

# Melbourne Puffing Billy Steam Railway Belgrave - Gembrook Return Ticket

• One way journey time: 1 hour 50 minutes •

## • KEY FACTS •



Return trip excursion from Belgrave to Gembrook. Train line operates daily except Christmas Day (25 December). Departure from Belgrave at 11am, return trip departs Gembrook at 14:45pm.



1. Transport from/to hotels
2. Food & beverages not listed as Inclusions
3. Souvenirs
4. Travel Insurance

## Departure point

- Departs: daily except Christmas Day (25 December)
- Departure Point: Belgrave Station (Address: 1 Old Monbulk Road, Belgrave, VIC 3160)
- Departure Time: 11:00 (Departure times are reference only and subject to availability)
- Return Trip Departure Point: Gembrook Station (Address: 1 Main St, Gembrook VIC 3783)
- Return Trip departs Times: 14:45

## How to get there

- By Train  
Catch the Belgrave line from Melbourne CBD to Belgrave Station, approximately a 70-minute journey. Follow the blue line painted on the platform, a short 2-minute walk to Puffing Billy's Belgrave Station.
- By Car  
Please note, there is NO parking available for passengers on Old Monbulk Road. Please check on Puffing Billy's official website for parking information before travelling.

## Operating hours

Reservations at Belgrave Office (Monday - Friday)	09:00-17:00
Reservations at Belgrave Office (Saturdays)	09:00-12:00
Christmas Day (25 December)	Closed

## Check-in requirements

Please ensure you arrive at the departure station 45 minutes before your scheduled departure time to allow enough time to check in and find a seat. Regrettably, failure to arrive before this time will most likely be classified as no-show and result in forfeiting the booking and it cannot be refunded or transferred.

If you are not familiar with the area or travelling on a weekend or local holidays / school holidays, please make sure you've checked your timetable or driving route beforehand, and allow extra travelling time for unexpected delays to ensure you do not miss your check in

## Other info

- There will be a carriage allocation system and you will be notified on arrival of your allocation. Kindly ensure that you sit in the same carriage on the return journey.
- Whilst every attempt is made to honour all bookings, Puffing Billy reserves the right to alter events, timetables or locomotives without prior notice.
- Trains will NOT be cancelled due to inclement weather.
- Fire Danger Rating  
On declared days of Total Fire Ban in the Central Zone or the whole

state of Victoria, steam locomotives will not run. Instead, the train will be operated with a diesel locomotive.

On declared days of a fire rating of Extreme or Code Red in the Central Zone or the whole state of Victoria, no trains will operate and no Puffing Billy staff or volunteers will be on the premises.

- Children under 16 years of age must be supervised by an adult.

- Concession Tickets

- Please note concession fares are available to Australian bearers of Health Care, Student, Seniors, Companion, Pensioner Card or New Zealand Gold Card.

- Concessions are applicable on presentation of suitable ID and this must be presented upon arrival.

- Prams - only folding or narrow type prams can be accommodated through the narrow carriage doors.

- Toilets - No toilets are available aboard Puffing Billy's carriages, however toilets can be found at each main station. Parenting rooms are located at Belgrave, Lakeside & Gembrook.

- Safety Notice:

- Do not hang legs outside of carriage.

- Do not stand, walk or sit on the railway track.

- Do not leave the platform or step down on the track.

- Do not touch or climb onto the locomotive, as parts of it are hot.

- Stand behind the safety line marked on all platforms.

- Do not open carriage doors on the non-platform side of the train.

- Do not open carriage doors whilst the train is moving.

- Smoking is not permitted on the train, platforms or under any roofed areas.

- Alcohol is not permitted on trains (except as provided on dining cars).

- No drones allowed.

- Please refrain from taking any photos inside the locomotive cab as this is not permitted at this stage.

## • OVERVIEW •

### **Melbourne Puffing Billy Steam Railway Belgrave - Gembrook Return Ticket**

Feel part of the environment in the open carriages as you travel through pristine forests and experience the magic of a day at Puffing Billy. Meet some of the characters of the railway, have your photo taken with the driver and along the way with the scenery of the Dandenong Ranges, feel the excitement as you cross historical timber trestle bridges, and delight in the fresh air and the sound of the whistle echoing through the hills. Remember to wave to every passer-by and get ready to create memories of a special day on board Australia's favourite steam train, Puffing Billy.



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### About Puffing Billy

The journey aboard Puffing Billy takes you through the magnificent Dandenong Ranges, located only one hour east of Melbourne.

With lush fern gullies brushing past and Mountain Ash trees towering overhead, Puffing Billy makes for a wonderful opportunity to relax and breathe in the fresh air whilst the train makes its way through the temperate rainforest.

