

COVID-19 restrictions in Ireland

- [Introduction](#)
- [Recent changes to restrictions](#)
- [Pubs and restaurants](#)
- [Restrictions in place now](#)

Introduction

Restrictions have been in place to help stop the spread of COVID-19. These restrictions have affected most aspects of life in Ireland.

You should continue to [self-isolate](#) if you have symptoms of COVID-19.

Recent changes to restrictions

From 20 December 2021:

Pubs and restaurants

Pubs and restaurants must close at 8pm. This does not include take-away and delivery services.

Indoor events

No indoor events are allowed after 8pm. This includes cultural, sporting and community events. Attendance is limited to 1000 people, or 50% of the venue's capacity (whichever is lower).

Organised outdoor events

Attendance is limited to 5000 people, or 50% of the venue's capacity (whichever is lower). This includes sporting events.

Weddings

Wedding reception attendance is limited to 100 guests. Receptions must end at midnight.

Pubs and restaurants

Restaurants and pubs must close at 8pm.

To access indoor service such as restaurants and pubs, you must show proof that you are [fully vaccinated](#) or have recovered from COVID-19 in the past 6 months (proof of immunity). Children under 18 who are dining with you do not need proof of vaccination or recovery. You may be asked for proof that your child is under 18. Minors (people under 18) who are alone must show vaccination certs or proof of immunity.

Businesses can refuse entry if you cannot show proof of vaccination or immunity or you cannot show that your certificate relates to you– for example, by showing photo id. If businesses do not do this, they

may be liable for fines or closure.

Proof of immunity and identification

You can use your [EU Digital COVID Certificate \(DCC\)](#) or your HSE vaccination record as proof. You need to have photo identification to show that the proof of vaccination or recovery belongs to you.

You can use the following as identification:

- Driving licence
- Passport
- Student card
- Garda age card
- Irish Residence Permit (IRP)
- National identity card
- Any other official document that includes your photo and was issued outside of Ireland

If you do not have a DCC or HSE vaccination record (because you are visiting Ireland from another country for example), you can use an official vaccination record issued by the country where you were vaccinated or tested for COVID-19.

Hotels

You must show proof of immunity to use the bar and restaurant in a hotel or guesthouse, even if you are a registered guest. Restaurants and pubs in hotels can stay open until after 8pm for overnight residents and wedding receptions only.

Important things to know about pubs and restaurants

A maximum of 6 adults are allowed per table, or 15 people when including children aged 12 and under.

In addition:

- Pubs and restaurants must close at 8pm.
- You should wear a face covering when you are not sitting at your table
- There are no time limits on sittings
- If you do not have proof of vaccination or recovery, or you cannot show that the proof you have belongs to you, the bar or restaurant should refuse admission
- One member of your group must give their details to the pub or restaurant for [contact tracing](#)
- Multiple table bookings are not allowed
- If you do not have proof of immunity, you can sit in an outdoor section of the pub or restaurant

Restrictions in place now

Household visits

You can meet indoors in private homes if there are no more than 4 households there, including your own.

Testing and close contacts

If you have symptoms of COVID-19, you should [get tested](#) and [self-isolate](#).

[Close contacts](#) should get tested. You also need to [restrict your movements](#) for 10 days if you have not received a booster vaccine. If you received a booster more than 7 days ago, you must restrict your movements for 5 days.

Different rules apply to [children](#).

Face coverings

Read the [rules on face coverings](#).

Returning to work

You should [work from home](#) unless it is necessary for you to attend the workplace in person.

Events and entertainment

Organised indoor events include:

- Indoor sports
- Cinema
- Theatre
- Live concerts and entertainment

It does not include religious services, education, workplace or business activities and events (for example, conferences).

No organised indoor events are allowed after 8pm.

Attendance is limited to 1000 people, or 50% of the venue's capacity (whichever is lower).

You must show proof of immunity to attend. Events must be fully seated and face coverings must be worn except when eating or drinking. Accompanied children do not need to show proof of immunity.

Organised outdoor events are limited to 5000 people or 50% of the venue's capacity (whichever is lower). You do not need a vaccination or recovery certificate for outdoor events but other protective measures should be in place.

Group activities

If an indoor or outdoor group activity has a mix of vaccinated and recovered people taking part, activities should be in pods of 6 people. This can be adjusted for children under 18 for games and competitions only.

There are no capacity limits for indoor or outdoor group activities.

Gyms and leisure centres

You need to have proof of immunity (for example, the [EU DCC](#)) to go to a gym or leisure centre. You do not need one to access a swimming pool in a gym or leisure centre, or to go to a standalone swimming pool.

Nursing homes

Nursing home residents can have 2 visitors at a time, with no restrictions on the duration or frequency of the visits. The nursing home may ask to see proof that visitors are vaccinated or recovered from COVID-19. The HSE has [guidance on nursing home visits](#).

International travel

Read about testing and quarantine requirements for [travelling to Ireland](#).

Weddings

Wedding reception attendance is limited to 100 guests. Live music is permitted. Receptions must finish at midnight.

Religious services and funerals

Places of worship are open for religious services with no limits on numbers attending. Protective measures must be in place. Places of worship can open after 8pm.

Laws and penalties

You can read about:

- [COVID-19 laws](#)
- [Detentions and penalties](#)

Page edited: 31 December 2021

Manage cookie preferences

- Manage preferences