METROPOLITAN MELBOURNE – Summary of easing of restrictions at 11:59PM on Sunday 18 October and Sunday 1 November



Note: Cleaning, signage and record keeping requirements continue to apply for many of these venues and facilities. The density quotient of one person per four square metres applies to all indoor venues and spaces, except for workplaces that are not accessible to the public, private residences and areas of accommodation facilities that are for the exclusive use of a single group.

Changes marked in red.

| Category | Second Step Melbourne Incorporating changes from 11.59pm, 18 October | Third Step Melbourne By 11.59pm 1 November 2020 |
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| Reasons to leave your home | Stay at home unless: obtaining necessary goods or services (<i>within 25km of home</i>). care or other compassionate reasons work or education. exercise or social interaction (<i>25km from home or permitted work</i>, may drive to place of exercise within travel boundary) other specified reasons (specific exemptions apply). Shopping for necessary goods and services: no limit to the number of people from one household that can shop together, nor how many times. Care for childminding: permitted with some restrictions. End of Life: person plus 10/household can attend a recreation/entertainment venue for set period of time. Resting Place: a person may attend the resting place of a deceased relative for | • Stay safe: no restrictions on reasons to leave the house, or distance, except where travelling through a restricted area (no restrictions to care for childminding, end of life, resting place, real estate). |
| | remembering a key milestone (e.g. birthday). | |
| | • Intrastate travel: not allowed unless for permitted purpose. | • Intrastate travel: allowed when metropolitan Melbourne and regional Victoria in the same Step. |
| | • Face coverings: a face covering means a fitted face mask, that covers the nose and mouth. | • Face covering: restrictions still apply. |
| Gatherings of people | • Home: single person bubble. | • Home: up to two people (plus dependents that cannot be left unattended or cared for in another setting) can visit a household once per day. |
| | • Public places: a household, or up to 10 people from a maximum of two households, can meet outdoors for social interaction, (children under 12 months of age not included in the limit) or more than 10, if all from the same household. | • Public places: up to 10 people may gather outdoors from any number of households (children under 12 months of age not included in the limit), or more than 10, if all from the same household. |
| Study | Adult education students: only onsite for those on the permitted list. | Adult education students: learn from home if you can. |
| | Primary and secondary students: From 5 October: VCE/VCAL/International Baccalaureate/VETiS students onsite for assessments only. From 12 October: prep to year 7 and VCE/VCAL/International Baccalaureate/VETiS students on-site, specialist schools. From 26 October: years 8-10 students return onsite. | Primary and secondary students: From 5 October: VCE/VCAL/International Baccalaureate/VETiS students on-site for assessments only. From 12 October: prep to year 7 and VCE/VCAL/International Baccalaureate/VETiS students on-site, specialist schools. From 26 October: years 8-10 students return onsite. |

If you can work from home, you must continue to work from home. For up-to-date information, visit www.vic.gov.au/roadmap

