

TIER UPDATE 8 & 9 April 2021

Following today's daily update, [the visitor economy guidance](#) and [hotel and other accommodation guidance](#) is now available on gov.uk with more detail on what businesses can open from step two.

Visitor Economy - from 12 April, the following will apply:

Outdoor recreation and visitor attractions can reopen, but indoor areas and settings must remain closed. Locations which have both indoor and outdoor facilities can open the outdoor areas and facilities, but indoor areas and facilities must remain closed (other than toilets and facilities such as baby changing rooms). Those outdoor venues and attractions that are permitted to remain open can offer food and drink as a takeaway service or to customers that are seated outdoors socially distanced (you can find more information in the [section on hospitality](#)). This applies to many visitor economy settings, including:

- ziplining and other active outdoor leisure activities
- adventure parks and activities
- funfairs and fairgrounds
- theme parks,
- water parks, aqua parks,
- drive in events, such as for cinemas, theatres, and other performances
- animal attractions, including zoos, safari parks and aquariums
- skating rinks and trampolining parks
- visitor attractions at film studios
- botanical or other gardens, biomes or greenhouses, sculpture parks, landmarks (including observation wheels or viewing platforms) and model villages
- museums and galleries
- heritage locations such as stately and historic homes, castles, heritage sites and ruins.

Non-essential retail can reopen. This will include but not be limited to: clothing stores, charity and antique shops, homeware stores, showrooms (such as for vehicles which would include caravans), retail travel agents, auction houses and markets and betting shops (subject to additional COVID-secure measures, such as limiting the use of gaming machines).

Personal care facilities and close contact services can reopen. This will include: hair, beauty and nail salons, spas and massage centres (except for steam rooms and saunas, which must remain closed), holistic therapy (including acupuncture, homeopathy, and reflexology) and tanning salons. You can find more information in the [guidance for close contact services](#) and the [guidance for sport facilities](#) (for saunas and steam rooms).

Indoor sports facilities will be permitted to open in addition to outdoor sports facilities. This includes sport facilities such as pitches, courts, golf and mini-golf courses, swimming pools, gyms and leisure centres. You should check the [guidance for sport facilities](#), and ensure you adhere to any relevant measures.

Self-contained accommodation can reopen for leisure stays for groups comprising a single household/support bubble. This is defined as accommodation in which facilities including kitchens, sleeping areas, bathrooms and indoor communal areas such as lounges, sitting areas, and any lifts, staircases or internal corridors used to access the accommodation are restricted to exclusive use of a single household/support bubble. See [guidance for hotels and guest accommodation](#) for more information.

Outdoor areas at hospitality venues (cafes, restaurants, bars, pubs, social clubs, including in member's clubs) can reopen, including for takeaway alcohol. These venues may allow customers to use toilets (and facilities such as baby changing rooms) located inside. At any premises serving alcohol, customers will be required to order, be served and eat/drink while seated ("table service"). You should check the [guidance for restaurants, pubs, bars and takeaway services](#), and ensure you adhere to any relevant measures.

Business meeting/event show-rounds, viewings and site visits for the purpose of viewing the venue for a future booking can take place at venues which are permitted to open at each step of the roadmap, or where a relevant exemption applies. From Step 2, this will include conference centres and exhibition halls, including conference centres located within hotels. Viewings of other venues can only take place from Step 3 - no earlier than 17 May.

Some outdoor events organised by a business, charity, public body or similar organisation, such as fetes, funfairs and fairgrounds, and literary fairs, are permitted. These events can take place if they meet the criteria set out in the [section on outdoor events](#) and meet specific conditions: they comply with COVID-secure guidance including taking reasonable steps to limit the risk of transmission, complete a related risk assessment; and adhere to all legal requirements including maintaining group sizes permitted by the social contact restriction at the relevant step in the roadmap, and also preventing mixing between groups; enforcing social distancing guidelines; and mandating face coverings in indoor areas where required. Events guidance will shortly be published for local authorities setting out more information on the events permitted at each step of the roadmap.

