GOVERNMENT HOUSE
UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS

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Current Status of COVID-19 Restrictions in the U.S. Virgin Islands

U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS – Here is a list of the current COVID-19 restrictions and Virgin Islands Department of Health guidelines in effect in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

These restrictions and guidelines are current through the 26th Supplemental Executive Order executed on July 26, 2021, and are subject to change pursuant to further Orders of the Governor of the U.S. Virgin Islands or Public Health Orders of the Commissioner of Health.

Copies of all executive orders since the State of Emergency went into effect in March 2020, are available at the Government House website at http://www.vi.gov/executive-orders/

The Bryan-Roach Administration is committed to transparency, stabilizing the economy, restoring trust in the government and ensuring that recovery projects are completed as quickly as possible. Visit transparency.vi.gov

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- **SOCIAL DISTANCING:**
  - ✓ Stand 6 feet away from any person that does not live in your house
  - ✓ When 6 feet not possible, wear your mask

- **MASK RULE*:***
  - ❖ ***Applies to***:
    - ✓ Everyone: over 2 years of age
    - ✓ Everyone: Vaxxed or Not Vaxxed
    - ✓ Everyone: who is not in his/her private home or car → and closer than 6 feet from another person that does not live in their house
    - ✓ Everyone riding public transportation: buses, taxis, cars for hire, and ferries
    - ✓ Everyone entering a business
    - ✓ Anyone entering or standing inside any bar, restaurant, or nightclub

  - ❖ ***Wearing of Masks or Facial Covering***:
    - ✓ Must cover BOTH the nose and mouth
    - ✓ Wear whenever 6 feet from any person not from your house
    - ✓ Wear whenever entering any business

- ✓ DO NOT have to wear during active exercise, indoor or outdoor
- ✓ NO exhalation valves or vents should be on your mask (Ineffective)
- ✓ NO ski masks and stocking caps allowed

❖ ***Violation of Mask Rules:***
- ✓ $50 First offense
- ✓ $100 Each additional offense
- ✓ Any additional penalties available pursuant to VI Law

➢ **MASS GATHERINGS**:
- ❖ ***NO event is allowed that gathers* 100** persons in a single space at the same time (*Changes beginning August 13*)
  - ✓ Organized Activities of LESS THAN 1**00** persons are allowed ONLY with the approval from the Department of Health
  - ✓ Any other permits mandated before Covid are still required after DOH approval

➢ **BEACHES:**
- ❖ Beach can be used at any time *(Changes beginning August 13)*
- ❖ ***NO Group Gatherings of any numbers allowed on the beaches:***
  - ✓ NO picnics
  - ✓ NO parties
  - ✓ NO camping
  - ✓ NO bonfire
- ❖ ***Swimming, sunbathing, lounging and working out are allowed on the beach, but:***
  - ✓ NO disc-jockey (DJ), no DJ equipment
  - ✓ NO band,
  - ✓ NO cooking, no barbecuing, no grilling
- ❖ Social distancing and Mask rules apply when closer than 6 feet from another person that does not live in the same house

➢ **RESTAURANTS & BARS – Including nightclubs <u>with bar license</u> authorized to operate by DOH:**
- ❖ ***Who Can Open:***
  - ✓ Anyone with a *Restaurant License*
  - ✓ Anyone with a *Bar License*
  - ✓ A nightclub with a Bar or Restaurant License (with tables for SEATED SERVICE)
- ❖ ***Seated Service Only***:
  - ✓ Must be seated 4 feet from any other party (table or group of bar seats)
  - ✓ Party/table size is Not limited
  - ✓ Allowed to sit at the bar counter
  - ✓ Can order food, or alcohol, or both → but must be seated
  - ✓ NO standing around the bar counter
  - ✓ NO serving to people standing at the bar counter
  - ✓ Mask required to enter
  - ✓ Masks required when not seated
- ❖ ***Takeout Orders***:
  - ✓ Must wait outside of the restaurant
  - ✓ Can sell alcoholic beverages with take-out orders that include food
- ❖ ***Time Of Operations:***

- ✓ Alcohol sales and service stop at 11:00 p.m.
- ✓ Close at 12:00 midnight
- ✓ Workers may remain inside to close

❖ ***Occupancy Capacity***

- ✓ limited to 75 percent of the regular number set by Business License or the Fire Marshall before COVID, or 100 customers, **whichever is less**
- ✓ IF a temporary occupancy certificate was issued → then 100 percent of that capacity

❖ ***Entertainment***:

- ✓ In house music is allowed
- ✓ Live music is allowed – in licensed establishments – with social distancing requirements
- ✓ Disc Jockey (DJ) entertainment is allowed - in licensed establishments
- ✓ Must stop at 12:00 a.m., midnight → Closing time
- ✓ Pool tables and games are allowed → must wear mask
- ✓ NO DANCING allowed → by anyone: not patrons, not staff

➢ **FOOD TRUCKS:**

- ❖ Can operate as "drive-through," "take-out," or "delivery"
- ❖ Mask and Social distancing rules apply
- ❖ If they have seating area under their permit
  - ✓ Then they can operate like restaurants
  - ✓ Seated service only with restaurant rules

➢ **RETAIL STORES**

- ❖ Capacity limit to 75 percent of the regular occupancy per room capacity set by Business License or the Fire Marshall prior to the COVID-19 Pandemic, or 100 customers, **whichever is less**
- ❖ Masks must be worn by employees and patrons
- ❖ Social Distancing rules of 6 feet between persons still apply
- ❖ This limitation on the capacity of individuals does not apply to grocery stores, big-box stores, pharmacies, and fuel service stations BUT they must still maintain the practice of social distancing of six feet or more between persons
- ❖ Alcohol sales and service stop at 11:00 p.m.

