

## BERLIN - SPECIFIC MEASURES TO COUNTERACT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19

### Restrictions on contact

Berliners must stay home and go out only for necessary trips, such as to go to work, buy groceries or medicine, visit relatives, take walks, exercise, tend their garden, take exams, handle urgent matters at government offices or pick children up from care.

Residents must maintain a distance of at least 1.5 m from others at all times outside the house.

Every resident of Berlin must carry photo ID including their residential address. The police are entitled to stop residents and ask to see their ID.

### Restrictions on gatherings

Starting on Monday all public and private events, assemblies and meetings are no longer permitted. An exception is granted for meetings or assemblies of certain public institutions such as the German legislative assembly, Federal Government meetings, the Senate of Berlin, courts, embassies and other public institutions. Also permitted are events and assemblies intended to secure safety and order, deliveries, health care and gatherings to keep economic entities in operation. Private gatherings of family and friends of up to 10 people are also permitted, but only if absolutely necessary. The regulation specifically mentions families meeting to visit a dying relative or attend a funeral.

Anyone participating in such a meeting should write out a list of the people taking part and keep the list for four weeks, presenting it to the relevant government office upon request.

### Restrictions on certain operations

Other restrictions apply to certain establishments. Public places for holding dance parties, worship services, exhibitions, special markets, casinos and gambling establishments, and similar public places are closed. Cinemas, theatres, concert halls, museums and similar public places, as well as hairdressers, beauty salons, massage parlours, and tattoo studios are also closed. Swimming pools, sports facilities, saunas, fitness studios and indoor tanning salons remain closed.

Restaurants and bars are also closed, although they can still deliver food and drinks. Hotels and other accommodation facilities are prohibited from offering accommodation to tourists.

The closures also apply to shops other than those necessary for basic needs. This means that grocery stores, pharmacies, medical supply shops, drugstores, petrol stations, laundry services, news agents and bookstores, hardware stores, gardening, pet supply, bike shops, tradesmen, craft and trades outlets, and wholesale outlets remain open.

### Restrictions on hospitals and social facilities

As of March 25 all planned operations and hospital procedures must be postponed, if the patient's medical condition allows. All doctors and medical staff must remain available to treat COVID-19 patients.

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Hospital visits are prohibited, with exceptions for hospitalized children under 16 and seriously ill patients. Facilities providing day and night care for sick patients or people with disabilities, including sheltered workshops, are also closed except in case of emergency.

### Restrictions on schools and similar facilities

Schools, universities, music schools and other educational facilities, libraries and university canteens are closed. Tests can still be held, but only if students remain 1.5 m apart from each other. The facilities listed above can provide childcare for parents in professions involved in the fight against COVID-19. This means doctors, nurses, police officers, firefighters, etc.

### BAVARIA, SAXONY

Other federal states have also enacted crisis measures similar to those in Berlin. We will mention Bavaria and Saxony here as the states closest to the Czech border.

Bavaria has introduced restrictions on freedom of movement similar to those in Berlin. Inhabitants are permitted to leave home only to go to work, to the doctor, or to buy groceries and medicine. Taking walks and exercising outside is acceptable provided that contact with other people is kept to a minimum and physical distance is maintained. Anyone outside must maintain a distance of at least 1.5 m from other people. Stores (except for supermarkets, pharmacies, drugstores and other necessary stores), restaurants, bars, and schools are all closed. Hospitals and nursing homes do not permit visitors.

Saxony has enacted similar crisis measures. Residents can leave home only to go to work or buy food and medicine, and must maintain physical distance from others. Walks and exercising outdoors are permitted. Schools, nurseries, restaurants, bars, sports facilities, theatres, and cinemas are closed. Hospitals and other social facilities do not allow visitors. As in Berlin and Bavaria, stores are closed other than those necessary for food, medical supplies, and other daily needs of inhabitants, e.g. supermarkets, pharmacies, drugstores, hardware stores, petrol stations, and banks.

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