Skippered boats can operate, with restrictions for some types of vessel. Boats which are open-air can be used within the legal gathering limits (by groups of up to 6 people or 2 households/support bubbles) and multiple groups are permitted if the boat tour is organised by a business/organisation, a risk assessment is completed which will take into account capacity limits, COVID-secure guidance is adhered to, and people maintain social distancing and do not mingle outside of their permitted groups of up to 6 people or 2 households/support bubbles). Where boats are partially enclosed, attendees may only go indoors to access/use the toilet. Boats which are fully enclosed can only be used by people from the same household or support bubble. The skipper does not count as part of the group. For more information see the [waterway guidance from British Marine](#).

Self-drive holiday hire of boats where people make overnight stays are permitted for people from the same household or support bubble.

[See the full guidance to see more and find out what business must still be closed.](#)

The [hotels and other guest accommodation guidance](#) has also been updated

Self-contained accommodation can open as follows:

Overnight leisure stays in self-contained accommodation will be permitted. This is defined as accommodation in which facilities including: kitchens, sleeping areas, bathrooms and indoor communal areas such as lounges, sitting areas, and any lifts, staircases or internal corridors used to access the accommodation are restricted to exclusive use of a single household/support bubble. A reception area is not to be treated as an indoor communal area if it is required in order to be open for check-in purposes, but it should only be used for the purposes of check-in. Guests may also use indoor public toilets, baby changing rooms, breastfeeding rooms, and facilities for laundering clothes, which are not to be treated as indoor communal areas. These areas should be cleaned regularly and kept well-ventilated and guests should try where possible to limit their interaction with other households whilst using these facilities. This will mean that any holiday parks, 'standalone' holiday lets such as houses and cottages, chalets, yurts, holiday boats, and motels and other

accommodation in which kitchens, sleeping areas, bathrooms and indoor communal areas such as lounges, sitting areas, and any lifts, staircases or internal corridors used to access the accommodation are for the exclusive use of a single household/support bubble may open for leisure stays.

Campsites and caravan parks will be permitted to open for leisure stays provided that the only shared facilities used by guests at the campsite or caravan park are receptions, washing facilities (including facilities for laundering clothes), public toilets, baby changing rooms, breastfeeding rooms, water points and waste disposal points. Shower facilities should be operated so as to ensure no household mixing takes place. This would involve either assigning shower facilities to one household group/support bubble, (i.e. making them private), or running a reservation and clean process (whereby one household can exclusively book the shared facilities for a fixed time, and the facilities are cleaned between reservations and kept well-ventilated). Other facilities - receptions, facilities for laundering clothes, public toilets, baby changing rooms, breastfeeding rooms, water points and waste disposal points - should be cleaned regularly and kept well-ventilated and guests should try where possible to limit their interaction with other households whilst using these facilities.

If a site is open to provide self-contained accommodation for leisure stays, permitted businesses or services can also operate on site and can be used by guests and by the general public. This includes:

- **Indoor and outdoor sport facilities (swimming pools and gyms), recreation facilities such as ziplining, spas and personal care, and retail.** These facilities can open even where access is via shared indoor communal areas such as lifts or corridors, as long as those communal areas are used solely to access the facilities and not to access accommodation. Saunas and steam rooms must remain closed. You should check the guidance for [sport facilities](#), [close contact services](#) and [retail shops, stores and branches](#) and ensure you adhere to any relevant requirements.
- **Outdoor hospitality such as restaurants, cafes and bars.** These facilities can open even where access is via shared indoor communal areas such as lifts or corridors, as long as those communal areas are used solely to access the facilities and not to access accommodation. The use of indoor public toilets (and facilities such as baby changing rooms) is permitted even if access is via shared indoor communal areas such as lifts or corridors, as long as those communal areas are used solely to access the facilities and not to access accommodation. You can find more information in the [section on hospitality](#). You should check the guidance for [restaurants, pubs, bars and takeaway services](#), and ensure you adhere to any relevant measures.
- **Hospitality venues may provide takeaway food and drink** (including takeaway alcohol).

