**Covid-19 and Islands**

***Iceland***

1. What actions are being taken to protect the island community from Covid 19? In particular, how are travel restrictions being put in place and enforced?

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| Respondent | Date | Response |
| Dr. Laurie Brinklow  Co-ordinator of the Institute of Island Studies  UNESCO Chair in Island Studies and Sustainability  Government of Iceland's Honorary Consul for Prince Edward Island  [brinklow@upei.ca](mailto:brinklow@upei.ca) | 24 March 2020 | * 3 February to date - Iceland defines high-risk areas, including Northern Italy and Tyrol, earlier than other states, taking stricter measures with a 14-day quarantine requirement for all residents returning from those areas. * 27 February - First of daily press conferences, attended by Chief Epidemiologist, Director of Health and Chief of Civil Protection and Emergency Management. * 6 March - First two transmissions within Iceland confirmed, traced to infected individuals who had recently travelled to Northern Italy. Alert level raised to emergency phase. * 13 March - First cases of transmissions that could not be traced – a ban on large gatherings implemented. * 13 March - Screening for the virus that causes COVID-19 starts among the general public * The Foreign Minister urged all Icelanders abroad who are planning to return to Iceland to do so immediately, as all flights to the country may be cancelled by the end of this month. * 3 April- a new [tracking](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Finspiredbyiceland.us5.list-manage.com%2Ftrack%2Fclick%3Fu%3D08bad3ef14e4d04264ca17cdc%26id%3D0bca47e5cf%26e%3D5d85ca562a&data=02%7C01%7Cpatricia.berlouis.2015%40uni.strath.ac.uk%7C57131cdd0e2c4eec219c08d7d7f4644a%7C631e0763153347eba5cd0457bee5944e%7C0%7C0%7C637215316959406702&sdata=VjzmpujMe9KSHlJhra2QxXypYWu%2B9otVeECzQj%2FXddE%3D&reserved=0)[app](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Finspiredbyiceland.us5.list-manage.com%2Ftrack%2Fclick%3Fu%3D08bad3ef14e4d04264ca17cdc%26id%3D7553e890df%26e%3D5d85ca562a&data=02%7C01%7Cpatricia.berlouis.2015%40uni.strath.ac.uk%7C57131cdd0e2c4eec219c08d7d7f4644a%7C631e0763153347eba5cd0457bee5944e%7C0%7C0%7C637215316959416652&sdata=Pmkkb%2FugZn84h7wEdYHkQSbB9%2BlNge4%2FWmStdJnUefI%3D&reserved=0), developed by Icelandic civil protection authorities, in cooperation with Icelandic tech. The app will assist the police tracing squad that has played a key role in Iceland's fight against the virus over the last few weeks. At the time of writing over 70 thousand Icelanders have already downloaded the app, one day after its introduction. The app will assist the police tracing squad that has played a key role in Iceland's fight against the virus over the last few weeks. At the time of writing over 70 thousand Icelanders have already downloaded the app, one day after its introduction. * Of other news of action taken by health authorities in Iceland the partnership with deCode Genetics, for voluntary screening, has gained some interest internationally (e.g. [here](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Finspiredbyiceland.us5.list-manage.com%2Ftrack%2Fclick%3Fu%3D08bad3ef14e4d04264ca17cdc%26id%3D9d00d7bb67%26e%3D5d85ca562a&data=02%7C01%7Cpatricia.berlouis.2015%40uni.strath.ac.uk%7C57131cdd0e2c4eec219c08d7d7f4644a%7C631e0763153347eba5cd0457bee5944e%7C0%7C0%7C637215316959426604&sdata=aQT8oVr1QJjxnEpaKFPQsw0Mrv3W73lDXjQoTcFwPOw%3D&reserved=0), [here](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Finspiredbyiceland.us5.list-manage.com%2Ftrack%2Fclick%3Fu%3D08bad3ef14e4d04264ca17cdc%26id%3D7196d224a6%26e%3D5d85ca562a&data=02%7C01%7Cpatricia.berlouis.2015%40uni.strath.ac.uk%7C57131cdd0e2c4eec219c08d7d7f4644a%7C631e0763153347eba5cd0457bee5944e%7C0%7C0%7C637215316959426604&sdata=zOg1OSNnarU3psAA9IFJQTj9a9HHz%2FtiDCM5fACtgTg%3D&reserved=0) and [here](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Finspiredbyiceland.us5.list-manage.com%2Ftrack%2Fclick%3Fu%3D08bad3ef14e4d04264ca17cdc%26id%3Dd026a17982%26e%3D5d85ca562a&data=02%7C01%7Cpatricia.berlouis.2015%40uni.strath.ac.uk%7C57131cdd0e2c4eec219c08d7d7f4644a%7C631e0763153347eba5cd0457bee5944e%7C0%7C0%7C637215316959426604&sdata=rt5r7OneJBmROSXI0Fm1yTfmIgl6z5I6uuN4wjw3uUw%3D&reserved=0)). * The Government of Iceland has notified the European Commission that Iceland will participate in the EU’s travel ban. See [here](https://grapevine.is/news/2020/03/20/iceland-to-participate-in-eu-travel-ban/) * See updated information from the Directorate of Health [here](https://www.covid.is/english) |

