

New Rules for Visitors to Maine

This week gave us several big changes in business openings and visitor management.

As of June 12, residents of New Hampshire and Vermont may travel and stay in Maine lodgings without a 14-day quarantine or a COVID-19 test.

Out-of-state visitors (other than Vermont and New Hampshire) will now be allowed to visit as of June 26. These visitors have the option of having a negative COVID-19 test within 72 hours of their visit or they must quarantine for 14-days.

Visitors are allowed to take a test once they reach Maine, but they must quarantine while they wait for their test results. Visitors are allowed to quarantine in their lodging accommodations.

Lodgings include hotels, motels, individual rentals done privately or through a service and campgrounds.

Please be patient with our businesses as they find their stride in the reopening plan. Guidance from the state is updated weekly, usually on Wednesdays, and businesses are trying to keep up and respond to changes.

You can also help our businesses by doing your part in wearing face coverings and keeping a safe distance from other customers and staff.

According to the Governor's Executive Order 55, issued on May 29, 2020, people must wear face coverings in public settings where social distancing is hard to maintain. This would include:

1. Indoor spaces open to the public, like supermarkets, retail stores, pharmacies and doctors' offices.
2. Outdoor spaces like playgrounds, busy parking lots, lines for takeout (or ice cream!) and other places where the public "typically gathers in a smaller area.
3. Public transportation — not just the bus or a train, but also a taxi, Uber or Lyft, or any ride-sharing service. Also, while you're waiting for the bus or any other transit in a semi-enclosed area, like a bus shelter.

Useful Links:

COVID-19 Prevention Checklists for Businesses

<https://www.maine.gov/decd/covid-19-prevention-checklists>

To locate testing sites available throughout the US, go to

<https://www.anthem.com/ca/microsites/covid19-assessment/covid-finder.html>

To read the Plan to Restart Maine's Economy:

<https://www.maine.gov/covid19/restartingmaine>

To Read The Keep Maine Healthy Plan to support Tourism:

<https://www.maine.gov/governor/mills/news/mills-administration-unveils-keep-maine-healthy-plan-protect-maine-people-visitors-support>

To Read the Keep Maine Health FAQ's for Visitors and Lodging establishments:

<https://www.maine.gov/covid19/restartingmaine/keepmainehealthy/faqs>