If a site is not self-contained and therefore remains closed for leisure stays, permitted businesses or services can still operate on site and can be used by guests and by the general public:

- **Indoor and outdoor sport facilities (swimming pools and gyms), spas and personal care, and retail may open for access by the public as well as for guests staying for legally permitted reasons.** These facilities can open even where the entrance is within the hotel and access is via shared indoor facilities such as lifts/corridors. Saunas and steam rooms must remain closed. You should check the guidance for [sport facilities](#), [close contact services](#) and [retail shops, stores and branches](#) and ensure you adhere to any relevant requirements.
- **Outdoor hospitality such as restaurants, cafes and bars can open for the public as well as for guests staying for legally permitted reasons.** Outdoor hospitality can open even where the entrance is within the hotel and access is via shared indoor communal areas such as lifts/corridors. The use of indoor toilets (and facilities such as baby changing rooms) is

permitted, even if accessed through shared communal areas such as lifts/corridors. You can find more information in [section on hospitality](#). You should check the guidance for [restaurants, pubs, bars and takeaway services](#), and ensure you adhere to any relevant measures. Food and/or drink (including alcohol) can be provided through room service as long as it is ordered by phone or online.

- **Communal spaces such as lounges or lobbies may remain open to guests but no food or drink should be served** in these spaces, people should not be encouraged to gather and social distancing should be observed.

If your business provides both self-contained and non-self-contained accommodation, both may only open subject to their respective restrictions, for example:

- the hotel may open for legally permitted stays (only)
- the self-contained chalets may open for leisure stays and for legally permitted stays
- the hotel's indoor facilities may open to the public and to all guests

[Read the full guidance to find out more.](#)

TOURISM ALLIANCE UPDATE 8 & 9 April

DCMS have sent round the attached update to their Q&As regarding Step 2 reopening on Monday, which provides more detail on the opening of self-catering businesses, and camping and caravanning sites.

There are two updates of particular note – on Wedding Show Rounds and Coach Trips

- **Wedding Show Rounds**

While business show rounds were already allowed for Step 2, the guidance has now been changed to allow wedding show-rounds. However, this only applies to businesses that have some ability to open already so a wedding show round is allowed at an accommodation businesses but not at an attraction or historic house – which makes little sense in terms of risk.

Wedding show-rounds, viewings and site visits can only take place at venues when the venue is permitted to open. This means whether an in-person viewing can take place will depend on the current step of the roadmap, and the venues open at that time. For example, in-person viewings at indoor visitor attractions at heritage sites (such as stately or historic homes and castles) can only take place from Step 3 (no earlier than 17 May) when these venues are permitted to reopen. Viewings at accommodation sites can take place at Step 2. People must not visit a closed venue for the purposes of a wedding viewing. Virtual tours or other arrangements should be considered, until venues reopen.

- **Coach Trips**

One other change that makes no sense is the guidance for coach operators. Up until last night the guidance was:

Private hire coach tours can take place for a private group of single households (or support/childcare) bubbles.

This is the guidance that has always applied to coach operators, even during lockdown periods, and allows multiple single households on a coach provided that social distancing is maintained between each household.

This has now been changed to

Private hire coach tours are only permitted for a private group of a single household/support bubble. The coach driver and tour guide do not count towards the single household/support bubble rule.

Private hire coaches must not accommodate groups containing multiple households (excluding support bubbles) travelling together to the same destination or making the same journey, e.g. for the purposes of a leisure tour, as this is more akin to 'indoor gathering' than it is to 'public transport' and will therefore not be permitted until Step 3.

This means that a coach is only able to carry one household at a time, which is obviously nonsensical. What also doesn't make sense is that while every other business is having the rules relaxed, coach operators are having their restrictions increased. This is going to cause real problems on Monday as businesses have been operating on the guidance that applied until last night and taken bookings for trips to outdoor attractions which open on Monday. As well as all the problems that will cause, the one of the main groups that this will impact are the elderly who are a key market for coach operators.

