

# GET THE FACTS: VICTORIA MAY 2021 LOCKDOWN NOTICE



## **VICTORIAN LOCKDOWN 27<sup>th</sup> MAY 2021 THE REAL MEDIA COLLECTIVE ADVISORY GUIDE**

### **BACKGROUND**

As a result of increased numbers of positive COVID cases over the last few days (currently 26 people), and increased potential exposure sites (currently over 150 sites across Victoria) the Victorian Government has implemented a seven (7) day 'circuit breaker lockdown to give contact tracers time to track any additional cases and contain a wider outbreak of what appears to be a strongly communicable variant of the virus.

### **COMMENCEMENT AND DURATION**

The state-wide lockdown will commence from 11.59pm tonight (27<sup>th</sup> May 2021) and last for a seven (7) day period until 11.59pm Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2021, subject to change.

### **SCOPE**

All Victorians will only be allowed to leave home for one of five (5) reasons. Those reasons are for authorised work or permitted education, shopping for necessary food and services, exercise, caregiving, and COVID vaccination. Face masks must be worn both outdoors and indoors (other than in your home).

### **IMPACT ON VICTORIAN MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES**

Given previous lockdown experiences our industry was and continues to be categorised as authorised and an essential service supply chain provider and confirmed it can continue to be open for on-site work during this lockdown. Nonetheless, there are various business impacts and requirements as outlined below.

Although our industry is permitted and authorised to work throughout this seven (7) day lockdown, with the conclusion of JobKeeper some Victorian businesses (including clients of member businesses) may be impacted across the next week if they have to close or if employees are unable to attend work for COVID related reasons. When announcing the lockdown, the Victorian Acting Premier, James Merlino, has stated that there will be additional support to those business to be announced in the coming days.

### **STEPS FOR BUSINESS**

TRMC recommends members undertake the following:

- > Clear and reiterated communication with all employees over the situation.
- > Ensure the ongoing currency of their COVID Safe Plans as a business priority.
- > Those employees that can work from home should be directed to do so.
- > Those employees that attend work are required to undertake safe practices in line with your COVID Safe Plan.
- > Ensure appropriate signage on COVID related safety requirements is displayed in the workplace.

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- > Ensure adequate PPE is available in the workplace.
- > Employees attending work in our industry do not have to carry 'permitted worker permits' during this lockdown. However, communicate with your employees that
- > Masks must be worn **in all settings** in Victoria other than in an employee's own home.

TRMC will be monitoring Victorian developments over the coming days and communicate with members on any updated conditions. Members seeking further updates or additional information on the current state of Victorian restrictions can refer to the Victorian Department of Health COVID website: <https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus>

## **BORDER CLOSURES AND RELATED TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS**

At the time of writing this advisory state, territory, and NZ responses to the Victorian COVID situation are as follows (and are subject to change):

- > **NEW ZEALAND:** A temporary halt on Victorian travellers from 8.00pm (NZST), Tuesday, 25<sup>th</sup> May 2021 for at least 72 hours, but is likely to be extended.
- > **NSW:**
  - There are restrictions for non-residents if they visited exposure sites.
  - Travellers from Greater Melbourne and Bendigo must complete a self-declaration form either 24 hours prior to entering or upon entering New South Wales.
  - NSW residents who have been to either close or casual contact sites in Greater Melbourne or Bendigo must immediately self-isolate for however many days are left of the fourteen (14) days since they visited that site.
- > **QLD:**
  - Anyone arriving into Queensland who has been in the City of Whittlesea local government area since May 11<sup>th</sup> will go into hotel quarantine unless they have a valid exemption.
  - From 1.00am Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2021, everyone arriving from Victoria will be required to complete a border pass.
  - From 1.00am Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2021, anyone who has been in the City of Whittlesea local government area since May 11<sup>th</sup> and isn't a resident will be turned away unless they have an exemption to enter the state.
- > **SA:**
  - Any person who has been in Greater Melbourne any time in the fourteen (14) days prior to their intended arrival (but not before Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2021) is not permitted to enter South Australia (Level 6 restriction). Essential travellers and permitted arrivals (returning South Australian residents, persons relocating, and domestic violence arrivals) are permitted entry but will be subject to Level 4 restrictions (self-quarantine for 14 days; test on days 1, 5, and 13; and wear a mask in public).

