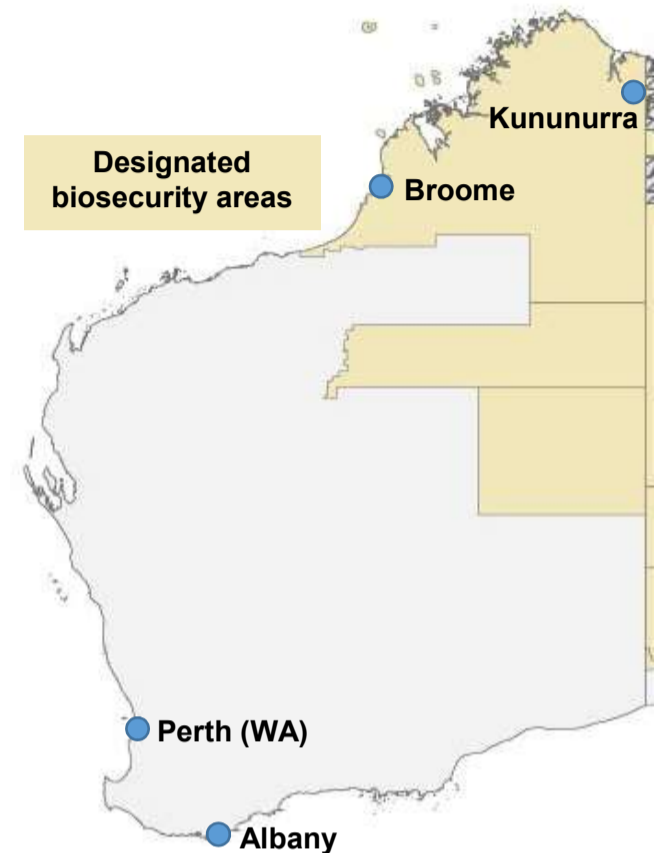


Frequently Asked Questions – Travel restrictions for the Kimberley region, parts of the East Pilbara and Ngaanyatjarraku Shire

- Travel between all regions in Western Australia is restricted under the [Prohibition on Regional Travel Directions](#)
- Travel into Western Australia from interstate or overseas is restricted under the [Quarantine \(Closing the Border\) Directions](#).
- Travel to **designated areas** (the entire Kimberley region, parts of the East Pilbara and the Shire of Ngaanyatjarraku) is subject to a higher level of **restrictions** issued by the Federal Government under the *Biosecurity Act 2015* (Cth)
- Travel between shires in the Kimberley region is also **restricted** under the Emergency Management Act 2005 (WA).
- Travel to remote Aboriginal communities is subject to additional **restrictions under the Remote Aboriginal Communities Directions**. You should contact the community before travelling

For more information about the restrictions visit www.wa.gov.au/soedeclarations



What do the travel restrictions mean for me?



Can I travel to the Kimberley, East Pilbara or Ngaanyatjarraku designated areas?



In most cases, no. The new **restrictions** are designed to ensure that people stay home, unless absolutely necessary.

Generally, a person can only enter a designated area:

- for the purpose of an **essential activity** that is either **urgently needed** or covered by an **approved risk management plan**;
OR
- after **self-isolating for 14 days outside the designated area**. Travellers who enter after self-isolation must be travelling for one of the purposes permitted in Western Australia's [inter-regional travel restrictions](#) or [cross-border travel restrictions](#).

All travellers must complete the [COVID-19 Entry into WA Designated Areas Form](#), which sets out the permitted reasons for travel. Special arrangements are in place for mining and food production operations. For more information contact 13 COVID (132 68 43).

You will need to provide confirmation that:

- you do not have any signs or symptoms of COVID-19;
- you have not been outside Australia in the past 14 days; and
- you have not been exposed to coronavirus.

In exceptional cases, you may seek **special permission** to enter by completing the *Application for Special Permission* section of the [COVID-19 Entry into WA Designated Areas Form](#).

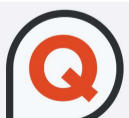


Do the State Government's restrictions on regional travel and the Federal *Biosecurity Act 2015* restrictions both apply?



Yes. You must meet the requirements of both the [Federal Biosecurity Act 2015 restrictions](#) and the State's [inter-regional restrictions](#) and [cross-border travel restrictions](#).

Additional **restrictions** apply for travel to remote Aboriginal communities, and restrictions may differ between communities. Some remote Aboriginal communities have closed their access roads. You should contact the community before planning to travel there.



If the State Government's Prohibition on Regional Travel Directions say I am allowed to travel between regions, can I travel to a designated area?