➢ **INDOOR/OUTDOOR RECREATION FACILITIES**: (bowling alleys, movie theaters, casinos, and gaming centers)

❖ ***Time Of Operations:***

- ✓ Alcohol sales and service stop at 11:00 p.m.
- ✓ Close at 12:00 midnight
- ✓ Workers may remain inside to close

❖ ***Seated Food & Beverage Service Only***:

- ✓ Must be seated 4 feet from any other party (table or group of bar seats)
- ✓ Allowed to sit at the bar counter
- ✓ Can order food, or alcohol, or both → but must be seated
- ✓ NO standing around the bar counter
- ✓ NO serving to people standing at the bar counter

- ✓ Masks required if not seated

- **ATHLETIC FACILITIES & SPORTS*:*** (wellness centers, fitness centers, gyms, tennis courts, athletic fields, and golf courses)
  - ❖ Social distancing requirement of 6 feet required between individuals
  - ❖ Equipment must be properly sanitized before and after each use
  - ❖ No sharing of equipment
  - ❖ Facility must be sanitized regularly throughout the day
  - ❖ Hand sanitizer must be provided at the door
  - ❖ ***HIGH RISK sports***
    - ✓ High risk sports: organized contact sports, including but not limited to basketball, volleyball, and football
    - ✓ Can practice and train
    - ✓ No player contact
    - ✓ No actual games
  - ❖ ***LOW RISK sports***
    - ✓ Low risk sports: Baseball, softball, bowling, golf, cross country, swimming, tennis, table tennis, track and field, competitive cheerleading
    - ✓ Are permitted to train and compete
    - ✓ No player contact

- **PERSONAL GROOMING SERVICES*:*** (barbershops, hair salons, nail salons, massage therapists)
  - ❖ Sanitization:
    - ✓ All equipment, furniture, and counters are disinfected after use with each client
    - ✓ 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
    - ✓ be socially distanced → 6ft apart.
  - ❖ Any additional guidelines for these types of services provided by the Department of Health shall be strictly followed

- **HOUSES OF WORSHIP**:
  - ❖ No more than 75 percent of the regular occupancy is allowed per room capacity set by Business License or the Fire Marshall prior to the COVID-19 Pandemic, or **100** individuals, **whichever is less:**
    - ✓ This count includes pastoral leaders, employees, and volunteers
    - ✓ This only applies up to a number where the social distancing of 4 feet between parties and the skipping of alternating rows is possible
  - ❖ Masks still apply for everyone
  - ❖ Religious leaders, readers, or musical soloist may remove their mask:
    - ✓ Only while conducting service, reading, or singing
    - ✓ Only if they stay 10 ft away from all persons while unmasked
  - ❖ Attendance at a funeral or memorial is limited to:
    - ✓ immediate family only
    - ✓ no more than 10 family members at any one time
  - ❖ Churches can give communion:

- ✓ Only if it is presented to the receivers in protected containers
- ✓ Do not require any administration by the officiant

- **NURSING HOMES**: Visitation to nursing homes is strictly prohibited

- **TAXICABS & SAFARIS**
  - limited to 75% of their capacity
  - If all the passengers are of the same family or group, the taxicab or safari can exceed the limitation on capacity
  - Masks must be worn by the driver and all passengers at all times
  - All sanitizing measures still apply

- **LANDLORD TENANT MATTERS**
  - No increase in rental fees for ***residential*** properties
  - No increase in rental fees for ***commercial*** properties
  - ***Applies to***
    - ✓ leaseholds
    - ✓ tenancies at-will

- **TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS AND OPERATIONS:**
  - ***Everyone must obtain clearance from the USVI COVID Travel Portal to enter the U.S. Virgin Islands***:
    - ✓ Adults
    - ✓ Children 5 years of age and older
    - ✓ USVI residents
    - ✓ USVI visitors
    - ✓ Traveling to the Territory from any port of embarkation outside of the Territory
    - ✓ Traveling through the Territory from any port of embarkation outside of the Territory regardless of final destination
  - ***Clearance for travel to the USVI (the GREEN QR Code) must be obtained before boarding the plane or boat***
  - ***All travelers need one of the following to get clearance through the portal for clearance***:
    - ✓ a COVID-19 negative PCR or antigen test result → within 5-days of travel to the U.S.V.I.
      - Negative test result must be uploaded to the portal
    - ✓ a COVID-19 positive Antibody test result → within four (4) months of travel to the U.S.V.I. (Until August 12, 2021)
      - Positive test result must be uploaded to the portal
    - ✓ a vaccination card showing completed COVID-19 vaccination administered in the U.S.V.I.
      - Vaccination must have been in the USVI
      - Vaccination card does not need to be uploaded but should be carried in case evidence is requested
      - Traveler can select their vaccination status in the portal without uploading the card
    - ✓ **ALL TRAVELERS FROM THE BVI require a COVID-19 negative PCR or antigen test result → within 2-days of travel to the U.S.V.I.*
      - *Regardless of Vaccination*

- *Regardless of Antibody test results*

❖ ***All travelers, by sea or by air, are required to comply with***:

- ✓ Any Travelers Advisory posted or circulated by:
  - the V.I. Department of Health
  - the V.I. Port Authority
  - the V.I. Department of Tourism
- ✓ Requirement for masks or facial coverings
- ✓ Temperature scan, testing, and quarantine

❖ ***Facial coverings are required***

- ✓ On board all public transportation
- ✓ All ferries between all islands in or entering the Territory of the U.S. Virgin Islands
- ✓ All flights between all islands in or entering the Territory of the U.S. Virgin Islands

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