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- Any person who arrived in South Australia before 6:00 pm on Wednesday 26 May 2021 who was in Greater Melbourne on or after Thursday 20 May 2021 is subject to Level 3 restrictions (self-quarantine until negative COVID-19 test; test on days 1, 5, and 13; and no entry to high risk setting or COVID Management Plan events for 14 days after arrival).
- Any person arriving in South Australia after 6:00 pm on Wednesday 26 May 2021 who has been in the City of Greater Bendigo in the previous 14 days (but not before Saturday 22 May 2021) is subject to Level 3 restrictions (self-quarantine until negative COVID-19 test; test on days 1, 5, and 13; and no entry to high risk setting or COVID Management Plan events for 14 days after arrival).
- > **TAS:**
  - Travellers who have visited an exposure site in Greater Melbourne — including the high-risk City of Whittlesea — are not permitted to enter Tasmania unless they are approved as an essential traveller.
  - Travellers currently in Tasmania and who have spent time in the Whittlesea LGA on or since 6 May, must self-isolate immediately and call the Public Health Hotline on 1800 671 738 to arrange a test. You should remain in self-isolation until you receive a negative result.
- > **WA:**
  - From 10am 27<sup>th</sup> May 2021, WA has issued a 'hard border' close across all Victorians entering the State. That is, unless exempted, authorised person (i.e. senior government official) or travelling under approved compassionate grounds if coming from Victoria you will not be able to enter WA without completing a fourteen (14) day quarantine period which includes multiple testing dates.
  - People who arrived prior to that will not be forced to isolate as things stand, unless they have visited a potential exposure site.
- > **ACT:**
  - ACT residents who have visited an exposure site in Greater Melbourne should contact ACT Health (02) 5124 6209 and immediately quarantine for 14 days since last attending the venue.
  - ACT non-residents who have visited an exposure site must not enter the ACT unless they obtain an exemption before arrival.
  - Non-residents who are already in the ACT must immediately quarantine.
  - Travellers already in the ACT who have been in Greater Melbourne in the past 14 days must complete an online declaration form.
- > **NT:**
  - Any resident who has visited a "Tier 1" exposure site in Greater Melbourne and Bendigo must travel to a suitable place of quarantine and remain in that place for 14 days from the date of visiting that site and remain in self-quarantine until a negative COVID test is received.

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- Any resident who has visited a "Tier 2" exposure site must get a COVID test and self-isolate until they are notified of the results of the test.
- Anyone who has visited the Northern Territory from Greater Melbourne and Bendigo since 6 May — and is showing COVID symptoms — must self-isolate and get a COVID test.
- As at 12.01am today, anyone arriving in NT and coming from Greater Melbourne and Bendigo will have to quarantine at either the Alice Springs or Howard Springs quarantine facilities.

Members should note that at the time of writing this advisory several airlines have already cancelled numerous flights into Melbourne. TRMC recommend affected members contact their airline for any additional information:

<https://www.qantas.com/au/en.html>

<https://www.virginaustralia.com/au/en/>

<https://www.jetstar.com/au/en/home>

Members with any questions should feel free to contact TRMC at [hello@trmc.com.au](mailto:hello@trmc.com.au)

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NOTE: The information in this Advisory is general and was correct at the time of writing. However, this information can change quickly and further travel related restrictions may be imposed. TRMC recommends members ensure any related decisions are made on current and up to date information.

The Real Media Collective  
27<sup>th</sup> May 2021