



Some businesses provide masks and hand sanitizer for those that don't have their own

Think you know the hours of your favorite store or restaurant? You might want to check in with them before heading their way, as we found that many local businesses have shortened their hours. This is especially true for restaurants and bars, as they are required in the Phase One Re-Opening Guidelines to close at 10 pm. A few businesses we spoke to are making their hours tentative and tell us that they are taking it day by day. Weekends on the coast bring big numbers of visitors and the potential for much-needed sales. But there is also the possibility of infection due to contact with those from more populated areas with more cases of the novel coronavirus. The larger numbers of people in town makes some owners nervous. One local business we spoke to told us that despite the chance to make more sales on weekends, they have made the decision to only be open on weekdays for the time being. They hope this will allow locals to shop but reduce their employees' exposure to too many people.

As you venture out into the shopping world, or make an appointment to

get your nails done, or stop by a local restaurant for a bite or a sip, we recommend that you familiarize yourself with each business' safety precautions. Call ahead and ask if masks are required, read the new flyers taped to the window or pop your head in and ask an employee what is expected of you. The times we live in often require an extra step here or there but, with the cooperation of our community, we can work through the kinks and find our equilibrium. Compassion for owners, managers and employees during these difficult times is one of the greatest gifts you can give as you avail yourself of the services offered locally. Tip your waitresses and your barbers, smile at the cashier as you check out (don't worry you can see a smile even through a mask) and make a little extra room in front of you when you stand in line — it makes a difference.

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In addition to being professional photographers, Krista Melone and Rachel Baird are co-owners of Tab•Lume Curiosities & Gifts, which offers online commerce at www.tablume.com.



The now-familiar six-foot distance marks and "stand here" signs