

As everyone is now aware, the current COVID-19 outbreak has expanded to the state of Washington, prompting valid fear and concern for locals and visitors. Local tourism leaders feel it is essential for the Spokane community to take a measured approach to the situation. When it comes to deciding on travel to major sporting events and conferences, please rely on credible sources to make informed decisions.

Right now, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says, “the risk of getting COVID-19 in the U.S. is currently low.” According to the U.S. Travel Association, there are no current bans on travel within the United States, so we are continuing to welcome travelers to Spokane as we gear up for a busy spring tourism season

We want to assure visitors that preventive measures are in place to combat the spread of the virus. Spokane Veterans Memorial Arena, Spokane Convention Center, and First Interstate Center for the Arts host hundreds of thousands of guests a year for concerts, sporting events and conventions. Cleanliness is always a high priority in our public venues, but cleaning teams have elevated their efforts during this time. Crews are continually stocking hand-sanitizing stations and placing them in visible locations throughout these buildings. Also, there is constant communication with health officials and Spokane Emergency Management, as public health concerns continue to change.

Visit Spokane, Spokane Sports, and the Public Facilities District are committed to providing a safe, welcoming environment for visitors and getting essential resources to our local hospitality partners during the COVID-19 outbreak.

As a reminder:

- Wash your hands regularly.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces.

For more information, please refer to:

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/prevention-treatment.html>

Washington Department of Health

<https://www.doh.wa.gov/emergencies/coronavirus>