



Restrictions and prohibitions

Here you will find a summary of the restrictions and prohibitions that have been imposed in Sweden due to the coronavirus.



Foto: Melker Dahlstrand/Sveriges riksdag

Sveriges Riksdag och Rosenbad.

National ban on visiting retirement homes

The Government has decided to impose a ban on visiting all of the country's retirement homes to prevent the spread of Covid-19. The decision entered into force on 1 April. The decision is general. The operations manager of a residence may, in individual instances, allow exceptions to the ban if there are special circumstances which justify an exception and if there is a low risk of spreading the coronavirus. Read more about the ban on visits [here](#).

Ban on public gatherings of 50 people or more

From Sunday 29 March, public gatherings and events may have a maximum of 50 participants. The police can cancel or disband a public gathering or event with more than 50 participants. Anyone who organises an event that violates the ban can face a fine or prison sentence of a maximum of six months.

Public gatherings include the following:

- gatherings that constitute demonstrations or which are otherwise held for discussion, expression of opinion or providing information on public or private matters;
- lectures and speeches held for the purposes of teaching or for public or civic education;
- gatherings for religious practice;
- theatrical and cinema performances, concerts and other gatherings for the performance of artistic work, and
- other gatherings at which freedom of assembly is exercised.

Public events include the following:

- competitions and exhibitions in sports and aviation;
- dance performances;
- fairground amusements and parades;
- markets and fairs, and
- other events not regarded as public gatherings or circus performances.
- Schools, public transport, private events and visits to shops are excluded.
- More information about the ban provided by the police.
- More information about the ban provided by the Government.
- More information about the ban provided by the Public Health Agency.

Temporary ban on travel to Sweden

On March 17, the Government decided to stop non-essential travel to Sweden from countries outside the EU. To mitigate the effects of the corona virus spread, the government extends the temporary entry ban to August 31. Its aim is to mitigate the impact of the coronavirus outbreak and reduce the spread of Covid-19. Read more about the decision [here](#).

The following are exempt from the entry ban:

- Swedish citizens;
- family members of Swedish citizens who work for a Swedish company, a Swedish agency or an international organisation abroad, if their employer has recalled the employee and/or persons accompanying them;
- citizens of another EEA state, the UK or Switzerland, or family members of an EEA citizen or citizens of the UK or Switzerland;
- persons with a residence permit or right of residence in Sweden or the EU, and
- persons who have a valid national visa for entry into Sweden.

Foreigners who have particularly urgent needs or who are to carry out essential functions in Sweden may be exempt, for example

- healthcare professionals;
- transport workers engaged in the haulage of goods, e.g. food and medicines;
- disembarking and embarking mariners as well as professional drivers whose vehicles and cargo are already in Sweden, and
- persons with imperative family reasons.
- Seasonal workers employed in agriculture, forestry and horticulture.

Swedish border control officials determine the manner in which the exceptions should be interpreted and the decisions that should be taken.

Read more about the entry ban [here](#) (in english) and [here](#) are the Police's answers to frequently asked questions.

New rules for restaurants, cafés and pubs

To reduce the spread of Covid-19, new rules also apply to restaurants, cafés and bars.

- crowding of people in queues, at tables, buffets or bar counters must not occur. Visitors should be able to maintain a distance between each other;
- visitors must eat and drink while sitting at a table. Staff should carry out the orders;
- if it is possible to allow the guests to order and pick up food and drink themselves then this is allowed as long as it does not lead to crowding or queues;
- takeaway can be handed over as usual as long as it can take place without crowding of people;
- restaurants and après-ski activities at ski resorts are subject to the rules for restaurants and pubs issued by the Public Health Agency.

