



# Covid 19 Marae guidelines

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## **Kia haumaruru te mahi | Play it safe**

Make sure whānau stay home if māuiui. If whānau have cold, flu or COVID-19 symptoms, call a doctor, iwi health provider or call Healthline for free on [0800 358 5453](tel:08003585453) or to get tested for COVID-19.

Keep communal areas and frequently touched surfaces clean, such as paepae, areas where kai is prepared and served, bathrooms, tables, chairs and door handles.

Make sure handwashing facilities are available and maintain safe physical distancing where possible. If people cannot maintain physical distance from those they do not know, we encourage wearing a face covering.

[Protect yourself and others from COVID-19](#)

## **Planning**

Marae should be prepared for changes in Alert Levels. We recommend having a plan in place for how the marae can operate and keep whānau safe during Alert Levels 2, 3 or 4.

- At Alert Level 2, marae may open but gatherings are restricted to 100 people indoors and outdoors.
- At Alert Level 3, marae can only open for tangihanga, weddings or civil unions. These are limited to 10 people.
- At Alert Level 4, marae will be closed.

## Te Pae Mataara 1 | Alert Level 1



There are no restrictions on gatherings at marae at Alert Level 1. Hui, tangihanga, hura kōhatu, huringa tau and other gatherings can go ahead.

It is important to stay vigilant, even at Alert Level 1. Kia mataara tātou.

Continue to provide appropriate handwashing facilities and make sure attendees keep up good handwashing practices. Keep frequently touched surfaces and objects clean, and make sure whānau stay

home if māuiui.

If whānau have cold or flu symptoms, contact a doctor, Māori health provider or call Healthline for free on [0800 358 5453](tel:08003585453) to get tested for COVID-19.

### Contact tracing

The person organising a gathering at a marae must keep a record of the attendees. Marae do not need to keep contact tracing records if everyone at the gathering knows each other. But it is a good idea to keep a guest list to help with contact tracing if it is needed.

The best way to keep contact tracing records is by asking attendees to scan the NZ COVID Tracer QR code.

[Get an NZ COVID Tracer app QR code poster](#)

## Te Pae Mataara 2 | Alert Level 2



Marae can open and hold gatherings at Alert Level 2, with up to 100 people in any indoor or outdoor defined space.

[Defined spaces\(external link\)](#)

The 100 person limit does not include workers providing services to a gathering.

A marae can have multiple groups of people if they have more than one defined space, as long as there is no contact between them in or around the marae. This includes separate wharepaku and entrances for each group.

Whānau, hapū and iwi may need to adapt their tikanga and kawa to meet Alert Level 2 restrictions.

- [Tangihanga at Alert Level 2](#)
- [Weddings and civil unions at Alert Level 2](#)
- [Meeting friends and whānau at Alert Level 2](#)
- [Faith-based gatherings at Alert Level 2](#)
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At all gatherings, keep each other safe by avoiding greetings that require close physical contact — for example, hongī, harirū, kissing or hugging with people you do not live with or who are outside your whānau. Guests can mix freely with people outside their whānau — you do not need to physically distance.

You do not need to wear a face covering when visiting a marae, but we encourage you to wear one if possible.

### **Preparing and serving kai**

Before any gathering, clean all surfaces where kai will be prepared and served including benches, tables and chairs.

Serve kai on plates in individual portions for each person. Try to avoid buffets or platters where people have to share utensils.

The organiser of a gathering at a marae legally must record attendees to make sure contact tracing can happen if needed. You do not need to do this if every person at the gathering knows each other. To play it safe, keep records even if everyone knows each other.

Marae can use the official NZ COVID Tracer app for contact tracing.

[Get an NZ COVID Tracer app QR code poster](#)

### **Health and safety**

Marae will need to implement a Health and Safety plan and other measures. The Health and Safety plan must be displayed and communicated to all attendees. Contact your local hauora or Māori health provider for help with health and safety.

### **Holding events**

Marae can take bookings for events such as conferences or business meetings at Alert Level 2.

If a business or service hires a marae exclusively for an event, guests can mix freely, and they do not need to physically distance.

People serving food and drinks must wear a face covering. Guests do not need to be seated at tables to be served.

## Te Pae Mataara 3 | Alert Level 3



At Alert Level 3 up to 10 people are allowed at marae, but only for tangihanga or wedding and civil union services.

The 10-people limit does not include kaikaranga, kaikōrero, as well as representatives of the hāhi who are attending.

If you are attending a tangihanga or a wedding at a marae, we recommend you:

- keep 2 metres away from people you do not live with
- avoiding physical contact, including harirū, hongī, kissing and hugging
- wear a face covering.

You can serve food or drink but guests must be seated to be served.

- [Tangihanga at Alert Level 3](#)
- [Weddings and civil unions at Alert Level 3](#)

## Te Pae Mataara 4 | Alert Level 4



All marae are closed at Alert Level 4. We all need to stay home in our bubbles to protect our whānau, hapū and iwi.

Marae can assist whānau via email, text and phone contact to ensure they have access to cultural and technology support if needed.

Source: <https://covid19.govt.nz/iwi-and-communities/information-for-maori/guidance-for-marae/#kia-haumaru-te-mahi-|-play-it-safe>

