



# COVID-19 Newsletter



Jervis Bay Territory Community | Issue no. 27 | 30 July 2021

## Keep your community safe by keeping COVIDSafe

COVID-19 cases have increased again in many places in Australia, including across New South Wales, and many states and territories in Australia have introduced new rules around entering or leaving communities and crossing borders.

The Jervis Bay Territory (JBT) is a Commonwealth-administered territory, and is not part of New South Wales and or the ACT.

However if you are transiting through New South Wales to JBT or if you leave the JBT and cross the border into New South Wales, including the wider Jervis Bay region, you **MUST COMPLY** with New South Wales Public Health Directions while in New South Wales.

Please check in regularly with the [NSW Government news and updates about COVID-19](#) to ensure you're aware of the current health situation, and any restrictions in place.

Remember, the new COVID-19 variants can spread more easily among people in our communities. It can sometimes spread between two people walking past each other at the shops or in the park.

If you have any symptoms of COVID-19, like a headache, sore throat, a runny nose, fever or persistent cough, or if you have been in a risk location identified by your state or territory, **go get tested straight away and stay at home until you get your results**. At the moment these locations are being updated every day, so please check the news on television, radio and online for the latest information in your area, or for places you have been recently.

Over 345,000 have received the free COVID-19 test in the Shoalhaven region, with every test helping us understand how the virus is spreading and supporting us to keep your community safe.

## State of Emergency Extended and new Emergency Public Health Directions in place for JBT

The declared State of Emergency for the Jervis Bay Territory (JBT) has been extended for a 30-day period from 19 July 2021, as part of the ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

With COVID-19 continuing to pose a threat to the local community, the health and safety of elders and vulnerable residents of the Wreck Bay Aboriginal community and broader territory is our highest priority.

Non-residents who have been in **Greater Sydney Central Coast, Blue Mountains, Wollongong and Shellharbour regions of NSW, or a close contact exposure location in Victoria, Queensland, South Australia and the NSW Central West local government areas (LGAs) of Orange City Council, Blayney Shire Council and Cabonne Shire Council** ARE NOT TO ENTER the JBT without an approved exemption.

If you are a resident of JBT and have visited a COVID-19 Affected Area, YOU MUST SELF-ISOLATE for 14 days in your home.

Further Emergency Public Health Directions are now in place for the JBT which align with broader NSW Public Health Orders for regional New South Wales:

- Masks must be worn at **all indoor public venues and all outdoor organised events**. Remember to wear a mask **any time that you cannot stay 1.5 metres (2 big steps) away from other people**.
- A maximum of up to 5 visitors may visit your home at one time, including children.
- Singing by audiences at indoor shows or by congregants at indoor places of worship is not allowed.

For more information, including how to safely wear a facemask and what do stay-at-home orders mean, visit

<https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/covid-19/Pages/aboriginal-resources.aspx>

You can keep up to date with the latest Public Health Directions for JBT by scanning the QR code:





## National Park Update

In response to the ongoing COVID-19 situation, Booderee National Park is only allowing day visitation. There will be no camping at Booderee National Park until further notice.

There will also be no entry into the Booderee Visitor Centre during this period but you can still contact Booderee National Park by phone and email - [02 4443 0977](tel:0244430977), [booderee.mail@awe.gov.au](mailto:booderee.mail@awe.gov.au) - and you can [book your park pass online](#).

The Booderee Botanic Gardens remains open for day visitors.

**Non-JBT residents who have been in the Greater Sydney, Central Coast, Blue Mountains, Wollongong and Shellharbour regions of NSW, or a close contact exposure location in Victoria, Queensland, South Australia or the NSW Central West LGAs of Orange City Council, Blayney Shire Council and Cabonne Shire Council are not permitted to enter the JBT or Booderee unless they have an approved exemption.**

Travellers need to keep up-to-date with where they can travel and which areas have been declared COVID-19 hotspots, as the COVID-19 situation in Australia is continually evolving.

The Jervis Bay Territory, including Booderee National Park, uses the same list of COVID-19 affected areas as the ACT to determine who is permitted to enter the JBT. Information about COVID-19 affected areas, and areas of concern can be found on the [ACT Government COVID-19 website](#).

Please consult this list before travelling to Booderee National Park.

## Why you should get vaccinated against COVID-19

COVID-19 can cause very serious illness, especially for the elderly and those in our community who have existing medical conditions.

Vaccines strengthen your immune system by training it to recognise and fight against specific viruses. When you get vaccinated, you are protecting yourself and helping to protect the whole community. There is early evidence that suggests COVID-19 vaccines also help reduce the spread of the virus.

When lots of people in the community are vaccinated, we rarely see the deadly diseases the vaccines prevent. For example, this includes very serious diseases such as diphtheria, measles and meningococcal diseases.

Widespread vaccination will give us the confidence to live with fewer restrictions, knowing our population will be protected against the worst effects of COVID-19. This means that preventive measures, such as border closures and travel restrictions, may be needed less.

Widespread vaccination will give businesses more confidence and provide us with more certainty to plan important events – for instance family and community business – with less likelihood of them having to be cancelled or disrupted by a COVID-19 outbreak.

Vaccination is our ticket out of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Until this is achieved, everyone should continue practising COVIDSafe behaviours. To find out more visit: [www.health.gov.au](http://www.health.gov.au)

### National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation CEO Pat Turner on why you should get vaccinated:

“Please get your COVID-19 shots! It’s not just important for us as individuals but it’s important for all members of our families and our communities. The more people have the vaccination the safer we will be.”



Need medical help?	
<b>Wreck Bay community health clinic</b> Telehealth appointments available	Mondays and Thursdays 9:40am–3:00pm (02) 4448 0200 or 1800 215 099
<b>COVID-19 Assessment Clinic</b> Shoalhaven Hospital	8:30am–4:30pm 7 days a week 1300 002 108