

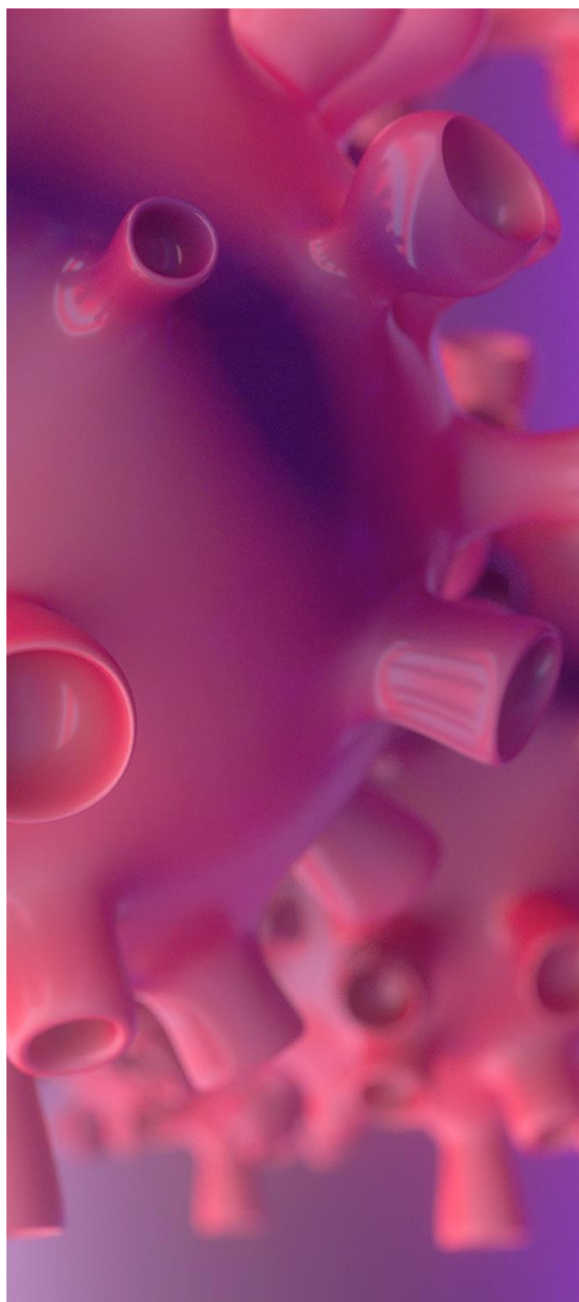
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# COVID-19 (No. 25)

Legal Flash | Portugal

Updated July 20, 2020

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- **Extension of the declaration of the situation of calamity, contingency and alert during the COVID-19 pandemic - Resolution of the Council of Ministers no. 53-A/2020 of July 14**



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## Extension of the declaration of the situation of calamity, contingency and alert during the COVID-19 pandemic

Although the number of new COVID-19 cases has generally declined in most regions in Portugal, cases continue to persist in some areas of Lisbon and the Tejo Valley.

Consequently, to effectively break the transmission chains of the virus, the government has decided to extend the declaration of different levels of risk based on region, which has been in effect since July 1.

Extensions have been imposed on the declaration of the situation of alert for mainland Portugal, the declaration of the situation of contingency for the Lisbon Metropolitan Area (AML) and the declaration of the situation of calamity in 19 districts (*freguesias*) of the AML, with effect from midnight on July 15, 2020, until 11:59 p.m. on July 31, 2020.

During this new period, the government has kept in place most of the restrictive measures previously approved concerning people's freedom to gather in public areas and on public thoroughfares, the closing of commercial establishments by a certain time and the ban on selling alcoholic drinks, as already discussed in our [Legal Flash COVID-19 no. 23 \(dated June 29\)](#).

Specific rules have now been introduced that apply to air traffic and airports, as well as fairs and similar facilities. The government is also allowing some new commercial and service establishments to stay open after 8 p.m. in the Lisbon Metropolitan Area.

