

Weddings, Funerals and Religious Ceremonies

The easing of Tasmania's COVID19 restrictions has begun, with Stage 1 taking effect as of Monday 18 May 2020.

What does this mean in relation to gatherings?

These are some of the common areas where people ordinarily come together for celebration, support or comfort, which have been severely impacted in recent times.

How many people can attend a wedding?

- From 18 May 2020, wedding attendees may increase to 10 people.
- This number of attendees exclude the people being married, as well as employees or volunteers required to facilitate the wedding.
- This means you can have 10 guests attend your special day – I can't imagine how hard it will be to pick just 10 but this may be the perfect excuse you need for a small, quiet wedding!
- This rule applies to both indoor and outdoor weddings (not that we see many outdoor weddings as winter approaches!)
- All attendees, including celebrants, couple being married and guests all need to ensure they have impeccable hand, cough and sneeze hygiene and note that the 4 square metres per attendee requirement applies to indoor or outdoor events, including marquees).
- All attendees are encouraged to socially distance – that is keep at least 1.5m apart – except perhaps the happy couple! Think about clever ways to photograph a COVID impacted wedding – it could become a special part of the memories.



How many people can attend a funeral?



- From 18 May 2020, the number of attendees permitted to attend a funeral will be 20 for indoor funeral ceremonies and 30 for outdoor funeral ceremonies.
- This number excludes employees and volunteers required to facilitate the funeral.
- It is important to ensure good hand hygiene and cough and sneeze hygiene, as well as social distancing as much as possible at this very sad time.

- We need to protect any vulnerable members of the family or friends of the deceased person at this time so consider streaming of the funeral service to enable access from home for these family members and friends.

Religious and ceremonial premises, religious ceremonies, worship or other similar services.

- From 18 May 2020, up to 10 people will be able to attend small religious gatherings, religious ceremonies, religious instruction, non-denominational ceremonies and other similar services. The 10-person limit does not include ceremonial staff, or volunteers that are required to deliver a religious ceremony/worship/other similar services.
- Physical distancing and the limit of 4 square metres per person applies.
- Larger services may continue to be provided by electronic means.



Things to remember:

You should continue to use physical distancing at all times when you are out (staying at least 1.5 metres from other people), wash your hands regularly and cover coughs and sneezes.

If you are unwell, you should stay home and arrange testing for coronavirus if you have any cough or cold symptoms.

For more information on gatherings visit:

<https://coronavirus.tas.gov.au/families-community/gatherings/gatherings-faqs>