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| Sport and recreation including pools | Indoor sport and recreation: not allowed. | Indoor sport and recreation: not allowed. |
| | Outdoor sport and recreation: up to 10 people from a maximum of 2 households within 25km of your residence or workplace if no facility is required; or more than 10, if all from the same household. Outdoor sport settings to reopen, which do not require facilities to be entered, staffed, or the use of communal facilities (such as changerooms, toilets – this will enable the use of tennis courts, golf courses, bocce). | Outdoor sport and recreation: A household or up to 10 people in any group Physical distancing maintained, shared or communal equipment must be cleaned between users. Community sport: Outdoor contact sport: allowed for people 18 and under Limited to minimum number of people to play and facilitate the activity (e.g. soccer may be played with two teams of eleven players and the necessary coaching personnel and umpires) Spectators only permissible for supervising of children. Outdoor non-contact sport: allowed for adults Limited to minimum number of people to play and facilitate the activity (e.g. soccer may be played with two teams of eleven players and the necessary coaching personnel and umpires) Spectators only permissible for supervising of children. Outdoor non-contact sport: allowed for adults Limited to minimum number of people to play and facilitate the activity (e.g. soccer may be played with two teams of eleven players and the necessary coaching personnel and umpires) Non-contact means participants must be able to maintain distance of 1.5m. |
| | • Personal training: outdoors, up to 2 people, trainer not included in cap. | • Personal training: outdoors, up to 10 people, trainer not included in cap. |
| | • Outdoor communal gym equipment: open. | • Outdoor communal gym equipment: open. |
| | • Fitness or dance classes (including classes associated with gyms): closed. | Fitness or dance classes (including classes associated with gyms): Open for outdoor classes, up to 10 people, trainer not included in cap Indoors: open but heavily restricted: Closed for indoor operations, but can conduct classes outdoors Open for recording and broadcast permitted only with minimum number of people required to conduct the recording/streaming, up to 5 people: Only one person at a time may be exempted from wearing a face covering under the strenuous physical exercise exemption. e.g. the trainer leading the broadcast. Shared equipment may be used if cleaned between each user and comply with density and other requirements |
| | • Indoor swimming pools: open for one-on-one hydrotherapy sessions with a health professional where clinically indicated. No group sessions. | • Indoor swimming pools: open for one-on-one hydrotherapy sessions with a health professional where clinically indicated. No group sessions. |
| | • Exceptions for private pools and professional sport. | • Exceptions for private pools and professional sport. |
| | Outdoor swimming pools: open for exercise, limited to the number of people permitted by the density quotient to a maximum of 30 people other than for the following exceptions: Exclusive use by a single school at any one time for education purposes. | Outdoor swimming pools: Limited to the density quotient of the pool itself or 50 per pool, whichever is smaller, other than for the following exceptions: Exclusive use by a single school at any one time for education purposes. Exclusive use for community sport. |
| | Publicly accessible playgrounds: open, outdoor only. | Publicly accessible playgrounds: open, outdoor only. |
| | • Playcentres: closed. | • Playcentres: closed. |
| | • Skateparks: open. | • Skateparks: open. |
| | • Trampoling centres: closed. | • Trampoling centres: outdoor open, indoor closed. |

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| Community facilities | • Libraries and toy libraries: only open to facilitate collection and return of books/ toys or home delivery. | Libraries and toy libraries: only open to facilitate collection and return of books/toys or home delivery, plus: Outdoor activities permitted for up to 10 people plus the people required to conduct the activity. |
| | | Community venues: only open to facilitate collection and return of books/toys or home delivery, plus: Outdoor activities permitted for up to 10 people plus the people required to conduct the activity. |
| Childcare facilities | • Childcare: open to all children. | • Childcare: open to all children. |
| | • In-home child minding: Allowed for all children, only one child minder external to the household is permitted at any one time. | • In-home child minding: Allowed for all children |
| Hospitality | Takeaway and delivery only. | • Preparation for opening (staff can enter the premises to prepare for opening but must not serve customers): customer-facing facilities that are reopening on 1 |
| | • Exceptions for hospitals, RACFs, childcare, prisons, defence, fatigue-regulated heavy vehicle areas, workplaces and where providing to homelessness persons. | November can have workers and staff return to work premises from 28 October for essential preparations. |
| | | Food and drink facilities: open for seated indoor and outdoor service (both food and/or drink): Seated dining only. Maximum 10 people per group, seated 1.5m from other groups (both within the venue and between patrons at adjacent venues) For indoor space: Open with a cap of 10 persons per indoor space, with a maximum of 20 patrons per venue indoors, subject to density requirements (1 per 4m²). For outdoor space: Open with cap of 50 patrons per venue outdoors subject to density requirements (1 per 2m²). Hospitality in arenas/racetracks: hospitality venues in other sectors such as sports arenas are subject to the same restrictions as other hospitality if open to the public. |
| | • Food courts: Remain open for takeaway and delivery only. | • Food courts: Remain open for takeaway and delivery only. |
| Shopping, retail and personal services | Hairdressing: open. Beauty and personal care services: closed. | • Hairdressing, beauty and personal care services: open and allowed to prepare for opening from 28 October, with requirement that only services where the client can wear a face covering for the duration of the service or procedure are permitted (e.g. manicures, pedicures, body waxing, tattooing). |
| | • Market stalls: open where predominant business is takeaway food and drink. | • Market stalls: open. |
| | • Market: limit number of members of the public permitted by the density quotient; and other health control requirements. | |
| | Auction houses: remote auctions only. | • Auction houses: open. |
| | • Real estate auctions: permitted outdoors, limited to 10 members of the public, plus the minimum number of people required to conduct the auction. | |
| | • Real estate: private property, <i>commercial</i> and display home pre-arranged inspections with 1 agent and 1 prospective purchaser or tenant. | |
| | • Other retail: closed, unless on permitted work industry list. | • Other retail: open, subject to density quotient <i>and allowed to open for preparation from 28 October.</i> |