The Resolution of the Council of Ministers no. 53-A/2020 of July 14, which approved these measures, was amended the next day to remove the provision that appeared in the original version of the resolution, allowing restaurants located in the area covered by the situation of alert to stay open until 1 a.m. and accept new customers up until midnight. Following the amendment, the previous system remains in place, with restaurants still only being allowed to accept new customers up until 11 p.m.

### ➤ **New measures that apply to commercial activities in the region covered by the situation of contingency**

In the Lisbon Metropolitan Area, a few changes have been made regarding retail and service establishments, which no longer have to close by 8 p.m.

In addition to the premises that were allowed to remain open later than 8 p.m. in the previous de-confinement period (see our [COVID-19 Legal Flash no. 23 of June 29](#)), the following are now permitted to stay open past the above time:



- Places that sell non-prescription medications
- Premises that provide vehicle only rental services for freight vehicles (rent-a-cargo) and passenger vehicles (rent-a-car), which may now close at 1 a.m. and reopen at 6 a.m. (depending on the opening hours of the premises)
- Premises located inside Lisbon airport, beyond passport control

Changes were also made to the opening times of fuel stations, which (depending on their opening hours) can now stay fully open until 10 p.m. and may remain open after this time solely to allow customers to buy fuel.

Finally, retail and service establishments, as well as establishments in shopping malls that are usually allowed to operate 24 hours a day but that are now required to close by 8 p.m., may reopen at 6 a.m.

### ➤ Rules that apply to air traffic and airports

Passengers on flights from countries considered an epidemiological risk must show on departure proof that they have had a negative SARS-CoV-2 laboratory test in the past 72 hours and may be refused entry into Portugal if they fail to do so.

The list of countries considered an epidemiological risk is compiled by joint order of government ministers.

In exceptional cases, Portuguese nationals, foreigners who are legally resident in Portugal, members of the diplomatic corps who have been assigned to Portugal and other people on-board a flight who fail to present a negative test on entry into Portugal will be sent to be tested at either their own expense or the expense of their employers, as applicable.

These laboratory tests will be made available and performed by ANA - Aeroportos de Portugal, S. A. (ANA, S. A.) using health care professionals with suitable training. This service may be sub-contracted.

In addition to laboratory tests, at the Portuguese international airports it manages, ANA, S. A. must perform infrared body temperature screening for all passengers arriving in Portugal.

Passengers who are found to have high body temperatures, as defined by the Directorate-General for Health (DGS), must be immediately taken to a suitable space to measure their temperature again. Thereafter, if the situation so warrants, they may be required to have a SARS-CoV-2 laboratory test.

Passengers who undergo this laboratory test may leave the airport once they have provided contact details and must remain in confinement at their destinations until they receive the results of the test.



Airports in the Autonomous Regions of Madeira and the Azores are not required to perform body temperature screening and SARS-CoV-2 laboratory tests.

➤ **Rules that apply to fairs and similar facilities**

From July 15, and with the exception of the Lisbon Metropolitan Area, fairs and similar facilities will be allowed to open, provided they:

- a) observe the guidelines and instructions issued by the DGS in the technical report specifically prepared for this purpose;
- b) operate in an authorized location under the legal terms set by the local authority with jurisdiction;
- c) comply with Decree Law 268/2009 of September 29, which establishes the licensing system for traveling and improvised venues, as well as the technical and safety standards that apply to the installation and operation of fairground rides and attractions installed in these venues, as well as any other applicable legislation.



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Cuatrecasas has set up a Coronavirus Task Force, a multidisciplinary team that constantly analyses the situation emerging from the COVID-19 pandemic. For additional information, please contact our Task Force by email [TFcoronavirusPT@cuatrecasas.com](mailto:TFcoronavirusPT@cuatrecasas.com) or through your usual contact at Cuatrecasas. You can read our publications or attend our webinars on our [website](#).

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