

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

September 21, 2020

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

### Safer-at-Home Travel Restrictions

- As of Saturday, September 12, 2020, hotels and accommodations providers are permitted to accept new reservations
- As of Saturday, September 19, 2020, hotels and accommodations providers are permitted to accept new guests
- Leisure travel to the Territory resumes on September 19, 2020
- 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

- You should only complete the Travel Screening Portal within five days of travel
- If you are traveling within 24 hours, please complete the form manually ([usviupdate.com/travel-form](https://usviupdate.com/travel-form)). Upon arrival, you must produce the completed form, as well as your test result.
- Every traveler aged five and older must use the Travel Screening Portal and submit a COVID-19 test result

### Travel Guidelines

- Effective September 19, 2020, every traveler aged five and older who enters the U.S. Virgin Islands is required to use the USVI Travel Screening Portal and submit a COVID-19 test result
- Travelers are required to provide either:
  - a COVID-19 antigen (molecular/PCR/rapid) test taken and negative result received within five days of commencement of travel to the Territory OR
  - a COVID-19 antibody test taken and positive result received within four months prior to travel to the Territory
- Upon arrival, you must produce your original test result and travel certification received from the Travel Screening Portal
- Travelers unable to produce the required test result will be subject to mandatory self-quarantine of 14 days from the time of entry into the Territory or the duration of the person's stay, whichever is shorter, or until they are able to receive the required test result while in the Territory
- Every person ordered to self-quarantine shall proceed directly from the airport or seaport to the designated quarantine location per the Virgin Islands Department of Health and shall be responsible for all associated costs, including transportation, lodging, food, 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 should be worn when entering any business, office or public area not in a private home or when two or more individuals of different households interact for any reason
  - Children under two, persons unable to remove a mask without assistance and persons with acute respiratory issues are exempt

- Masks with exhalation vents should not be worn
- 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 50 individuals
- Taxicabs and safaris to be limited to one-half of their previously allowable capacity
- All non-essential businesses are allowed to reopen
- Retail stores shall not permit more than 10 individuals in the establishment at any time. This does not apply to grocery stores, big-box stores, pharmacies and fuel service service stations

### **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 50 customers, whichever is less
  - Shall be closed from midnight to 6 a.m. daily
  - No congregation or standing at bar area
  - No serving of alcohol at bar counters
  - 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, nightclubs and cabarets are to remain closed
- Bowling alleys and movie theaters are permitted to reopen as of September 8, 2020
- Casinos and gaming establishments are permitted to reopen as of September 19, 2020
  - Sale of food and beverages and hosting of parties is prohibited
  - Shall operate at no more than 25 percent of the 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 may reopen with a maximum of 50 people
  - Facial coverings are to be worn at all times
  - Religious leaders may be 10 feet ways 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, bonfire, cooking, barbecuing or grilling are permitted on any beach

Visitors or residents who have tourism-related inquiries are asked to email [info@usviupdate.com](mailto:info@usviupdate.com) or call the department'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 Government of the U.S. Virgin Islands.***

Please stay safe, and continue to monitor [usviupdate.com](https://usviupdate.com).