

**Travel Ban from select states
Implementation/Education
Prepared 8/11/20**

Resources:

[VisitFingerLakes.com/VisitConfidently](https://www.visitfingerlakes.com/visitconfidently)

[VisitFingerLakes.com/Reopen](https://www.visitfingerlakes.com/reopen)

Overview: Finger Lakes Visitors Connection was asked by a member of the board of supervisors on the Covid-19 calls what the travel industry is doing with regard to the travel ban not allowing other states' residents from coming here without a quarantine period, unless they were coming on essential business.

Tactics:

1. Confirming the list of states which are restricted (done by Kendall and included in our weekly partner newsletter) – if anyone wants to be added to this list, let us know.
2. Looking at what enforcement/requirements are happening (David)
3. Reconfirming any required paperwork (Kendall)
4. Calling the hotels and other properties to see how they are handling this. Team

Summary

1. Confirming list of states. Go to [VisitFingerLakes.com/Reopen](https://www.visitfingerlakes.com/reopen) for the updated list.
2. Enforcement. I reached out to the Regional ESD office and left a voice mail regarding enforcement; I haven't heard back yet. Secondly, I reached out directly to the NY State Troopers Barracks and they are also not enforcing it nor stopping people who come over the state lines with out-of-state plates. They can't just pull over anyone who has out state plates, they must be speeding or doing something wrong. Like what was said on our most recent zoom call. An interaction is first attempting to be educational. I will keep digging, but so far, it's basically the honor system.
3. [VisitFingerLakes.com/Reopen](https://www.visitfingerlakes.com/reopen)
4. Hotels in Ontario County. See Answers below.

Holiday Inn Express, Geneva;

At check-in the hotel provides a voucher of sorts from IHG, and then if they are calling to book from out of state, the staff is instructed to make them aware of the situation and direct them to DOH website for more information. But also, if someone check-ins in at 3pm and then check out at 11am the next day, they don't have much say over it seeing it's within the 24-hour window.

Hampton Inn & Suites, Victor

They have a form at the front desk ([View Form](#)). They are not supposed to ask where people are coming from although they can see it in their reservation. They just give recommended guidelines and share information.

Inn on the Main, Canandaigua

They said they are simply cancelling all reservations from states on the travel ban list. They only had one guest so far that had already been in NY before their state was added. They have been forwarding all guests a link to the travel ban information after confirmation, so they know to check it, and she checks where they are coming from to call and cancel, if need be. They said it has been sad – they are just picking up, and then they lose half their occupancy again.

Belhurst Castle, Geneva

They notify the guest when booking the reservation of the travel ban and tell them they will need to self-quarantine for the 14 days. They will deliver food to their door and there will be no stay over service to the room. Also, any fines incurred will be the responsibility of the guest. Basically, travel at your own risk. They have had a lot of cancellations from Ohio especially. They are also interpreting that a one-night guest is only there less than 24 hours and since Belhurst is not their final destination this doesn't apply to them. There is concern with the uncertainty of it, but they are handling the best they can and giving guests common sense answers, much the same as we are.

Other Destinations

Niagara Falls. “What we are hearing is that they (partners) are not policing it and it scares us! We are telling people that call here that there are travel bans, but they don't seem to care!

Albany. The govt has really put a pinch on the hotels. It has been handled in a variety of fashions. One hotel reviews reservations and home states and if they fall in the mandatory quarantine outreach is done and they are asked if they are coming for essential work. If they do not provide a good answer their reservation is canceled! The hotel does this particularly with 2-day reservations on the weekend.

Other hotels offer information at the desk but are not viewing enforcement as their responsibility. The Airport has info on their homepage <https://www.albanyairport.com/> but even they have difficulty with out of state compliance on the contact tracing forms that they are required to fill out. We have posted on our website stuff...and share stuff via LinkedIn.