



Press briefing – 360/05/2020

10.05.2020

Page 1 of 3

A blue print for opening up trade, gastronomy, hotels, tourism and trade fairs

Public relations
department of State
Chancellery 40213
Düsseldorf

Phone 0211 837-1134
0211 837-1405
or 0211 837-1151

Pinkwart: We are committed to responsible, cautious market penetration so that companies and their employees can partake in the upward trend

presse@stk.nrw.de
www.land.nrw

The Ministry of Economic Affairs, Innovation, Digitalisation and Energy (MWIDE) has reported as follows:

The state government has proposed a plan to open up the gastronomy, hotel and tourism sectors that have been hit hard by the crisis. According to the plan, restaurants, holiday homes, campsites and hotels will open their doors to the public slowly and steadily from 11 May onwards, under strict protective regulations. The corona-related restrictions on retail space will no longer apply and trade fairs will be allowed to take place again from the end of May. All ease-ups are subject to the condition that the infection situation does not deteriorate. This was announced by the Minister of Economic Affairs, Prof. Dr. Andreas Pinkwart.

Pinkwart: "Reviving the economy is essentially imperative. After all, we are faced with the biggest crisis since the end of World War II. Many traders have suffered massive losses. I am therefore very pleased that all shops, irrespective of size, will be allowed to open again from 11 May. This will generate new buying impetus and the profit situation of the businesses can once again improve.

In addition, we are using the margins of manoeuvre that we have developed to open up the most hard-hit sectors, namely gastronomy and tourism, with responsibility and caution. Bit by bit, the restaurateurs and hoteliers should be able to achieve the turnover that they were able to before the crisis – this is the only way they can provide promising prospects to their 150,000 employees.

If the infection situation does not deteriorate, trade fairs and conventions may soon be permitted to take place again under strict conditions - making North Rhine-Westphalia a trailblazer in Germany.

The following applies to each of these steps: We must maintain the balance between health protection and economic and social liberalisation so as to not jeopardise what has been achieved".

The following special features will be in force when the restaurant business is re-launched on **11 May**:

People from two households can sit at the same table. There is no limitation on the number of persons. Tables must be set 1.5 metres apart.

Seating instructions and name registrations will help with tracking and tracing. In order to equalise the flow of visitors, North Rhine-Westphalia has decided not to impose corona-related restrictions on opening hours and the length of time people spend in the restaurants. Buffet style arrangements are not permitted.

Additional ease-ups on 11 May:

Holiday apartments and houses/camping

Amusement parks/excursion boats

Ease-ups on 18 May:

Touristic overnight stays of residents in hotels incl. use of the gastronomical services

Planned ease-up on 30 May:

Trade fairs with hygiene integrated approach and limited number of participants corresponding to the event area

Touristic guided tours with limited number of participants

Spas and swimming pools.

For all details, please visit the website of the Ministry of Economic Affairs, Innovation, Digitalisation and Energy (MWIDE) of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia (www.wirtschaft.nrw). The hygiene integrated approach and infection protection standards in effect are listed under [this link](#).

PR contact: Matthias.Kietzmann@mwide.nrw.de

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the public relations department of the Ministry of Economic Affairs, Innovation, Digitalisation and Energy (MWIDE) on 0211 61772-204 (Matthias Kietzmann).

This text for press briefing is also available on the Internet at the website of the state government www.land.nrw

[Data protection notice regarding Social media](#)