1. What actions will be taken should people on the island have Covid 19?

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| Respondent | Date | Response |
| Dr. Laurie Brinklow  Co-ordinator of the Institute of Island Studies  UNESCO Chair in Island Studies and Sustainability  Government of Iceland's Honorary Consul for Prince Edward Island  [brinklow@upei.ca](mailto:brinklow@upei.ca) | 24 March 2020 | * 6 March - First two transmissions within Iceland confirmed, traced to infected individuals who had recently travelled to Northern Italy. Alert level raised to emergency phase. Quarantine requirements of all residents returning from high-risk areas * 13 March - First cases of transmissions that could not be traced – a ban on gatherings of 20 people or more starting Tuesday 24 March 2020. * 13 March - Screening for the virus that causes COVID-19 starts among the general public * Quarantine requirements for anyone who has been in contact with infected individuals. * University and upper secondary school-closures, limited opening of elementary schools and preschools * Screening for the virus among the public (non-quarantined individuals) |

1. What actions are being taken to ensure that essential goods and services are provided to the island community?

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| Respondent | Date | Response |
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1. What actions are being taken to ensure that people working on the islands, not only in the tourism sector, are sustained financially in the short term and in the long term?

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| Dr. Laurie Brinklow  Co-ordinator of the Institute of Island Studies  UNESCO Chair in Island Studies and Sustainability  Government of Iceland's Honorary Consul for Prince Edward Island  [brinklow@upei.ca](mailto:brinklow@upei.ca) | 24 March 2020 | * Althingi unanimously approved * Economic measures that assure extensive compensation payments to people forced to decrease their work percentage as well as wages to people required to be in quarantine. Information can be found [here](https://www.government.is/default.aspx?pageid=5781e635-46bb-4c79-8218-03d44073071e#Tab1) |

1. What actions are being taken to ensure the mental well-being of people on the islands?

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| Respondent | Date | Response |
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1. If you consider it appropriate, feel free to share any data about people who have Covid 19 on your island and of people who, sadly, have passed away because of Covid 19.

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| Dr. Laurie Brinklow  Co-ordinator of the Institute of Island Studies  UNESCO Chair in Island Studies and Sustainability  Government of Iceland's Honorary Consul for Prince Edward Island  [brinklow@upei.ca](mailto:brinklow@upei.ca) | 24 March 2020 | As of 24 March   * Iceland has tested a higher proportion of citizens than any other country yielding valuable insights into the behaviour of the virus * A total of 330 cases identified since first case on 28 February * 0 deaths * 3 hospitalizations * 33 cases identified from 4590 samples taken among generally non-symptomatic general population since Friday |

1. If applicable, how are lockdown measures being relaxed?

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1. Is there anything else you want to share?

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1. Resources

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| Resource and Date | Link |
| “Covid-19 Epidemic Receding in Iceland – 295 new infections in the past seven days and 363 recoveries”  Government of Iceland  9 April 2020 | Read [here](https://www.government.is/news/article/2020/04/09/Covid-19-epidemic-receding-in-Iceland-295-new-infections-in-the-past-seven-days-and-363-recoveries/) |
| “Iceland News Brief”  6 April 2020 | Read [here](https://mcusercontent.com/61d1c627b3e3a52f3dbd02d4b/files/0fe7ad28-db8e-4bca-89cb-ba11488f0cb4/200406_2493_INB.pdf) |

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*This information has been collated by the Strathclyde Centre for Environmental Law and Governance in collaboration with Island Innovation and can be found at* [*https://www.strath.ac.uk/research/strathclydecentreenvironmentallawgovernance/ourwork/research/labsincubators/eilean/islandsandcovid-19/*](https://www.strath.ac.uk/research/strathclydecentreenvironmentallawgovernance/ourwork/research/labsincubators/eilean/islandsandcovid-19/)*.*