

**The smug WFH club
(working from holiday)**

THE SMART LONDONERS TAKING THE OFFICE TO THE BEACH » THE ESCAPIST PAGE 19



Power trousers! Crop tops! Loungewear 2.0!

ALL THE TRENDS YOU NEED TO KNOW FROM FASHION WEEK » UP FRONT PAGES 6-7



CURFEW AND OFFICE CURBS HIT LONDON

- » FRESH GUIDANCE ON WORKING FROM HOME
- » TOUGH RULES START AS EARLY AS THURSDAY
- » WEDDING GUEST LISTS CUT IN HALF NEXT WEEK

Joe Murphy and Nicholas Cecil

A SIX MONTH-long Covid-19 clampdown caused anguish today for businesses desperate for staff and customers to return to London's deserted centre, couples getting married and football fans.

Boris Johnson unveiled a swathe of measures, including telling office workers to stay at home if they can do their jobs without heading back to desks.

There were grave concerns among business leaders, especially in the hospitality trade, which must also cope with 10pm curfews from Thursday. They said some bars and restaurants may now close for good.

Mayor of London Sadiq Khan urged the Government to go further by requiring face coverings in outdoor settings, where social distancing is not possible.

The Prime Minister outlined the measures in the House of Commons, where he admitted that a traditional Christmas Day dinner would be "very difficult" for many families, due to the strict rule of six ceiling on gatherings.

The new measures include:

- Wedding parties will be slashed in size from 30 to 15 – causing dilemmas for couples marrying from next week. From Monday onwards, they will have to tell up to half their invited guests to stay away.
- Masks must be worn in restaurants and bars except when seated at tables. The requirement, enforced by fines from Thursday, means customers must wear face coverings while being shown to their table and when visiting the washrooms. Staff must also wear them.
- Plans to allow fans to attend Premier League football



JEREMY SELWYN

Tougher times ahead: Boris Johnson on his way to brief the Cabinet about new measures in Whitehall today

This is death sentence for us, say bars as 6,000 jobs go

Jonathan Prynne, Joe Murphy and Joanna Bourke

ALMOST 6,500 jobs in restaurants, cafes, hotels and pubs were axed today as the battered hospitality sector condemned a new 10pm curfew to control the spread of the coronavirus as a "death sentence". The new restrictions will come into force on Thursday.

Britain's biggest hospitality operator Whitbread – owner of the Beefeater, Brewers Fayre and Premier Inn brands – revealed it planned about 6,000 redundancies, almost a fifth of its workforce.

At the same time, pub chain Wetherspoon is to cut 450 posts at six airport sites including Heathrow, Gatwick and Stansted.

The heavy losses came as Boris Johnson prepared for a televised address to the nation about the latest set of measures to control the spike in cases over recent weeks.

Pubs and restaurants in England will be forced to close by 10pm and all service will have to be at table.

In a series of interviews today Cabinet Office minister Michael Gove said there will also be a "shift in emphasis" on advice about working from home with the public

Continued on Page 3

Continued on Page 2

PM's failure to master detail shows he's not up to job, says Starmer

Joe Murphy Political Editor

SIR KEIR STARMER today told Labour to "get serious about winning" and said the party must change so that people trust it again with national security and their money.

In his first conference speech as Labour leader,

he claimed Boris Johnson was "not up to the job" and accused him of trying to "wish away" problems with Brexit and the response to coronavirus instead of knuckling down to master the detail.

Drawing a line under Jeremy Corbyn's leadership of Labour, Sir Keir warned that there is "a lot to do" before voters would trust the party again with

the keys to 10 Downing Street. "Never again will Labour go into an election not being trusted," he declared. "On national security, with your job, with your community and with your money. That's what being under new leadership means."

Sir Keir made his speech in Doncaster, symbolising the importance of regaining the trust and

votes of families in the former "Red Wall" who turned away from Mr Corbyn's Left-wing agenda at the election in December.

Setting out to repair Labour's reputation for patriotism – an area where Mr Johnson is far

Continued on Page 8

The Escapist



**THE NEW REMOTE
OFFICE? WORKING
FROM HOLIDAY**
PAGE 19



Basic beach: Cayo Coco is one of five places in Cuba that visitors can fly into at present

Get me out of here! The best Covid-secure October breaks



LOCAL lockdowns, curfews and shuttered pubs and restaurants. A UK-based half-term sounds about as appealing as living next door to snitch-on-your-neighbours Priit Patel. But, with the list of quarantine-free countries changing daily, it's hard to keep track of where we're allowed to escape to. Traditional late summer destinations such as Spain, France and Portugal are off the cards but there are still plenty of sun-drenched options for families.

Jo McClintock, brand director for Sky-scanner, says this October half-term is proving a particularly popular time to get away. "With both Spain and Portugal currently on the restricted travel lists, we've seen Brits adapt their travel plans and destinations in Turkey, Italy and Cyprus have risen to the top ten searches list," she says. Specifically, Sky-scanner has seen an uptick in bookings for Milan and Rome in Italy, Paphos and Larnaca in Cyprus and Istanbul and Antalya in Turkey. Maybe, just maybe, there could

TRAVEL

We could all do with a lift right now — so why not book yourself a lovely holiday? **Laura Hampson** picks the trips that won't get cancelled (probably)

even be the chance of a long-haul trip next month. Nicky Kelvin, director of content at The Points Guy, says airlines are "ramping up" schedules and routes as we reach the tail end of 2020, and there is talk of a transatlantic air bridge opening between London and New York City. "The most important thing for people wanting book holidays and other travel is to ensure they are fully covered by insurance, and have bookings that are fully flexible or refundable should the rules change," Kelvin says. For those willing to venture out of the UK, uncrowded travel awaits. "Airports are empty, planes are empty, as are the hotels, restaur-

ants and museums," says Hugh Graham-Watson, managing director at The Hotel Guru. Read on for your half-term wishlist.

Last of the summer sun...

Paphos, Cyprus

Cyprus is a firm favourite for Brits — pre-pandemic, one million of us would travel there each year. You'll have to provide a recent negative Covid test on arrival, but the tourist-free streets and temperatures of 26C will make it well worth it. And, it's currently got one of the lowest Covid rates in Europe.

What to do: a patchwork of ancient citadels and postcard-perfect beaches, the coastal city of Paphos has something for every traveller. Romance is in the air

here, thanks to its association with Aphrodite, the Greek goddess of love, whose mythical birthplace was the Old Town of Kouklia.

Where to stay: neatly placed on the north-west coast of the island, Anassa is a slick and minimalist escape geared towards everyone — both families and couples are welcome but mum and dad will want to make time for the exceptional spa.

● **Doubles from £426 per night, anassa.com**



For postcard-perfect beaches...

Naxos, Greece

A short ferry trip from Athens will land you on Naxos, the largest of the Cyclades. Make the most of the shoulder season, lapping up near-empty stretches of golden beaches and dining out at restaurants you'll have largely to yourself.

What to do: besides the endless beaches, rent a car and explore the island's biggest peak, Mount Zas. For older kids, spend a day on the water with a trip to Rina Cave and the southern Cyclades with Actionseaze (actionseaze.com) before getting your gyros fix at Lefto's Souvlaki Kebab House on the shorefront of the island's most popular beach, Agios Prokopios.

Where to stay: socially distance in a luxury villa with its own private pool at Naxian Collection (from £177 per

Continued on Page 18