In addition to the New Q&A, the Primary Guidance for Visitor Economy Businesses and Hotels and Other Guest Accommodation has also been updated with more detail on the rules and restrictions that apply to tourism and accommodation businesses during Step 2.

Here's the new Visitor Economy Guidance

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/working-safely-during-coronavirus-covid-19/the-visitor-economy>

And here's the new Accommodation guidance

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/working-safely-during-coronavirus-covid-19/hotels-and-other-guest-accommodation>

TIC UPDATES – 8 APRIL

In the updated Q&A attached there is updated information on show-rounds for both business and social events and also more information on the service of food at currently permit work related events.

- **Business Event Show Rounds**

Cabinet Office/DHSC have issued a revision to the position on business events show-rounds, which continues at Step 2 to permit show-rounds in conference centres and exhibition halls (including where those facilities exist within hotels) but does not make an exemption to allow showrounds in otherwise legally closed venues:

Business meeting/event show-rounds, viewings and site visits for the purpose of viewing the venue for a future booking can take place at venues which are permitted to open at each Step of the Roadmap, or where a relevant exemption applies. From Step 2, this will include conference centres and exhibition halls, including conference centres located within hotels. Viewings of other venues can only take place from Step 3 - no earlier than 17 May.

COVID-Secure Guidance

Guidance has now been published for [Hotels and Other Guest Accommodation](#) and the [Visitor Economy](#), to reflect the Step 2 (12 April) changes. New guidance for local authorities has also been published on [Organised Events](#). Please find attached an updated Q&A document, which contains new information highlighted in yellow. I'd also like to bring your attention to a few issues that have been further clarified:

- **Cleaning of shared facilities in caravan parks**

Campsites and caravan parks will be able to open receptions, washing facilities (including facilities for laundering clothes), public toilets, baby changing rooms, breastfeeding rooms, water points and waste disposal points. To mitigate the risk of households from different parts of the UK mixing indoors, shower facilities should be operated on a 'reservation and clean' rota basis. Other facilities - receptions, facilities for laundering clothes, public toilets, baby changing rooms, breastfeeding rooms, water points and waste disposal points - should be cleaned regularly and kept well-ventilated and guests should try where possible to limit

their interaction with other households whilst using these facilities. The Roadmap at Step 2 opens self-contained accommodation in order to prioritise outdoor activity over indoor activity, and indoor activity within households rather than between them - therefore shower facilities must be operated in such a way as to ensure household mixing indoors does not take place at Step 2 and all reasonable steps should be taken to avoid household mixing elsewhere on site.

- **Coach Travel**

We know that there has been some confusion between DCMS and DfT guidance on coach travel. DfT's guidance has or will shortly be updated and brought in line with the position recently shared via TIC.

- *Private hire coach tours are only permitted for a private group of a single household/support bubble. The coach driver and tour guide do not count towards the single household/support bubble rule.*
- *Private hire coaches must not accommodate groups containing multiple households (excluding support bubbles) travelling together to the same destination or making the same journey, e.g. for the purposes of a leisure tour, as this is more akin to 'indoor gathering' than it is to 'public transport' and will therefore not be permitted until Step 3.*

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Further detail on Step 2 changes can be found in the relevant guidance documents.

