

## Press Release

### **Corona Prevention: Erfurt, Jena, Gera, Weimar and Suhl take further measures**

Mayors of the self-governing towns in Thuringia agreed on further clear measures to stop the spread of the Corona virus today. Alongside Erfurt, Jena, Gera, Weimar and Suhl, Eisenach is also planning to follow these measures in consultation with the municipality of Wartburg.

“All the mayors are aware of the gravity of the decisions made in the past few days. Public life in our towns will be greatly restricted. But the measures are necessary to protect the health of as many people as possible”, stressed Weimar’s Mayor Peter Kleine.

“These measures are useless though unless every single person in society does their part to get through this difficult situation. That’s why I am asking everyone to reduce their social contact to an absolute minimum. If you don’t have urgent things which need to be done, stay at home. This is the only way to get the Corona virus under control.”

#### **The new protective measures are:**

- All kinds of events, gatherings, leisure activities, city tours, or organised meetings are banned.
- Spontaneous or planned gatherings in parks are not allowed
- Shops are closed.

Except:

- Food stores (e.g. Supermarkets, bakeries, butchers),
  - Farmer’s markets (only for food)
  - Delivery services
  - Liquor stores
  - Chemists
  - Medical supply stores,
  - Drug stores
  - Petrol stations
  - Banks and credit unions
  - Post offices
  - Laundromats
  - News stands
  - Hardware and pet-supplies stores
  - Wholesalers
- These stores have to follow the current recommendations of the Robert Koch Institute (RKI) about Covid-19. Staff should be trained regularly.

- In areas where you might have contact (especially in queues or at the cash register) stores must take measures to keep 1.5 metres distance between people.
- There must be clearly readable signs with hygiene warnings, reminders to keep a distance of 1.5 metres between people, and reminders to stay at home if you show symptoms.
- Sunday shopping is allowed for essential items between 8am and 6pm.
- Tradesmen and service providers are allowed to keep working.
- Services with physical contact are not allowed, especially hairdressers, cosmetics and nail studios, tattoo and massage parlours.
- Treatments prescribed by a doctor are still allowed (e.g. psych-, physio- and ergo therapy).
- It is possible to apply for an exception at the public order office (Ordnungsamt) for businesses which are essential to the public, as long as each case is acceptable from the perspective of maintaining protection against infection.
- All recreational facilities are banned in the city:

These include:

- Restaurants, refectories, canteens etc.
  - Bars, cafés, clubs, pubs etc.
  - Theatres, orchestras, museums a etc.
  - Trade fairs, exhibitions, cinemas, zoos, amusement parks, and amusement services (indoor and outdoor), specialised markets, casinos, betting shops etc.
  - Brothels etc.
  - Sports at all sports facilities, pools, gyms etc. (public and private)
  - All other points of sale not otherwise listed, especially outlet-centres
  - Playgrounds (outdoor and indoor).
- Takeaway and delivery food services are still allowed. You cannot eat at the store though.

You are not allowed to form groups at delivery points. There should be reminders (like markings on the floor) to remind you to keep 1.5 metres distance.

- Running hotels, BnBs, youth hostels etc. is still forbidden.

- The following is still banned in the city: meetings in clubs and other sports and leisure facilities, courses at adult education or music centres and other public and private educational institutions outside of school, and coach travel.

- Meetings in churches, mosques, synagogues and other religious communities are also banned.

The general decree is effective until the 19<sup>th</sup> of April 2020. The measures will take effect the day after they are announced in the local press. The new rules will start on Friday the 20<sup>th</sup> of March 2020.