

## **NEW RULES REGULATING THE SALE OF BEER AND ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES FROM RESTAURANTS**

As per 1 July 2005, the rules of the Restaurant Act were liberalised so that it is now legal to operate a restaurant and a shop in the same room.

From this date, ordinary restaurants are allowed to sell beer and alcoholic beverages to take away and be consumed off the business premises, in addition to serving food and beverages. It is no longer a requirement that the sale of beer and alcoholic beverages must be operated from a separate room with separate entrance.

Traders must comply with the rules on business hours provided in the Sunday Trading Act (*Lukkeloven, Lov om Detailsalg*, etc.).

A licence to serve alcoholic beverages still remains a requirement if alcohol is to be served. However, no licence is required for selling alcohol to take away. A pizzeria is thus allowed to sell beer and alcoholic beverages to take away, but if the pizzeria has no licence, alcohol must not be served on its business premises, and the alcoholic beverages sold must not be consumed on the premises or in close proximity to the premises.