

Rules for working or staying at Tjärnö marine laboratory during Corona pandemic

These rules are an adjustment to the general operating procedures at the Tjärnö Marine Laboratory put in place to reduce the spread of infection during the coronavirus pandemic. They apply from 1st of September 2021 until further notice. Updates will be made if necessary, following any changes to regulations and guidelines.

These rules have been put in place to allow guests and staff to work and study on station.

These rules apply to both those who are permanently employed on Tjärnö and those who are visiting the station for teaching or research.

Exceptions to these rules can be granted by the station manager (Kerstin Johannesson), station coordinator (Helen Veerman), the kitchen manager for questions about the dining room (Anette Hansen), or the captains of R/V Nereus (Karl-Henrik Gustaffson or Christian Torstensson) for decisions regarding the research vessel.

All courses must provide a risk assessment in good time before arrival! (If you require a template speak to Helen Sjöde Veerman 0766229635)

General measures

- Measures have been put in place in all work spaces to allow 2m distance between people to be maintained
 - Single rooms upon request
 - Use of different entrances in the residences based on room location. Information on this will be given on arrival
 - Greater distance between seats during meals in the dining hall
 - Permanent work spaces with greater distance in teaching and research lab spaces, wherever possible
 - Greater distance between seats in the auditorium and classrooms
 - Spreading out workstations or splitting up working time for permanent staff
- Separation of visitors and permanent staff through the use of separate entrances
 - Students are directed to the following, marked doors in the main building
 - Main entrance by package receiving room
 - Entrance to the course flush room
 - Rear entrance into the student lounge
- Multiple seating times at lunch
- Visitors are encouraged to use the toilets in their rooms as 'personal' toilets.
- Some activities will not be permitted during the pandemic (sauna and gym)
- Visiting students and researchers are encouraged to minimize physical contact with others before traveling to Tjärnö. All who can should bring their own sheets.
- Personal responsibility is the most important. Wash your hands, especially before meals, keep distance, and if you live in the residences and develop symptoms stay in your room and contact either your course leader or a member of staff.
- Station staff will collect all guests and groups for an information briefing. You will be contacted before arrival or immediately upon arrival.

Group sizes and specific rules for different activities

Accommodation

Information about exactly how many rooms are available changes frequently - contact Gunilla Johansson: booking.tjarno@gu.se or phone 031-7869637.

Dining room

Our dining room accommodates a maximum of 50 people at a time under the new measures. It is important that everyone respects the lunch seating times, we now usually have two sessions - one for the visiting group and one for staff. Staff eat 11.45-12.30, and guests 12.30-13.15. Decals with "Keep a distance" are in place to remind everyone to maintain distance while queuing for food. Hand sanitizer and sinks to wash your hands are available at the entrance to the dining room.

The sauna is closed

During the pandemic, both saunas are closed to guests. Only staff who dive have access to the sauna in the dive shed, and those who live long-term in the White dormitory (not including courses) have access to the gym and sauna in the White dormitory.

Nereus (research vessel)

Groups are limited to a maximum of 20 people excluding the ship's crew to allow proper space on deck when collecting and working with samples. This may mean that a visiting group must divide activities on the ship into several groups.

The interior areas on Nereus are small and now limited to a maximum of 3 people at a time belowdecks. There is a toilet, galley, and space to rest if needed belowdecks, but all other activities are done on the open deck regardless of the weather. It is therefore important that all participants have good clothing for an excursion with the ship.

Small boats

The small boats require training provided by Joel White or another staff member. If you need to use the small boats during your stay, contact Joel well in advance. The boats take a maximum number of people for maritime safety reasons; this number is unchanged during the pandemic.

The course laboratories

At Tjärnö are the Large and Small Course labs, where the maximum number of people are 16 in the large wet lab and 14 in the small. For single groups, this maximum can be adjusted; questions or requests regarding this should be posed to Gunilla in reception upon booking.

During each course each participant should use the same workstation, the same stereo magnifier, and the same microscope whenever possible. (If sharing of materials is required, there is alcohol available for cleaning.)

There is no specified maximum number of people in the flush rooms used for storage and sorting of organisms. Here, course leaders and participants must take extra responsibility to maintain physical distance and avoid crowding around collected samples.

Classrooms

Tjärnö has an auditorium which during the pandemic takes 50 people, but we recommend digital lectures. There is also a larger classroom that now takes 12 participants. There are several different spaces for groups of 4 people to work in (the student lounge, the computer room). For individual work, there is a desk and Wi-Fi in all bedrooms.

If you experience any symptoms

The course leader should isolate and provide a covid test for the student. Immediately contact reception or the station coordinator and describe the situation. It is possible to isolate individuals if necessary, food can be provided from the dining room. For any departures, the course leader will communicate directly with the travel agency.

We are happy to help and answer questions before planning your stay on Tjärnö.

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Kerstin Johannesson / Station Manager