**Covid-19 and Islands**

***Saaremaa, Estonia***

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 |
| [“An island off the coast of Estonia has been labeled 'corona island' after half of its population is presumed to have contracted COVID-19”](https://www.insider.com/estonia-island-saaremaa-covid-19-hotspot-2020-4)[Insider News Article](https://www.insider.com/estonia-island-saaremaa-covid-19-hotspot-2020-4) | 17 April 2020 | * To help prevent the spread of the virus, the Estonian government stopped passenger traffic to and from the island in mid-March.
* "For the very first time since the Soviet occupation, people need permits to enter," Anu Vares, who works with the island's crisis center, told the BBC. "But this time it is because of our free will to protect our people and their health."
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1. What actions will be taken should people on the island have Covid 19?

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| [“An island off the coast of Estonia has been labeled 'corona island' after half of its population is presumed to have contracted COVID-19”](https://www.insider.com/estonia-island-saaremaa-covid-19-hotspot-2020-4)[Insider News Article](https://www.insider.com/estonia-island-saaremaa-covid-19-hotspot-2020-4) | 17 April 2020 | * In early April, a military field hospital opened on Saaremaa to help with cases, [Reuters reported](https://www.reuters.com/article/health-coronavirus-estonia/refile-military-field-hospital-opens-on-estonian-virus-hit-island-idUSL8N2BQ5CI), and some patients have been flown to mainland Estonia, [according to Estonian Public Broadcasting](https://news.err.ee/1073140/timeline-how-saaremaa-became-the-epicenter-of-estonia-s-covid-19-outbreak).
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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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| Respondent | Date  | Response |
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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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| [“An island off the coast of Estonia has been labeled 'corona island' after half of its population is presumed to have contracted COVID-19”](https://www.insider.com/estonia-island-saaremaa-covid-19-hotspot-2020-4)[Insider News Article](https://www.insider.com/estonia-island-saaremaa-covid-19-hotspot-2020-4) | 17 April 2020 | * Half of the residents of Saaremaa, which has a population of about 33,000 are presumed to have COVID-19, an island doctor, Edward Laane, told BBC News.
* It's unclear exactly how many people have tested positive for COVID-19 on Saaremaa, but Estonia as a whole has at least 1,400 reported cases.

Laane said the island only has 147 hospital beds and is expecting 1,000 COVID-19 hospitalizations by April 20. |

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

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| Respondent | Date  | Response |
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1. Is there anything else you want to share?

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| Respondent | Date  | Response |
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1. Resources

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| Resource and Date | Link |
| “Life on Estonia’s ‘Corona Island’ Saaremaa”BBC News15 April 2020 | View [here](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/world-europe-52282118/coronavirus-life-on-estonia-s-corona-island-saaremaa) |
| “Islanders protest emergency situation restrictions in Saaremaa”European Small Islands Federation28 April 2020 | Read [here](https://europeansmallislands.com/2020/04/28/islanders-protest-emergency-situation-restrictions-in-saaremaa/) |

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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/)*.*