

## **Status in Alta January 4th, 2021.**

- Chief physicians announce that per January 4th, 2 persons has tested positive for coronavirus. They are both in isolation.
- 10 persons are in quarantine.
- About 30 persons has been tested for corona virus during the Christmas and the New Years weeks. Testing is continually taking place broadly to be able to discover potentially infected persons.

## **Two Persons Tested Positive during Christmas and New Years Holidays**

On December 25th 2020 one person traveling from red country tested positive. The concerned had been in quarantine since the arrival in Alta, and was then in isolation when the positiv test was confirmed.

On December 31st a traveller from the Oslo area tested positive. The concerned had been in quarantine, and was then in isolation after the positiv test was determined. Tracking of infection was done and 10 persons were put in quarantine.

## **New and Strengthened National Infection Measures Implemented**

Since the infection is on the rise lately, the Norwegian government announced on yesterday's press release that they have decided to strengthen its infection measures. These measures are implemented for two weeks, effective from January 4th.

- A maximum of five people may gather for private gatherings, such as a birthday in hired premises. If there are more than five members of one household, then all members of the household are permitted to meet.
- There is a limit of ten people for indoor sporting events, cultural events, seminars, faith community gatherings, ceremonies, etc., in addition to a limit of 200 people where everyone in the audience is seated in fixed seating. Up to 50 people are permitted to attend funerals, even if the seating is not fixed.
- A national prohibition against serving alcohol drinks in bars, restaurants and at arrangements.
- The special rules applicable to church walks will be discontinued immediately, instead of from January 15th.

In addition the government have the following recommendations the next two weeks:

- Avoid hosting guests in your home, and wait 14 days to make private visits. Exemptions apply for necessary home-based services and visits to people who may die soon. Persons who live alone may receive visits from or pay visits to one or two specific friends or to one specific household. Children in kindergartens and primary schools may receive visits from members of their own cohort.
- It is recommended that all organized leisure activities, sporting activities, cultural events and indoor faith community gatherings be postponed until after January 18th. This also applies to all indoor activities that bring together children and young people across classes/cohorts. Outdoor activities can take place if distance of one meter is kept.
- Avoid all non-essential travel domestically and abroad. Stays in cabins with persons from the same household continue to be permitted provided they take place in accordance with all applicable local and national rules and guidelines.

- All shopping centers and shops must introduce limits on the number of customers permitted inside to enable distancing and to control access to the premises. During the course of the coming days, the government will assess whether to introduce these limits on customer numbers and access control requirements into law.
- All upper and lower secondary schools in Norway will switch to a red level of alert.
- All teaching and planned events at universities, university colleges and vocational training schools will take place digitally until January 18th.
- Working from home is advised for everybody who is able to do so.

### **The Management of Crises in Alta/Alta kommunes kriseledelse, has Decided to Follow the National Recommendations**

This means that

- All arrangements like sport, sports halls, etc. are closed for two weeks. Cultural schools are closed. Swimming pools are open.
- The municipality of Alta is following national recommendations of home office where possible. Affected employees decide in cooperation with nearest manager.
- Upper and lower secondary schools will switch to a red level of alert. For further questions contact school.
- Do not make private visits and avoid guests the next two weeks.
- Avoid all non-essential travel.

To get an effect of the measures introduced, we all have to follow them.

This is the only way to avoid a new wave of infection. The vaccine is on the way, so there is light at the end of the tunnel. Until we have done vaccination of enough people, we have to endure strict measures and limitations.

Therefore it is important that you get tested! If you suspect that you are infected or have respiratory symptoms, get tested. Don't hesitate, order day and time for testing!

Call the corona phone number 913 90 344 for booking a time for testing. Monday to Friday the phone is open 0800 - 1500.

Stay home until you have the result of your test.

Many get mild symptoms, the best measure then is to stay home. For further information <https://www.alta.kommune.no/>

Norway has a quarantine for travelers arriving from red or yellow countries/districts. Read more

<https://www.fhi.no/nettpub/coronavirus/fakta/reiserad-knyttet-til-nytt-koronavirus-coronavirus/>

Even if we, per January 4th, have few infection cases in Alta, we have to follow the strict infection measures. Keep one meters distance, have good hand and cough hygiene. Stay home if you catch a cold or get sick.

## **Opening Hours for Corona Phone and Testing**

Call 913 90 344 for ordering day and time for testing.

From Monday to Friday opening hours are 0800 - 1500.

Home page of Alta Municipality will continually be updated when changes occur. Change of opening hours will be considered continually.

It is crucial that people who think they are infected, **must not** visit their private doctor or the emergency at Alta Clinic. Stay home, then contact Public Health via corona phone!

## **Our Covid-19 email**

The Covid-19 email, [covid19@alta.kommune.no](mailto:covid19@alta.kommune.no), is available for general questions. Questions like «a need of being tested», or the ordering of time for a test, will not be answered through the Covid-19 email. For ordering time for testing call the Corona phone.

## **Call 113 for Accident or illness**

Call 113 Emergency if you or some family member are seriously ill.

## **The Press Release is Translated to Polish and English**

It is published at <https://www.alta.kommune.no/alt-om-korona-i-alta.6293726-524827.html>

## **National Authorities Information Updates**

We encourage residents of Alta to follow these internet pages

Norwegian Institute of Public Health(FHI) - <https://www.fhi.no/>

Public Health Service - <https://helsenorge.no/>

Norw. Directorate of Health - <https://www.helsedirektoratet.no/tema/beredskap-og-krisehandtering/koronavirus/anbefalinger-og-beslutninger>

Directorate of Education -<https://www.udir.no/>

For Youth - [www.ung.no](http://www.ung.no)

National Urgency Phone - [www.116111.no](http://www.116111.no).

On Corona - [https://www.regjeringen.no/no/tema/koronavirus/veiledere-om-koronasituasjonen/id2697760/?mc\\_cid=355e06cd8c&mc\\_eid=ac40ccdbf](https://www.regjeringen.no/no/tema/koronavirus/veiledere-om-koronasituasjonen/id2697760/?mc_cid=355e06cd8c&mc_eid=ac40ccdbf)

Next press release will be published 06.01.21. We continually consider how often the press release will be published.