

COVID-19 (Coronavirus) and the Australian borders

Dear Fellow citizens

As you are aware, the Australian government has taken drastic measures to minimize the spread of the virus. Those measures reflect the gravity of the situation which is affecting not only the Australian population but the worldwide one, and request from all of those who are facing this situation a sense of responsibility and respect of all those measures.

I am sur that the Algerian community living in Australia, New Zealand and all the neighboring countries fells compelled by these measures.

The Embassy advises all Algerian citizens, to comply with the measures taken by the States/ territories and Federal government, such as self isolation, personal hygiene, and distancing.

In addition to the mentioned measures, a six months travel ban has been decreed and will come into place, from 9.00 pm AEDT Friday 20th March 2020.

According to this new regulation, **Only** Australian citizens, permanent residents and immediate family members are exonerated from that ban and can travel to Australia during this period. Since most of our community have the double nationality, they are eligible to that exception.

Here are below the details of those measures you need to comply by, depending on your status:

- **An Australian citizen**

You can come to Australia. You will need to self-isolate for 14 days, at home or in a hotel.

Australians are advised not to travel overseas. Australian's overseas should return home as soon as possible. For further information see [Smartraveller](#).

- **A permanent resident of Australia**

You can come to Australia. You will need to self-isolate for 14 days, at home or in a hotel. For advice on travelling outside of Australia see [Smartraveller](#).

- **A New Zealand citizen usually resident in Australia**

You can come to Australia. You will need to self-isolate for 14 days, at home or in a hotel. You must carry proof of residency (driver's licence or documents in relation to your residency).

- **An immediate family member of Australian citizens and permanent residents.** Immediate family means:
 - spouses
 - dependents
 - legal guardians

For those who have a temporary visa and has been caught in Australia by the events and were not able to leave before the expiry of their visa, they must apply for a new visa before the current visa expires. They are eligible to be granted a bridging visa that keep them lawful until a decision is made concerning their visa application.

- **For those who fall in that case, please check the links below:**

www.homeaffairs.gov.au/news-media/current-alerts/novel-coronavirus

(<https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/visa-about-to-expire/stay-longer>)

Please don't hesitate to contact the Embassy if you are affected by the travel ban.

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