

CORONAVIRUS INFORMATION (MARCH 2020 ARCHIVE)

MARCH 27, 2020 2:30PM

Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Orders the Closure of Public Beaches through April 19, 2020

On Friday, March 27, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health ordered the closure of all public beaches, beach bike paths, public trails, and beach access points through April 19 to prevent the spread of COVID-19. The LA County order requires the immediate closure of:

- Santa Monica Beach
- Santa Monica's Beach Bike Path
- Ocean Front Walk

Though the County order allows for citation, Santa Monica will continue to focus on education this weekend and encourage the public to follow the Safer at Home orders, which are focused on community health.

The County's Public Health Order reads: "The County of Los Angeles and its Department of Public Health observed an unusually high volume of beach and trail users on March 21 and 22, which seriously impeded the beach and trail users' practice of safe and necessary social distancing measures. This heavy amount of beach and trail use by numerous groups of people does not allow for safe social distancing, and therefore seriously impedes community efforts to stem the local transmission of COVID-19. Accordingly, this Order is necessary to both enforce social distancing measures and stem the spread of COVID-19 within the community."

This order is effective immediately, beginning today, March 27, 2020 through April 19, 2020. Click [here](#) to read more.

MARCH 22, 2020 3:48PM

Santa Monica Beach Parking Lots Closed

The City of Santa Monica is taking additional measures to protect the health and safety of the Santa Monica community and our neighbors by closing the beach parking lots. This comes after one-and-a-half days of large numbers of beachgoers coming to the coastline amidst the Safer at Home statewide measures to prevent the spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). These measures are being taken in accordance with State and local health directives that prohibit gatherings and call for social distancing of non-household members.

All residents and visitors are advised to avoid the beach, beach bike path, and Palisades Park today and in the days to come to protect themselves and others. As a beach city we know the draw to be outside and in nature is more powerful than ever, but to truly have an impact in our region and state, we must all remain at home and six feet from others when out for essential trips only.

For information on COVID-19 related closures, visit santamonica.gov/coronavirus-cancellations or call the Santa Monica coronavirus hotline: 310-458-8400.

MARCH 20, 2020 10:19AM

LA County Issues Safer at Home Order

On Thursday, March 19, the LA County Department of Public Health announced the next step in public health protections – Safer at Home. The City of Los Angeles joined as well, and Santa Monica, along with four Westside city neighbors (Malibu, Culver City, Beverly Hills and West Hollywood), stated intent to join to ensure a comprehensive regional response. This is a public health order to protect communities across the region and save lives. It is effective from March 19, 2020 at midnight through April 19, 2020.

The following resources provide full details on the Safer at Home Order :

- [Los Angeles County Safer at Home Order](#)
- [City of Los Angeles Safer at Home FAQs](#)
- [City of Santa Monica Safer at Home Video – English \(also available in Spanish\)](#)

MARCH 16, 2020; 1:00PM

The health and safety of both visitors and residents is our highest priority and Santa Monica Travel & Tourism, the City of Santa Monica and our local hospitality partners are closely monitoring the growing coronavirus situation and its impact on inbound travel to Santa Monica and the greater region.

The City of Santa Monica, Los Angeles County, the State of California and the U.S. Federal Government have declared emergencies to allow greater authority to take measures necessary to protect and preserve public health and safety, including seeking aid from state and federal authorities as necessary.

On March 16, the City of Santa Monica issued a [supplement to the local emergency proclamation](#) that requires two week closure of the following businesses that will impact visitors:

- All bars and nightclubs that do not serve food will be closed to the public.
- Any bars or nightclubs that serve food may remain open only for purposes of continuing to prepare and offer food to customers via delivery service or to be picked up. Dine-in food service is prohibited.
- All restaurants and retail food facilities are prohibited from serving food for consumption on premises. Restaurants and retail food facilities may continue to operate for purposes of preparing and offering food to customers via delivery service, to be picked up or for drive-thru. For those establishments offering food pick-up options, proprietors are directed to establish social distancing practices for those patrons in the queue for pick-up.
- All movie theaters, live performance venues, bowling alleys and arcades will be closed to the public.
- All gyms and fitness centers will be closed to the public.
- All businesses providing physical health and beauty services, including spas, hair salons, massage parlors, and nail salons, that do not provide medical care or services that supplement medical care as directed by medical professionals will be closed to the public.

The City of Santa Monica has received the [Governor's guidance on large scale events](#). All [public gatherings](#) are cancelled as of March 12, 2020.

In addition to this, many key Santa Monica attractions are closed including the Santa Monica Pier. For a list of closures in the Los Angeles region, please visit [Discover Los Angeles](#). However, for the most up-to-date information, travelers planning a visit should reach out directly to the attractions, venues, ticket providers and tour companies they booked with or planned to visit. Questions about travel or accommodations postponements should be directed to the transportation companies and hotels booked by the traveler.

This is clearly a rapidly evolving situation. Santa Monica Travel & Tourism will continue to work with our community and travel partners to track all developments. Developments about global travel impacts and the latest information coronavirus from the City of Santa Monica can be found here:

- [City of Santa Monica Coronavirus Webpage](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
- [California Department of Public Health](#)
- [U.S. Travel Association](#)