

# SOUTHERN PORTS INFORMATION UPDATE

## Novel Coronavirus COVID-19



Last updated at 8am  
24 March 2020

Southern Ports continues to address the threat of COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus), and to assess and implement the advice provided by the relevant Government Departments, including the Australian Border Force.

The risk of transmission of COVID-19 in Australia remains low, however Southern Ports recognises the situation is evolving, and we remain vigilant. A range of strict protocols and procedures are in place and our priorities during this time are to protect and support our staff and port users, protect our communities, and to support the WA freight task and economy.

The Australian Border Force and the Federal Department of Agriculture are responsible for assessing incoming vessels and their crew.

### CARGO VESSELS

All cargo ship crew arriving in Albany, Bunbury or Esperance are required to adhere to a 14 day on-board isolation period from the day they leave their International departure port.

Australian Border Force and Biosecurity Officers are responsible for border clearance processes. Vessels that report ill persons will undergo a human health inspection by a Biosecurity Officer on arrival, and before the vessel is granted entrance to the port.

The WA State Government has also introduced restrictions and arrival requirements to incoming visitors from other Australian States and Territories. Exemptions to these restrictions apply to essential services and workers, including freight of essential goods, via ports and trucks.

Click [here](#) for more information on the Federal Government's advice to the marine industry.

### CRUISE SHIPS

There will be no cruise ships visiting Albany, Bunbury or Esperance until the 31 May 2020. Ongoing restrictions may be put in place, and these will be reviewed regularly.

### SOUTHERN PORTS WORKFORCE

Southern Ports have robust crisis and emergency management plans, which can be activated as the need arises. We are encouraging our staff to adhere to the personal hygiene and travel advice provided by the Federal Department of Health.

### MORE INFORMATION

More information on the symptoms of COVID-19 and the personal hygiene measures you can take to help protect yourself can be found on the World Health Organisation [website](#).

Southern Ports encourages community members to keep up-to-date with the latest information about COVID-19 through the WA Government's [daily updates](#), or the Federal Government's COVID-19 [health alerts](#).