You can only travel into a designated area if you meet the requirements in the [Federal Biosecurity Act 2015 restrictions](#). Within the Kimberley, you can only travel between shires if you meet the requirements of the [Prohibition on Travel Between Local Government Districts in the Kimberley Directions](#).



Can I return home to a designated area? Have the rules changed?



If you are in another part of Western Australia, you may return home to a designated area if you have self-isolated outside the designated area for past 14 days.

If you are outside Western Australia, and do not fit into any of the exemption categories in the [cross-border travel restrictions](#), you will need to [apply for special approval to enter Western Australia](#), and explain why your circumstances are exceptional.

The rules under the [Federal Biosecurity Act 2015 restrictions](#) have changed. From Monday 13 April 2020, people will no longer be able to return home to a designated area without first self-isolating for 14 days outside the designated area.

In exceptional cases, you may seek **special permission to enter the designated biosecurity area** by completing the *Application for Special Permission* section of the [COVID-19 Entry into WA Designated Areas Form](#).



How long will these restrictions be in place?



The [Federal Biosecurity Act 2015 restrictions](#) started on 26 March 2020 and will end on 18 June 2020. It is not known at this time whether they will be extended.

The State Government's travel restrictions came into effect on 18 March 2020 ([remote Aboriginal communities](#)), 1 April 2020 ([travel between regions](#)), 2 April 2020 ([travel within the Kimberley](#)), and 5 April 2020 ([travel from outside Western Australia](#)). The end date of the restrictions is not known at this time.



Are there still flights going into Broome and Kununurra?



Yes, airlines are still servicing these airports. You should ensure you can enter before making travel arrangements.



Once I am in the Kimberley, can I travel between shires (e.g. Broome to Derby, Kununurra to Halls Creek)?



Travel between Kimberley shires is [restricted](#). You cannot travel from one shire to another unless you need to travel to return home; to obtain vital goods or services; to meet your obligations as a parent or primary carer; for education or work purposes; to escape harm; for compassionate reasons, or as required by law. A full list of exemptions is available at wa.gov.au/soedeclarations



I have had an operation in Perth and am due to return home using the Patient Assistance Scheme (PATS). Do I need to self-isolate? Where do I do that? Who pays?



You should first seek medical advice about your planned travel. If you do travel you will need to self-isolate for 14 days before entering the designated area, unless you have obtained special permission. You are responsible for the costs of your self-isolation. If you are experiencing financial hardship, you may be eligible for assistance. For more information contact 13 COVID (132 68 43).



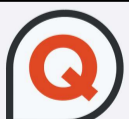
Can I transit through a designated area on my way to another region or interstate?



Yes, if you are travelling for one of the reasons allowed in the [restrictions on travel between regions](#) (such as returning home) and you take the most direct route; only stop for fuel; and do not come into contact with anyone in the area. You will need to complete and sign the [COVID-19 Entry into WA Designated Areas Form](#) before entering the designated area.

If travelling interstate, you must check beforehand whether you will be allowed to enter the Northern Territory or South Australia and can meet the conditions of entry into that jurisdiction.

What about if I provide an essential service?



I am delivering an essential service. Can I travel to a designated area even if I have been overseas within the past 14 days or am feeling unwell?



No. Nobody can legally enter a designated area if they have been outside Australia in the past 14 days, or are showing signs or symptoms of COVID-19, or have been exposed to coronavirus without adequate protection.



I provide an essential service and am due to travel to a designated area for my next shift. Are there restrictions on me doing this?



Yes. You **may not** enter the designated area if you have any symptoms of COVID-19; have been overseas in the past 14 days; or have been exposed to coronavirus without adequate protection. This will need to be confirmed by completing the [COVID-19 Entry into WA Designated Areas Form](#).

You must self-isolate for 14 days before entering the designated area, unless this is not possible because the essential service is required urgently. Organisations delivering essential services should consider how prior self-isolation can be built into rostering and deployment arrangements.

You will be required to take reasonable steps to minimise the risk of transmitting coronavirus to any other person. If it is possible to self-isolate for any length of time before entering the designated area, you should do so because this can still lower the risk of transmitting the virus (every day counts).

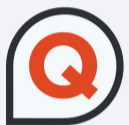
Draft COVID-19 risk management plans should be submitted to WABiosecurityEntryRequest@police.wa.gov.au for approval by a Human Biosecurity Officer. For more information contact 13 COVID (132 68 43).



I provide an essential activity and am therefore exempt from the travel restrictions. Is my family also exempt?



No, family members of essential workers are not exempt from the travel restrictions. They are required to complete 14 days self-isolation before entering the designated area. The only exception is that teachers and other education staff can take their immediate family with them when travelling between shires in the Kimberley.