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| Entertainment | • Theatre, cinema, auditorium, gallery, museum, arena, stadium, animal facilities (e.g. zoos): closed, except for broadcasting and professional sport. | • Theatre, cinema, auditorium, gallery, museum, arena, stadium, animal facilities (e.g. zoos): indoor venues closed. |
| | | Non-seated outdoor spaces (large outdoor areas where people are unlikely to congregate, such as zoos or live museums like Sovereign Hill). This excludes events: Indoor spaces closed; outdoor spaces open with density quotient, patron caps (consistent with those for outdoor food and drink facilities as described above) All require a COVIDSafe Plan, venues with 500 or more capacity at one time must publish their COVIDSafe Plan online prior to opening. |
| | | Seated outdoor spaces (intended to be used sitting down, fixed or allocated seated spaces/zones): Use reasonable endeavours to implement relevant recommendations by the Victorian Government to manage public health risks arising out of operation of the facility. Indoor spaces closed with exceptions for broadcasting and professional sport. Outdoor spaces open: Maximum 10 people per group, groups must be 1.5m apart from each other and seated. If fixed seating: patron cap of 50 people or 25% of the venue's fixed seat capacity, whichever is lower. If no fixed seating but allocated seated spaces/zones: density quotient and maximum of 50 patrons. |
| | | • Drive-in cinemas: outdoor space open, no seating outside vehicles permitted. |
| | | • Arenas and stadiums: can operate for exclusive use by a single school at any one time for education purposes. |
| | | • Arenas and stadiums: can operate for exclusive use by a single school at any one time for education purposes. |
| | | Retail betting venue: If wholly contained within a licensed premises: open, subject to both licenced premises and retail restrictions, including seated only service, density quotient, signage requirement (within the licensed premises), records requirement (within the licensed premises), cleaning requirement. If not wholly contained within a licensed premises: open subject to requirements on open retail, i.e. density quotient, cleaning and signage requirements. Patrons must remain seated unless they are placing a bet, using the toilet, or entering or leaving the venue. |
| | | Arcade, amusement park, escape room, casino, gaming machine area, bingo centre, brothels, sex on premises venues: closed. |
| | | • Events where people are likely to congregate (such as country racing, sporting events, festivals, shows): closed. |

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| Ceremonies and religious | • Indoor religious ceremonies: not allowed; 5 people can attend a place of worship to conduct a ceremony being broadcast. | • Indoor Religious ceremonies: not allowed; 5 people can attend a place of worship to conduct a ceremony being broadcast. |
| gatherings | | • Private worship: allowed for households or household bubbles, plus a faith leader. |
| | • Outdoor religious gatherings and ceremonies: permitted for a limit of five people, plus one faith leader. Must be adjacent to the place of worship with only one group permitted at a time. | • Outdoor religious gatherings and ceremonies: up to 20 people, plus 1 faith leader. |
| | • Weddings: permitted in outdoor public spaces with a maximum of 5 attendees (including the couple and two witnesses, but not including the celebrant). Weddings can be conducted indoors if one or both persons being married are at the end of their life only. | • Weddings: up to 10 people (including couple and two witnesses), celebrant excluded from cap. |
| | • Funerals: allowed up to 10 people (infants under 12 months of age are not included in the cap) and people required to conduct funeral. | • Funerals: up to 20 people, infants under 12 months and people to conduct funeral not included in cap. If weddings or funerals are held at private residence, private gathering restrictions apply, including the household bubble. |
| | | • Places of worship (including the conducting of ceremonies): subject to caps and existing workplace requirements, including but not limited to record keeping, cleaning requirements, and having a COVIDSafe plan in place. |
| Accommodation | • Closed, except for permitted purposes. | Open, but each group booking is restricted to: Only members of a single household; OR Only intimate partners; OR Only members of a single household and 2 others (plus dependents that cannot be left unattended or cared for in another setting); AND Cannot stay with people living in a restricted area; AND Members of separately booked groups do not share bedrooms at the facility. |
| Care facilities | • Visitation for patients or residents over 18: only 1 visitor, once per day, for a maximum of 2 hours. | • Visitation for patients or residents over 18: only 1 visitor, once per day, for a maximum of 2 hours. |
| | • Visitation for patients or residents under 18: up to two parents, guardians or carers may visit at any one time. | • Visitation for patients or residents under 18: up to two parents, guardians or carers may visit at any one time. |
| | • Visitation: allowed for essential care and support for emotional and social wellbeing. | • Visitation: allowed for essential care and support for emotional and social wellbeing. |
| Tourism (tours and transport) | • No specific restrictions: but subject to caps on public gatherings, reasons to leave home and Workplace Directions. | Indoor spaces: closed. Outdoor spaces: open, but each group restricted to up 10 members of the public, plus the minimum number of people required to conduct the tour. |
| Transport | • Vehicle maintenance: safety inspections and maintenance or repairs, including scheduled/logbook servicing, is permitted. | • Vehicle maintenance: open with a COVIDsafe plan. |
| | • Boat maintenance: marine and specialist mechanics permitted to operate when required for safe operation including scheduled/logbook inspections of boats. | • Boat maintenance: open with a COVIDsafe place. |
| Healthcare, Allied Health and Social Assistance | • Dental clinics, Mobile dental services to schools and AHPRA registered health workers and specified allied health workers: allow all allied health providers that are currently listed on the Permitted Work Premised List to return for full routine care (noting that telehealth remains preferred and indoor classes are not allowed). | • Dental clinics, Mobile dental services to schools and AHPRA registered health workers and specified allied health workers (as per second step): all able to operate with health controls in place and other limited restrictions. |
| | • Telehealth services: must be the first option for care delivery and provided where and as appropriate. | • Telehealth services: must be the first option for care delivery and provided where and as appropriate. |