You may also be interested in the following:

- **Commercial Rent Consultation:** On 6 April MHCLG published a [call for evidence](#) to support the Government's decision-making on the best way to withdraw or replace legislation to prevent landlords of commercial properties from being able to evict tenants for not paying rent; to restrict landlords' abilities to recover rental arrears through the seizure of tenants' goods; and to restrict the service of statutory demands and winding up petitions. These measures are in place until 30 June 2021 and while the Government recognises they cannot – and should not – continue indefinitely, a carefully managed exit is necessary to preserve tenant businesses and the millions of jobs that they support. **The call for evidence closes on 4 May.**
- [Minister Scully and Tourism Minister Nigel Huddleston have written to the leaders of 314 councils in England](#) urging them to do all they can to pay out grants money more quickly and ensure businesses in their local authority area get the support they need. The letter also encourages councils to support pubs and restaurants to open outdoor areas and host outdoor events in a safe and secure manner.
- [Organised events guidance for local authorities was published](#) on 6 April
- [Prime Minister announces new deal to boost Cornwall economy](#)

- [Recovery Loan Scheme launched on 6 April](#): Businesses can access loans varying in size from £25,000, up to a maximum of £10 million. Invoice and asset finance is available from £1,000.
- A reminder that [the Philippines, Pakistan, Kenya and Bangladesh will be added to England's red list from Friday 9 April](#). It would be appreciated if those of you who have customers/members in these countries could help to make people aware of the new requirements.
- Embargoed until 9 Apr 2021 00:01: tomorrow, the Transport Secretary Grant Shapps will announce £18m for cycle training across the country to ensure children and their families have the confidence to choose active travel. DfT would be grateful for any amplification or supportive comments you might be able to provide once this has been announced.

Please find below the 9th April Tourism Alliance Coronavirus updates.

As you would have seen with the updates sent this morning, the Visitor Economy Guidance has been updated and the sections 2.4 & 2.5 on business meetings, outdoor, weddings and other events contains many of the new provisions necessary to enable these events to take place. Here is the new Visitor Economy Guidance - <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/working-safely-during-coronavirus-covid-19/the-visitor-economy>.

You will see that the updates below include some information on the Global Travel Taskforce Report. Please see below Clive Wratten's statement on behalf of the BTA:

"Today's report from the Global Travel Taskforce is yet another hammer blow to the business travel industry.

Whilst we welcome the acknowledgement of the importance of business and leisure travel to the UK economy, this theoretical framework provides no more certainty than the Prime Minister's brief comments on Monday night.

The traffic light system is something we have long campaigned for. However, it is only one piece of the jigsaw if the aviation, business and leisure travel industries are to survive.

We urgently ask the Government to at the very least maintain the current furlough scheme until September for the entire travel supply chain. This will hopefully enable us to contribute to UK plc as soon as it is safe to do so."

Global Travel Task Force Traffic Light System

The Government has set out the details of the traffic light system that has been developed by the Global Travel Taskforce.

- **Green:** Arrivals will need to take a pre-departure test as well as a PCR test on or before day 2 of their arrival back into the UK but will not need to quarantine on return (unless they receive a positive result) or take any additional tests, halving the cost of tests on their return from holiday
- **Amber:** Arrivals will need to quarantine for a period of ten days and take a pre-departure test, a PCR test on day 2 and day 8 with the option for Test to Release on day 5 to end self-isolation early
- **Red:** Arrivals will be subject to restrictions currently in place for "red list" countries which includes a 10 day stay in a managed quarantine hotel, pre-departure testing and PCR testing on day 2 and 8

- There will also be a 'green watchlist' category of countries most at risk of moving from 'green' to 'amber' so that people can plan journeys accordingly

The Government will set out which countries are in each of these categories in early May, as well as confirming whether international travel can resume from 17 May 2021. The restrictions will be formally reviewed on 28 June 2021 to take account of the domestic and international health picture, and to see whether current measures could be rolled back. Further formal reviews will take place no later than 31 July and 1 October 2021.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/global-travel-taskforce-sets-out-framework-to-safely-reopen-international-travel>

• **Global Travel Taskforce Report**

The GTTF report has been published which provides more detail than this morning's press release. The recommendations of the report are broken down into four sections.

1. Progressing a risk-based reopening of international travel, making use of existing and new measures to ensure that this is safe, sustainable and robust.

