

Covid-19 Protocols for Tourist Guides: Guides are strongly advised to comply with this guidance at all times. Public Liability and Professional Indemnity Insurance requires safety briefings by guides and Covid-19 enhances this requirement and insurance may be invalid if guides do not include a Covid-19 safety briefing in addition to their normal safety briefing.

- Guides should wear an appropriate badge or identification
- Guides will ensure they are familiar with the most up-to-date public health guidelines and will adhere to these for the duration of the tour. They will give guests advanced notice before the tour begins of how to be safe on the tour, enjoy the tour, and have fun while maintaining Northern Ireland Government public health advice.
- Guides will maintain government-recommended social distancing between themselves and clients at all times. On tours where the group includes different households, guides will encourage and help clients to adopt appropriate social distancing between each other too.
- When guiding groups from different households, guides will follow government guidance to determine the maximum possible group size. <https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/health/your-guide-to-covid-regs.pdf>.
- Guides will avoid shaking hands or any other physical contact with clients.
- Guides will apply rigorous hygiene practices, including thoroughly cleaning and waiting for hands to dry before guiding, and use a personal hand sanitiser when this is not possible.
- Guides will be wearing a mask or visor according to Government recommendations and will comply with the protocols of agents and coach company they work with.
- Guides will know where public toilets/hand-washing facilities/hand sanitiser points are available.
- Remote audio devices (such as Whisper, Vox and various apps) can be effective for social distancing on guided tours. Guides will happily work with tour companies using these systems.
- Guides are experts in the tourist sites they visit with clients. Guides will ensure they are fully aware of sites' specific Covid-19 requirements and comply with them.
- Guides will be familiar with more crowded areas and will make best efforts to negotiate them, or if appropriate, avoid them.
- Guides will liaise with coach companies and private vehicle companies and drivers to check that vehicles have been thoroughly sanitised.
- Driver guides will ensure their vehicle is thoroughly cleaned inside after previous use. They will follow licensing authority and national Covid-19 regulations for cleaning their vehicles and maintaining air-conditioning systems. Driver guides will carry disinfecting wipes, hand sanitisers and paper towels in their cars, and will use face masks.