

# Covid19 Lockdown - Here's what has changed

*Almost 3 months of total closure due to the coronavirus emergency: that's what has changed*



*coronavirus*

di Georgie Benvenuto

It seems a century ago. It is the evening of March 9 when the **total closure** is announced. The country stops, except for essential services. Two days later the *World Health Organization* ruled: it is a **pandemic**.

The total closure is extended until May 18.

Some countries begin to be armoured, the infections rise, the **masks** are nowhere to be found. Some areas are referred to as "red areas". And so for almost 3 months between new decrees, new ordinances, different self-certification forms to exit, the **country changes**. Outside and Inside. Hospitals are full, like houses and prisons. The streets are empty. Assemblies are prohibited, and the rule is "at least one meter away".



*People with mask*

## NEWS IN THE TIMES OF CORONAVIRUS

**SCHOOLS:** closed across the country from March 5. Stop from kindergartens to universities. Now distance lessons, exams and degrees in streaming. Simplified third-grade tests, oral and face-to-face maturity.

**FOOD EXPENDITURE:** supermarkets, discount stores and shops resist. Long lines outside and safety distance. Obligation of gloves and masks inside. Hours increased except for a few exceptions. Markets reopened only later with safety and food distances.

**OPEN AND CLOSED FOR VIRUS:** pharmacies, newsagents, tobacconists and petrol stations remain open. Only afterwards companies and enterprises necessary for the development of the country. Instead, hairdressers, beauticians, clothing stores, bookstores, bars, restaurants were closed. The premises survive with home deliveries.

**CINEMA AND THEATERS, MUSIC AND CONCERTS:** total suspension of all these activities to maintain contagion.

**SPORT:** first competitions behind closed doors or in the open without an audience, then tight gyms and from 10 March all sport stop and from 4 April all training. Stop all leagues. Outdoor motor activity is alone and close to home. Closed parks.

**TRAVEL AND DISPLACEMENT:** from March 23, no travel except demonstrable work needs, health or absolute urgency. Valid transfers to supermarkets and places of necessity equipped with a mask and self-certification.

These are the rules to be respected according to the decrees promulgated by the state. So overnight we face a firm country, a country in full crisis. Many people are without money, large families forced to stay at home.

Personally, I can say that I was very lucky in this lockdown period because I had a nice garden where I could get some fresh air, an internet connection and the right tools to be able to follow lessons at a distance. Despite this, it was not easy to leave school and the sport that had become my daily life. Not being able to see friends again was a tough test of courage, but time passed quickly, despite the **monotony** of the days that all seemed the same. This experience has changed everything, from

attention to **hygiene** to knowing how to make even small things special. Seeing friends and relatives again, going to places every day will no longer be monotonous but it will be different. This lockdown made many people understand the **importance of even small things**, not to underestimate certain aspects that were previously taken for granted. Finally it can be said that the feelings of **friendship** and **love** are responsible for the strength that many people have had to overcome this difficult period. And for you, what has changed in this period?