- Remove measures limiting outbound travel by 17 May at the earliest and implement a "traffic light" country system, to which different restrictions are applied depending on risk.
- Introduce a "Green Watchlist" to support outbound travellers identify countries most at risk of moving from green to amber.
- Hold three "checkpoints" on 28 June, 31 July and 1 October to review measures.
- Enable residents to prove their COVID-19 status for tests and, if necessary, vaccines for outbound travel to a third country.
- Restart international cruises alongside the wider restart of international travel, in line with the country "traffic light" system.

2. Ensuring readiness for international travel restart, building on ongoing work to minimise border pressures as passenger flows rise, whilst keeping staff safe.

- Improve the Passenger Locator Form, with full e-gates integration across all ports of entry by autumn 2021.
- Establish a joint UK government and industry working group to ensure border readiness.
- Ensure comprehensive measures are in place to assess and assure safety readiness across all modes.
- Use feedback from industry and CAA expertise to make targeted interventions to ensure operational safety.

3. Building consumer clarity and confidence through enhanced advice and communications of safety measures and consumer protection when booking travel.

- Improve operator(s) and passenger guidance to provide more clarity on health and passenger requirements including, where relevant, how this interacts with travel advice.
- Introduce a passenger COVID-19 charter by 17 May setting out consumer rights and responsibilities whilst measures remain. Later this year consult on additional, flexible and modern tools to enforce consumer rights.

4. Supporting a transition to future travel, taking the first steps towards co-existing with an endemic COVID-19, in collaboration with global partners.

- Maintain leadership role within multilateral organisations including the ICAO, IMO and OECD, and work with like-minded states including the G7, G20 and Five Eyes group to develop strategies for reopening international travel.
- Continue close coordination with industry to ensure third party apps can be integrated with a national digital certification system that is interoperable, safe and secure.
- Explore the feasibility of bilateral pilots for testing initiatives such as digital solutions on particular routes, or with other countries.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/977446/Report-of-the-Global-Travel-Taskforce-accessible.pdf

- **Contradictory Guidance on Coaches**

There is an ongoing contradiction between the DCMS and DfT guidance in relation to coach travel on Monday that we are seeking to resolve. The DfT guidance states:

These rules do not place any capacity constraints on public transport services and private hire vehicles, including organised coach travel. Operators should continue to provide transport services that can accommodate separate multiple groups which conform to the requirements of the relevant social contact rules.

As DfT is the department responsible for coach travel, most operators are following this guidance until the issue is resolved.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-safer-transport-guidance-for-operators/coronavirus-covid-19-safer-transport-guidance-for-operators>

- **SEISS Guidance Updated**

The guidance for people claiming the Self Employment Income Support Scheme grant has been updated to incorporate the eligibility criteria for the fourth grant. The main eligibility change to be aware of is that if you submitted your Self Assessment tax return for the tax year 2019 to 2020 on or after 3 March 2021 you'll not be able to lodge a claim for this grant.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/how-different-circumstances-affect-the-self-employment-income-support-scheme>

- **Twice Weekly Testing Campaign**

The Government has launched a campaign for everyone in England to get free, twice weekly COVID-19 testing using rapid lateral flow tests as an essential part of the easing of restrictions, helping identify variants and stopping individual cases from becoming outbreaks. A major public information campaign will run across TV, radio, press, digital, out-of-home advertising and social media from tonight.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-campaign-urges-public-to-get-tested-twice-a-week>

- **Updated Guidance for Places of Worship**

The guidance for places of worship has been updated to take into account the relaxations for Step 2 when the number of people able to attend weddings and civil partnership ceremonies, wakes and receptions for wedding and wakes are increased to 15 people.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-the-safe-use-of-places-of-worship-during-the-pandemic-from-4-july/covid-19-guidance-for-the-safe-use-of-places-of-worship-from-2-december>

- **R Number and Growth Rate**

As always on a Friday, this week's R number range is 0.8 to 1.0 and the growth rate is -4% to 0%. This is exactly the same as last week and, although the figures are higher than two week's ago, they still represent a decrease in the number of infections.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/the-r-number-in-the-uk>