

30 April, 2020

CYPRUS ROADMAP TO EXIT LOCKDOWN

On Wednesday, April 29th, the President of the Republic announced the roadmap of relaxation of the restrictive measures imposed in Cyprus in order to prevent the spread of COVID – 19.

More specifically, the measures include the following:

Public and private hospitals are gradually starting to reopen, but with some limitations, as follows:

1. Continuation of the complete ban on patient visits.
2. Limit on total hospital bed capacity use to maximum 60%, which will be adjusted according to the development of the pandemic, based on the guidelines to be issued by the Ministry of Health.
3. Re-operation of dental clinics.
4. Regarding public hospitals:
 - a. Organisation and operation of Outpatient Clinics for Specialist Physicians, only by appointment to ensure the protection of patients as well as health professionals.
 - b. In addition, public hospitals will be reorganized so as to be able to deal with more COVID-19 cases.

Safety and Health in the Workplace

1. Detailed instructions have been issued that all employers/employees should follow.
2. Instructions to be disseminated in cooperation with OEB and other professional associations.
3. As from Monday, April 4th, the following hygiene measures will apply to businesses that will reopen:
 - a. 8 sq.m. for each employee and 2 meters distance between them
 - b. Mandatory placement of antiseptics at each business entrance
 - c. Visible reference to the number of persons physically at each establishment at any given time
 - d. Daily and meticulous cleaning and disinfection of frequently used surfaces, etc.
 - e. Direct access to masks, thermometers, etc.

Protective masks

The Ministry of Health ordered a large number of protective masks to be disseminated to employees who will return to work in collaboration with OEB as well as other organized groups.

The use of a masks is **mandatory** for employees who have direct contact with the public (Public and Wider public sector, Retail, Public Transport).

The use of a mask by citizens in the community is **recommended** in crowded and closed spaces, such as supermarkets, large stores, public transport, etc.

Restart of Business Activity

Phase 1: May 4 - May 20

- Construction sector and all similar economic activities.
- Retail - reopening of all stores, except those housed within shopping malls / department stores. The days and hours of operation of the stores will be determined by the Ministry of Labour, Welfare and Social Security and the Ministry of Health.
- Markets.
- Hosting of cruise ships for refueling (without disembarkation of passengers or replacement of crews).
- Replacement of crews for merchant ships and the movement of private boats in licensed areas, for purposes of mooring, maintenance and repairs.
- Lyceums: only graduates (3rd Lyceum) and private secondary schools (from May 11).
- Conducting planned operations in hospitals, based on restrictions to be determined by the Ministry of Health.
- Dental Centers / Clinics (those that remain closed after the Decree of 23 April).
- Use of open or outdoor sports facilities only for high-performance athletes included in the list of the Cyprus Olympic Committee, without the use of locker rooms, gyms or other closed related infrastructure.
- Training for team sports only in open spaces, without the use of locker rooms, gyms or other closed related infrastructure. (from May 18).
- Tourist and travel agencies.
- Full operation of car wash businesses (limited today to external washing).
- Revision of instructions for public transport (fullness up to 50%)
- Full operation of the Public Service and the wider public sector.
- 3 SMS per day for individual movement, prohibition to apply from 10 pm to 6 am.
- Individual sports are allowed in open spaces with no more than two people together (walking, tennis, swimming in the sea and not in public or private swimming pools, cycling, etc.) and will be allowed in parks, only for personal and professional purposes. The restriction of total number of people excludes the presence of minors.
- From May 4, prayer is allowed in churches, mosques and other places of prayer, on the precondition that no more than 10 people will coexist in the spaces at the same time.

Phase 2: May 21 - June 8

- Hairdressers / barbershops / beauty salons (from May 21).
- Catering services, only outdoor service (from May 21).
- Libraries (from June 1).
- Museums, archeological sites and historical sites (from June 1).
- Betting Agencies (from June 1).
- Ports in full operation (from June 1), with the exception of the disembarkation of passengers from cruise ships.
- From May 21, movements of individuals by SMS is completely abolished.
- Meetings of up to 10 people are allowed.
- From June 1, ecclesiastical and other forms of religious worship are allowed in churches, mosques and other religious places, provided that the protocols of health behavior as determined by the Ministry of Health, will be strictly observed. The same measures will apply to weddings, baptisms and funerals.
- Free movement in parks, outdoor playgrounds, squares, marinas, etc., provided that those gathered will not exceed 10.
- Abolition of the ban on individual movement between 10 pm and 6 am.

Phase 3: June 9 - July 13

- Shopping Centers / Department stores.
- Airports / Airlines - gradually and conditionally.
- Ports, service and cruise ships.
- Catering services, indoor and outdoor service.
- Hotels.
- Beaches: Prerequisite for maintaining a safe distance.
- Open space theaters and cinemas.
- Gyms.
- Sports Championships (without fans).
- Summer programs of private higher education schools.
- Abolition of all restrictions on individual movement.

Phase 4: July 14 onwards

- Indoor theaters and cinemas.
- Festivals and Concerts.
- Casino.
- Playgrounds: indoors and outdoors