve (12) feet between vessels at all times, unless as a result of a medical emergency.
- No vessels shall anchor in designated swim zones.
- Any violation of this section shall result in a fine of up to \$10,000 per incident and/or possible seizure of the vessel by the Government of the US Virgin Islands.

TOURISM AND TRAVEL

Guest Accommodations

As of September 19, 2020 all hotels, guest-houses, villas, bed and breakfasts, shared economy hospitality bookings, AirBnBs, any temporary vacation housing, charter vessels, or any similar business known by any other terminology, may accept, receive, check-in, Or register guests. (prohibition on guest arrivals expires September 18, 2020 at 11:59 p.m.)

Taxicabs and Safari busses

limited to one-half of their previously allowable capacity shall remain in full force and effect so long as the Territory remains in a State of Emergency as declared on March 13, 2020, as amended, supplemented, extended, and renewed, unless earlier lifted by order of the Governor of the U.S. Virgin Islands. All Taxis, Taxi-Vans, Safaris, and Limousine Services shall operate in accordance with the COVID-19 GUIDANCE - TAXI VAN, SAFARIS, AND LIMOUSINE SERVICES issued in the Eighth Supplemental Executive Order on May 30, 2020, attached hereto and incorporated by reference

Travel to the United States Virgin Islands

- ***Effective September 8, 2020***, and continuing as long as the Territory remains in a State of Emergency as declared on March 13, 2020, as amended, supplemented, extended, and renewed, unless earlier lifted by order of the Governor of the U.S. Virgin Islands, every person who enters the Territory of the U.S. Virgin Islands shall be subject to **mandatory self-quarantine for a period of 14 days**, consistent with Department of Health regulations for quarantine, from the time of entry into the Territory or the duration of the person's presence in the Territory, whichever is shorter, **unless the person presents a COVID-19 negative test result obtained within 5-days of commencement of travel to the US Virgin Islands**.
- The requirement to self-quarantine for a period of 14 days may be reduced by the person obtaining a COVID-19 negative test result after arrival in the Territory.
- **This travel restriction currently applies to passengers age 15 years and older**. Every person covered under this section ordering to self-quarantine shall be responsible for all associated costs, including transportation, lodging, food, and medical care. A covered person shall proceed directly from the airport to the designated quarantine location provided to the VJ. Department of Health.
- **Travelers may upload their negative COVID-19 PCR test results to usvitavelportal.com** prior to arrival.