

MEDIA RELEASE



Victorian icon, Puffing Billy, to return to the tracks on 28 November

Victorian icon, Puffing Billy, will return to the railway on Saturday 28 November 2020 as metropolitan Melbourne continues to take safe and gradual steps toward COVID Normal.

After being closed for 250 days, the renowned Puffing Billy Railway will welcome passengers back on one of three services available, travelling from Belgrave to Lakeside on every Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Team members of the Railway have been playing their part to prepare for a seamless return to services while the experience has been closed, including clearance of the 24km railway track, bridge inspections along the corridor, and servicing of the locomotives, now fired up and ready to go.

Visitors can feel confident about escaping to the timeless wonder of Australia's favourite steam train with a COVIDSafe Plan in place, as well as increased safety and sanitisation processes.

"We're excited to welcome back all guests to Puffing Billy and have been truly humbled by the outpouring of support received during our temporary closure," Steve O'Brien, CEO of Puffing Billy Railway, said.

"We have been working carefully behind-the-scenes to minimise the number of contact points between customers, staff and volunteers and preparing our COVIDSafe Plan. This time of temporary closure has also given us the opportunity to introduce new COVIDSafe experiences that we now look forward to sharing with the community."

In addition to the excursion train experience, guests also have the choice of booking:

- Private Carriage Hire – Enjoy the privacy and comfort of your own exclusive carriage with family or friends.

For more details on the re-opening, new Puffing Billy experiences or to book tickets, please visit the website: www.puffingbilly.com.au.

Bookings are essential as passenger numbers currently remain restricted.

For FAQs or further information on our COVIDSafe Plan and how we will keep passengers safe, please head to: <https://puffingbilly.com.au/covid-safe>.

Puffing Billy Railway encourages all patrons to follow the advice and directives of government health authorities when visiting. For the most up to date information, please visit www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au.

MEDIA RELEASE



**For customers that cannot book online – phone-booking is available during regular business hours.*

**If you hold an existing voucher or special guest pass and wish to book a visit, please contact our Customer Service team via email at info@pbr.org.au or on 03 9757 0700.*

-ends-

Connect with us on social media here:

Facebook - [@PuffingBillyRailway](#)

Instagram - [@puffingbillyrailway](#)

[#puffingbillyrailway](#)

www.puffingbilly.com.au

For media enquiries, please contact:

Sheena Dang

Communications Executive

sheena.dang@pbr.org.au

0429 639 337