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| Industry | • Work: partial return to work for specified industries otherwise work from home if you can. | • Work: work from home if you can, with limited workforce restrictions for specified industries (see further detail below). |
| | Permit groups of up to 5 workers to return to onsite work for certain low risk, outdoor work, including Outdoor non-essential home maintenance and repairs Car washing – standalone automatic car washes, single person car washing, self service car washing Mobile pet grooming and pet grooming at home businesses, contactless only with strict controls Outdoor photography for purposes other than currently permitted purposes, e.g. media, real estate estimated at < 500 Letterboxing (for purposes other than local elections) Solar power installers The increased limits also apply to outdoor workers previously permitted to work endoced | |
| | work alone. • COVIDsafe plan: all businesses will be required to have a COVIDSafe Plan for onsite operations. | • COVIDsafe plan: all businesses will be required to have a COVIDSafe Plan for onsite operations. |
| | • Work premises: clarification that this includes a vessel (i.e. charter boats) and businesses that have onsite operations from a home. | • Work premises: clarification that this includes a vessel (i.e. charter boats) and businesses that have onsite operations from a home. |
| | • High risk food industries: additional obligations including regular surveillance testing of the workforce, nightly deep cleaning, separating workers into consistent teams/bubbles to maintain separation, and providing regular worker training. | • High risk food industries: additional obligations including regular surveillance testing of the workforce, nightly deep cleaning, separating workers into consistent teams/ bubbles to maintain separation, and providing regular worker training. |
| | • Poultry processing facilities: increase the daily peak workforce capacity and daily total workforce capacity for poultry processing facilities to 90% for metropolitan Melbourne and 90% for regional Victoria. | • Poultry processing facilities: increase the daily peak workforce capacity and daily total workforce capacity for Poultry processing facilities to 90% for metropolitan Melbourne. |
| | • Increase the weekly peak workforce capacity and weekly total workforce capacity for poultry processing facilities to 90% for regional Victoria. | • Some restrictions eased for other select industries. |
| | • Abattoirs and meat processing facilities: increase the daily peak workforce capacity and daily total workforce capacity for Abattoirs and meat processing facilities to 80% for metropolitan Melbourne and 90% for regional Victoria. | • Abattoirs and meat processing facilities: increase the daily peak workforce capacity and daily total workforce capacity for Abattoirs and meat processing facilities to 80% for metropolitan Melbourne. |
| | Increase the weekly peak workforce capacity and weekly total workforce capacity for Abattoirs and meat processing facilities to 90% for regional Victoria. Seafood processing facilities: increase the daily peak workforce capacity and daily total workforce capacity for Seafood processing facilities to 80% for metropolitan Melbourne and 90% for regional Victoria. | • Seafood processing facilities: increase the daily peak workforce capacity and daily total workforce capacity for Seafood processing facilities to 80% for metropolitan Melbourne. |
| | • Increase the weekly peak workforce capacity and weekly total workforce capacity for Seafood processing facilities to 90% for regional Victoria. | |
| | • Pet grooming: contactless onsite operations (retail) for animal welfare purposes. | • Pet grooming: open with a COVIDsafe plan. |
| | Seasonal horticultural industry: pre-employment testing obligations extension of 'bubbles' to capture accommodation in addition to onsite work participation in surveillance testing. | |