



Destination
North Coast NSW

North Coast News & Views No. 71

Easing Of Travel Restrictions

The National Cabinet outlines a [Roadmap to a COVIDSAFE Australia](#). Regional travel to resume at discretion of States and Territories; international travel “not likely in the near future” were two of the key messages to come from cabinet announcements late last week.

The [three-step framework](#) to ease the rules agreed and announced last Friday sets out a roadmap to achieve a COVIDSAFE economy and society by July this year. At a national level, Stage 1 allows restaurants and cafes to reopen (limited capacity rules apply); community centres, outdoor gyms, playgrounds and skate parks allow up to 10 people; people will be able to undertake local and regional travel. Cabinet will review the stages every three weeks.

The framework will be implemented at a pace set by individual states and territories to suit their local circumstances. The NSW Premier announced the [easing of restrictions in NSW](#) would come into effect from tomorrow, Friday 15th which follows most but not all of the National Cabinet measures with local and regional travel still not permitted.

Live From Aus - Tourism Australia's Live Stream

As announced last week, Live from Aus kicks off tomorrow night, Friday 15 May with a special one-hour broadcast at 7:30pm on The Project on Network Ten. 'The Love Australia Project' will be headlined by Australian tourism and entertainment personalities who will shine a spotlight on unique experiences across the country.

Ongoing broadcasting and streaming will continue over the weekend and beyond connecting Aussies with our country's unique people, places, wildlife and culture.

Find out how you can get involved and support [Live from Aus](#) and Australian tourism generally. Review [Live from Aus Factsheet](#).



Trans-Tasman Bubble

[Economists predict](#) Australia's international borders will remain closed until 2021.

Australian border restrictions won't be lifted until the start of 2021 at the very earliest, nearly 90% of Australian economists forecasted in a survey conducted by Finder. Of the 31 consulted, two even expected it wouldn't be until 2022 that free travel returns. That's with the exception of travel between Australia and New Zealand, which the two governments have discussed as a likely exemption once they are satisfied with COVID-19 containment efforts.

Cancellation Of 2020 Tourism Awards

After careful deliberation, the [Australian Tourism Industry Council \(ATIC\)](#) has made the following determination regarding the Awards program for 2020:

The [Australian Tourism Awards](#) national program and the associated national event will not be proceeding for 2020.

The [NSW Tourism Awards](#) program will also not be proceeding for 2020. It's anticipated that the Awards will return with renewed vigour in 2021.

The Australian Tourism Industry Council (ATIC) have launched a free online tool to help businesses develop their own [COVID-19 Business Recovery Plan](#).

National Bushfire Recovery Agency Announces Extra Funding Of \$650 Million

The [Australian Government](#) has unveiled a new \$650 million package to support locally-led bushfire recovery with additional funding and support from the Commonwealth.

Part of the \$2 billion National Bushfire Recovery Fund, this package is focused on reviving and strengthening local economies; ensuring community wellbeing for the long-term; rebuilding

infrastructure; and nurturing our environment and native wildlife back to health. More than \$448.5 million will be used to fast-track the delivery of locally-led projects that align to recovery plans in impacted regions.

For more information on the new measures visit the [National Bushfire Recovery](#) website.

New Planning Tool To Help Businesses Reopen And Be COVIDsafe

The [National COVID-19 Coordination Commission](#) has created an online tool to help business develop a plan to keep their workers, customers and the community safe as they reopen or increase their activities in the weeks and months ahead.

The [tool which can be downloaded here](#) complements the [Safe Work Australia](#) online hub, which remains the definitive source of information for businesses to understand their work health and safety obligations.

Industry Development & Other Opportunities

List Your Virtual Experiences On Visitnsw.Com

Destination NSW is providing further support to tourism businesses that are adapting to the COVID-19 pandemic by temporarily accepting virtual experiences on [visitnsw.com](#) through the Get Connected program.

Destination NSW is calling on tourism businesses around the state to share their virtual experiences via [Get Connected](#) so they may be featured across websites and social media, reminding wanderlust viewers of the destinations and experiences to love in NSW - virtually for now, and in person in future.

STR – COVID-19 Impacts On Hotel Performance

[STR](#) who manage the country's accommodation data collection on behalf of the Government, are hosting a Webinar to provide the latest data and insights into the COVID-19 pandemic impact on hotel performance in key markets of the Pacific region at 10am, Friday 15th May.

[Register here.](#)

Free Listings For Adventure Tour Operators

Leading travel website [We Are Explorers](#) is using its voice and reach in the tourism sector for good through a new directory and free listings for adventure tour operators. The publisher is offering operators across Australia and New Zealand free six-monthly listings on the platform to support businesses hit the hardest by COVID-19 and the bushfires. Reaching over one million Australians each month adventure and lovers of the great outdoors, We Are Explorers look to inspire Aussies to start dreaming about their first adventure when restrictions are lifted and support local communities by exploring the incredible places within Australia.

Check their [Tour Directory](#) and contact [Bee Stephens](#) for more information.

Business Resilience & Continuity Planning Webinar Follow-Up

If you missed the Destination North Coast **Business Resilience & Continuity Planning Webinar** on Tuesday, take the time to view the recording of what was a very informative session presented by Stewart Moore, CEO of [Earthcheck](#).

Our COVID-19 Webinar Series including the above and webinars on **Tourism Grants Funding** and **Unpacking Economic Stimulus** are available on the [Destination North Coast](#)

[website.](#)

Leveraging The Power Of Collaboration Marketing

Byron Bay Chamber of Commerce will [host this free workshop](#) facilitated by Jess Ruhfus, Founder of [Collabosaurus](#), a marketing platform that match-makes brands for clever collaborations & partnerships. It's on this afternoon from 1:00 pm.



Funding And Other Opportunities

[Public Interest News Gathering Program](#)

Support the provision of public interest journalism in regional Australia. Closes 29 May 2020.

[Investing in Women Funding Program](#)

Funds NSW organisations to develop and implement projects that support the role of women in society. Closes 31 May 2020.

[Sunsuper Community Grants](#)

Sunsuper is once again lending a helping hand to community groups through its Dreams for a Better World program. Grants are available for not-for-profit organisation or community group with dreams of helping to create brighter futures for Australians or a more active community or support others to live better. Closes 26 June 2020.

North Coast News & Product Innovation

Welcome to Wandana Brewing Co

New kid on the block for craft brewing in the Northern Rivers is [Wandana](#), Mullumbimby.

Your chance to check them out (take-away only of course) on [Sunday 16th May](#) between 12.00pm – 6.00pm where there'll also be a take-away Junkyard BBQ Food Truck.

The Taste Tweed Farm Tour in a Box

[Mount Warning Tours](#) are taking their loyal customers on a unique journey of the stunning Tweed Shire by sharing the stories and produce of the valley's growers and makers. The [Taste Tweed Farm Tour in a BOX](#) provides an experience of the unique caldera and its produce from the comfort of home and comes with a selection of thirteen individual products made from locally grown produce in the Tweed and Northern Rivers area. These tasting products will be accompanied with a documentary of the local farms and makers giving a [virtual tour](#) of their farms and businesses, and an insight into their passion for the region that flows into their produce.

COVID-19 Resource Directory

To aid access to relevant information and to find links to appropriate Government and other resources, check the Destination North Coast [COVID-19 Directory](#) on our website.

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