

U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS COVID-19 UPDATE Information for Leisure Travelers

November 19, 2020

The Territory is in the Safer-at-Home Phase of its State of Emergency.

Safer-at-Home Travel Restrictions

- Leisure travel to the Territory resumed on September 19, 2020
- Hotels and accommodations providers are permitted to accept guests
- Accommodations providers include hotels, villas, Bed and Breakfasts, Airbnb properties, guest houses, temporary vacation housing, charter vessels, and any similar businesses known by any other terminology

USVI Travel Screening Portal

- Every traveler aged five or older must use the Travel Screening Portal and submit a COVID-19 test result prior to travel to avoid processing delays, enhanced health screening and/or mandatory self-quarantine
- The Travel Screening Portal should only be completed within five days of travel
- Upon arrival, you must produce your original test result and travel certification received from the Travel Screening Portal to avoid processing delays
- If you are traveling within 24 hours, please complete the form manually (usviupdate.com/travel-form).

Testing Guidelines

- Travelers are required to provide evidence of:
 - a COVID-19 molecular (e.g., RT-PCR, viral or nucleic acid amplification) test from a nasal or throat or saliva swab sample taken and NEGATIVE result received (both within five days of commencement of travel to the Territory)

OR

 - a COVID-19 antigen (rapid) test from a nasal or throat swab sample taken and NEGATIVE result received (both within five days of commencement of travel to the Territory)

OR

 - a COVID-19 antibody finger stick or blood draw test taken and POSITIVE result received (both within four months of commencement of travel to the Territory)
- Every person ordered to self-quarantine, including travelers without an acceptable test result, shall proceed directly from the airport or seaport to their home or booked accommodations provider until the required test result is received

- The self-quarantine period shall last for 14 days from the time of entry into the Territory, or until the traveler receives the required test result while in the Territory
- Travelers who are required to self-quarantine are responsible for all quarantine costs, as advised by the USVI Department of Health and the Office of the Governor. This includes costs associated with the COVID-19 test, transportation, accommodations, food and beverage, and medical care

Airports

- The Territory's airports are open
- Travelers are advised to contact their airline regarding schedule changes or updates
- Incoming passengers are subject to enhanced health screenings and temperature checks to identify potential health risks and may be required to take a COVID-19 test
- All arriving passengers MUST wear a mask or facial covering upon disembarkation and comply with social distancing requirements
- Travelers should monitor the United States Customs and Border Protection (CBP), Transportation Security Administration (TSA), and airline websites for travel advisories and other pertinent airline screening guidelines

Safer-at-Home

- A Safer-At-Home policy is in effect
- Masks or facial coverings are required and must cover the mouth and nose. This requirement is enforced by a fine. Masks with exhalation vents should not be worn.
 - Any person who is not in his or her private home or vehicle is required to wear a face mask or facial covering when two or more individuals who do not share the relationship of family members, caretakers, household members, or romantic partners, meet or interact in any manner
 - Individuals with chronic respiratory conditions should seek advice from their primary care physician for alternative types of masks and avoid crowds
 - Children under two and persons unable to remove a mask without assistance are exempt
 - Social distancing of six feet or more between individuals is required
- Individuals are urged to continue to wash hands, use hand sanitizer and practice proper respiratory etiquette (including coughing into the elbow) as often as possible
- Gatherings are limited to no more than 100 individuals in a single room or space
- Taxicabs and safaris to be limited to one-half of their previously allowable capacity
- Retail stores shall not permit more than 100 individuals in the establishment at any time. This does not apply to grocery stores, big-box stores, pharmacies and fuel service service stations
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Restaurants and Food Trucks

- Restaurants will be allowed to resume dine-in operations under the following conditions:

- Limited to one-half of their previously allowable capacity, or 100 customers, whichever is less
- Shall be closed from midnight to 6 a.m. daily
- No congregating or standing at bar counter area
- No sitting or serving of alcohol at bar counters
- Seated patrons may order food or alcohol or both once stationed at designated seating areas
- No more than six persons per table
- Tables must be six 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 must wait outside
- No service of alcohol alone to persons outside the restaurant
- Food trucks shall operate on a drive thru, take-out or delivery basis only

Other Businesses

- Bars and nightclubs are open for seated service only. Cabarets will remain closed.
 - Bars that cannot accommodate sit down/table service with waiter/waitress will remain closed
 - In all bars and nightclubs, standing around the bar counter is not permitted. There shall be no sitting nor serving alcohol at bar counters
 - Seated patrons may order food or alcohol or both once stationed at designated seating areas
 - An 11 p.m. - 8: a.m. alcohol service/drinking curfew is in effect
 - The use of pool tables is permitted with facial coverings worn at all times. Hand sanitizers should be made accessible to all players. Pool sticks and the surrounding areas must be disinfected after each game
- Live music and DJ entertainment are allowed in licensed establishments until 12 a.m.
 - Limited to one-half of their previously allowable capacity, or 100 customers, whichever is less
 - Bowling alleys and movie theaters are open
- Casinos and gaming establishments are open
 - Sale of food and beverages and hosting of parties is prohibited
 - Shall operate at no more than 25 percent of capacity
- Wellness centers, fitness centers, gyms, tennis courts and golf courses may reopen
 - Contact sports are prohibited
- Personal grooming services may reopen
 - All customers awaiting services must wait outside

Churches

- Churches and houses of worship are permitted to operate to 50 percent of their capacity or a maximum of 100 persons, whichever is less.
 - The maximum number includes pastoral leaders, employees and volunteers
 - Facial coverings are to be worn at all times
 - Religious leaders should be 10 feet away from all persons while unmasked

- Communion may be served in approved containers
- Funerals and memorials are limited to immediate family and no more than 10 family members

Beaches

- Public beaches are open
- All beaches shall be closed from 4 p.m. until 6 a.m. the following day on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays
- No picnics, parties, disc jockey (DJ), DJ equipment or the likes, camping, bonfires, cooking, barbecuing or grilling are permitted on any beach

Questions

Visitors or residents who have tourism-related inquiries are asked to email info@usviupdate.com or call the Department of Tourism's toll-free number at (800) 372-USVI (8784).

Like other destinations experiencing this unprecedented pandemic, the Territory continues to evaluate its policies. All guidance is subject to the Executive Orders of the Government of the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Please stay safe, and continue to monitor usviupdate.com.