Is my business an 'essential activity'?



Refer to the [Federal Government's Biosecurity Determination](#) and the State [Prohibition on Regional Travel Directions, Quarantine \(Closing the Border\) Directions, Prohibition on Travel Between Local Government Districts in the Kimberley Directions](#). For more information contact 13 COVID (132 68 43).

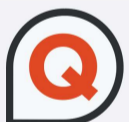


I operate a business that provides an essential service in the designated area. How do I get a COVID-19 risk management plan approved?



Draft COVID-19 risk management plans should be submitted to WABiosecurityEntryRequest@police.wa.gov.au for approval by a Human Biosecurity Officer. For more information contact 13 COVID (132 68 43).

What are the rules about self-isolation?

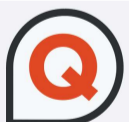


I live in a remote Aboriginal community. Can I complete my period of self-isolation back at community?



No – Unless you are engaged in an essential activity or have obtained special permission, you must self-isolate for 14 days before entering the designated area.

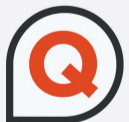
Additional travel [restrictions](#) also apply for remote Aboriginal communities. Some communities have closed their access roads. You need to contact the community corporation or council to make sure you can safely return.



If I complete my self-isolation in a different region before returning home to a designated area, do I need to provide evidence of this?



Yes, you will need to complete and sign the [COVID-19 Entry into WA Designated Areas Form](#) that confirms the details of your self-isolation. You may be asked to provide additional evidence.



Who pays for the cost of my self-isolation?



You are responsible for the costs of your self-isolation. If you are experiencing financial hardship, you may be eligible for assistance. For more information contact 13 COVID (132 68 43).



My child is still attending school outside a designated area and wants to return home. Do they need to self-isolate before coming home?



Yes, they will need to self-isolate for 14 days before entering the designated area, unless they have obtained special permission. To apply for permission, complete the *Application for Special Permission* section of the [COVID-19 Entry into WA Designated Areas Form](#).

Q I have a medical appointment in Perth and need to leave a designated area. Do I have to self-isolate before returning home?

A Yes, you will need to self-isolate for 14 days before entering the designated area, unless you have obtained special permission. To apply for permission, complete the *Application for Special Permission* section of the [COVID-19 Entry into WA Designated Areas Form](#).

Q I work for a mining / oil and gas company and am travelling into a designated area for work. Do I need to self-isolate for 14 days (either before or after arrival)?

A You need to speak to your employer or the operator of the mining/oil/gas activity. Your employer needs to have a plan in place that has been agreed with a human biosecurity officer. You will also need to comply with your employer's COVID-19 plan. For more information contact 13 COVID (132 68 43).

Q I need to travel to a designated area to work at a pastoral station, horticulture farm or other food production operation. Do I need to self-isolate for 14 days, either before or after arrival?

A You will need to self-isolate for 14 days before entering the designated area **unless**:

- there is an urgent need for you to enter the designated area to do your work; or
- your work is covered by a COVID-19 risk management plan approved by a human biosecurity officer.

You will need to comply with your employer's (or the operator's) COVID-19 risk management plan. You should contact your employer or the operator of the station or farm before starting your journey. You will need to complete and sign the [COVID-19 Entry into WA Designated Areas Form](#) before entering the designated area.

What evidence do I need to provide?

Q How do I prove I am healthy and not carrying coronavirus?

A You will need to complete and sign the [COVID-19 Entry into WA Designated Areas Form](#) answering specific health questions. It is a serious crime to provide false or misleading information, punishable by a fine or imprisonment. Authorities at entry points to the designated areas have been trained to recognise symptoms of coronavirus.

Q How do I prove I haven't been outside Australia for the past 14 days?

A You will need to complete and sign the [COVID-19 Entry into WA Designated Areas Form](#) confirming that you have not been outside Australia in the past 14 days. Incoming passenger information may be checked to ensure information is correct. It is a serious crime to provide false or misleading information, punishable by a fine or imprisonment.

Q How do I prove I have completed 14 days of self-isolation?

A You will need to complete and sign the [COVID-19 Entry into WA Designated Areas Form](#) confirming this information. Additional enquiries may be made to ensure the information is correct. It is a serious crime to provide false or misleading information, punishable by a fine or imprisonment.

For more information visit: www.wa.gov.au or call the COVID-19 Enquiries Line on 13COVID (132 68 43).

Acknowledgement of Country

The Government of Western Australia acknowledges the traditional custodians throughout Western Australia and their continuing connection to the land, waters and community. We pay our respects to all members of the Aboriginal communities and their cultures; and to Elders both past and present.