

# Adjusted Alert Level 1 restrictions eased

President Cyril Ramaphosa has announced the easing of several restrictions as part of Adjusted Alert Level 1 from midnight. Addressing the nation on developments in the country's response to the COVID-19 pandemic on Tuesday, President Ramaphosa said the approach going forward is that both indoor and outdoor venues can now take up to 50 percent of their capacity provided that the criteria for entrance are proof of vaccination or a COVID test not older than 72 hours.

The President said following consultations and the recommendations of the National Coronavirus Command Council, Cabinet has decided to ease restrictions on gatherings and previous regulations. He said the emphasis was on placing an upper limit on the number of people who could attend a gathering. "But where there is no provision for proof of vaccination or a COVID test, then the current upper limit will remain – of 1 000 people indoors and 2 000 people outdoors," the President said. This change, he said, to the restrictions on gatherings will be of great benefit to the sporting, cultural, entertainment and events industries, in particular.

"This means that if we are vaccinated or have recently tested negative, we will be able to return to watching sports in stadiums and attending music concerts, theatre performances, conferences and

other events," the President said.

Have your say on National State of Disaster

"Due to the changing nature of the pandemic, and due to the progress that has been made through our collective efforts, we intend to lift the National State of Disaster as soon as public comment on the health regulations published by the Minister of health has been completed." These regulations, when finalised, will replace the State of Disaster regulations as the legal instrument that government uses to manage the pandemic.

All South Africans are invited to make comments on the draft regulations before the 16th of April. The President however emphasised that what should be clear is that the end of the National State of Disaster does not mean the end of the pandemic. "It just means that we are changing the way we manage the pandemic, and we will be relying on health regulations rather than disaster management regulations.

"It means that we are learning to live with the virus in our presence." "It means that we are returning, as far as possible, to the lives that we lived before the pandemic. "It means that we are opening our economy still further, and that we are resuming many of the social and cultural activities that we have missed over the last two years." – SAnews.gov.za



**ALERT LEVEL 1**  
**South Africa remains on Alert Level 1**  
 With the continued decline in infections, the following measures will be in place from Wednesday, 23 March 2022:

**Mandatory mask wearing**

- Wearing a cloth mask or similar covering over the nose and mouth is mandatory when in public indoor spaces
- Masks are not required when outdoors

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 With the continued decline in infections, the following measures will be in place from Wednesday, 23 March 2022:

**Gatherings**

- With proof of vaccine or negative COVID test: no more than 50% of venue capacity and no upper limit on numbers
- With no proof of vaccine or negative COVID test: no more than 50% of venue capacity, with an upper limit of 1,000 indoors and 2,000 outdoors
- Social distance of at least 1 metre between people, except at schools
- Masks must be worn for all indoor gatherings

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**Vaccinate against COVID-19**

To speed up the vaccination process, you can register by:

- Using the online registration platform available on the SA Coronavirus website
- Dialling \*134\*832# and registering via USSD
- Sending the word "register" via WhatsApp to 0600 123 456
- Calling the national toll-free call centre on 0800 029 999, where somebody will help you to register and answer any questions about the vaccination rollout

You can also go directly to your nearest vaccination centre.

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**ALERT LEVEL 1**  
**South Africa remains on Alert Level 1**  
 With the continued decline in infections, the following measures will be in place from Wednesday, 23 March 2022:

**Changes to the regulations on international travel.**

- Travellers entering South Africa will need to show proof of vaccination or a negative PCR test not older than 72 hours.
- All unvaccinated travellers entering the country who want to be vaccinated will be offered a vaccination.

**Funerals**

- Funerals are restricted to a maximum of 200 people
- There is a two hour limit on funeral services
- No night vigils or post-funeral gatherings are permitted

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