



THE STATE OF PLAY FOR VENUES – MAY 11, 2020

In all states and territories, physical distancing – a minimum space of 1.5 metres between individuals and four square metres per person – remains the health advice from the Federal Government. That applies for each stage of the Federal Government's three stage guidelines to lift coronavirus restrictions.

In New South Wales, from May 15, cafés and restaurants can seat ten patrons at any one time.

In Victoria, while you can have five people over to yours and up to ten people can gather outside as of midnight, May 12, the Victorian government has made no changes regarding dining in. Premier Dan Andrews said the current rules would likely be in place for the next three weeks and signalled that future announcements may allow numbers greater than ten people to dine in.

In South Australia, from May 11, dining is limited to outdoors with a cap of ten people and no alcohol can be consumed. Seated dining indoors is planned to be introduced from June 8.

In WA, from May 18, cafés and restaurants with meal service will be open but limited to 20 patrons at a time and have to maintain space of four square metres per customer. You can go to a pub to order a meal but having a drink only isn't permitted.

In Queensland, from midnight on May 15, dining in at restaurants, pubs, clubs, RSLs and cafés for a maximum of ten patrons at one time is allowed. The exception is for outback Queensland, where dining in will be up to 20 for locals only. The plan is to extend dining to 20 people across the state from June 12.

In Tasmania, from May 18, restaurants and cafés in all settings (including restaurants in pubs, clubs, hotels and RSLs) can open and seat patrons of up to ten people at a time. This is for seated table service only with physical distancing. The plan is to extend this to 20 people from June 15.

In the ACT, though groups of ten have been able to gather inside and outside since the weekend (May 9/10), no plan had been announced for opening cafés or restaurants at the time of writing but The Canberra Times reports an announcement is expected.

In the Northern Territory, from May 15 people can operate and attend restaurants and cafés. There are no guidelines in terms of limits on the numbers of people in a space but activities must be undertaken in less than two hours. The move to their next stage is planned for June 5.

Information correct as of 3pm on May 11.