Visitors from around the world enjoy travelling aboard Puffing Billy as a stand-alone experience or as part of a Melbourne day tour. If you are a Melbourne local, you can bring friends, kids, other family members or interstate visitors, pack a picnic and travel aboard this historic Melbourne attraction.

Step back in time as you enjoy this authentic experience. Parents and grandparents can relive their own childhood memories whilst introducing the next generation to this unforgettable part of Victorian history.

Don't forget to capture some amazing photos whilst the train travels over the historic Monbulk Creek Trestle Bridge!

### A little bit of history...

This century-old steam train continues to run on its original mountain track from Belgrave to Gembrook in the magnificent Dandenong Ranges 40kms east of Melbourne.

Puffing Billy was built to serve at the turn of the century and is a genuine relic of our more leisurely days. The Railway is the major survivor of four experimental lines used to develop rural areas in the early 1900s.

Puffing Billy Railway is now a major tourist attraction and operates every day except Christmas Day, thanks to the tireless efforts of more than 900 dedicated volunteers.

### The Journey

Passengers starting their journey here will experience Puffing Billy's most famous landmark - the iconic Monbulk Creek Trestle bridge.

Passengers can pack a picnic or purchase lunch from our station kiosk (Lakeside Tearooms). Emerald Lake Park offers BBQ facilities, picnic tables, and walking trails.

#### 1. Starting from Belgrave

Belgrave is the first station on the Puffing Billy train line. All Puffing Billy trains will commence their journeys at Belgrave and travel to Lakeside or Gembrook. Passengers may choose to start their journey at either Belgrave or Lakeside Stations.

Belgrave station is the headquarters of the Railway, with both operating and administrative facilities. Passengers can visit the refreshment room for souvenirs, food and beverages. Belgrave is also home to our Locomotive Running Shed & Workshop. This where storage, maintenance and restorations take place on the Puffing Billy family of locomotives.

#### 2. Locomotive Depot

On departure from Belgrave station, the locomotive running shed and workshops may be seen to the left of the train. Extensive servicing and repair facilities provide for continuous maintenance and restoration.

#### 3. Sherbrooke Forest

The southern reaches of the forest extend to the Puffing Billy track on the left of the train and to the area beside the Trestle Bridge. The forest has many magnificent examples of the native 'Mountain Ash' trees, a form of eucalypt and the tallest flowering plant in the world.

#### 4. Trestle Bridge

This famous timber bridge of 15 spans, now classified by the National Trust of Victoria, carries the Railway over Monbulk Creek and the main Gembrook Road. It is 91.4m (300 feet) long, 12.8m (42 feet) high. The car park below is a popular place for viewing and photographing the train.

5. **Selby**  
Opened in 1904, the station on the left served the nearby village, named after a local landowner.
6. **Landslide**  
A landslide closed the Railway in 1953. A remnant of the old track may be seen to the left of the train. Before the line was closed, a water tank for the locomotives was located here.
7. **Menzies Creek**  
Named after an early miner who worked in the area. Menzies Creek is the first stop after Belgrave and destination for many tour groups. Trains in opposite directions often 'cross' here. As Puffing Billy is a single rail line, it is only at stations such as Menzies Creek, where you can view trains pass by.
8. **Emerald (Township)**  
This is the highest station on the line. This is also the venue for the popular 'Day Out With Thomas' events. The station building is the only original station building that remains intact along the line. Emerald offers shops, cafes and bakeries. On the third Sunday of every month, a trip aboard the train to Emerald can be combined with a visit to the Emerald Market. In the yard is the Railway's carriage repair workshop. Picnic and toilet facilities may be found at the station.
9. **Nobelius**  
Named after the former Nobelius estates, this small wayside station on the right of the train is almost half way between Belgrave and Gembrook.
10. **Lakeside (Emerald Lake)**  
Lakeside is the perfect destination for families! Located within Emerald Lake Park, Lakeside is the half-way point along the line to Gembrook. BBQ facilities and picnic tables make this an ideal place to relax alongside the lake. Passengers can pack a picnic or purchase lunch from the café. Playground facilities, a wading pool (summer only) and paddle boats (for hire) are available to keep the kids entertained. Lakeside was the terminus of the line before reopening to Gembrook in 1998. Trains usually pause here for the crew to fill the locomotive water tanks.
11. **Wright**  
On the left of the train, this was formerly the station for the town of Avonsleigh.
12. **Wright Forest**  
Between Wright and Cockatoo Creek, the Railway skirts the northern boundary of the un-spoilt Wright State Forest, with large stands of Stringy Bark and other eucalypt trees.
13. **Cockatoo**  
Originally named Cockatoo Creek, the station was an important loading point for timber from sawmills in the area. 17.3km (10.8 miles) from Belgrave. Altitude 188.7m (619 feet).
14. **Gembrook**  
Gembrook Station is located at the end of the Puffing Billy line. Stroll along one of the signposted walks in town, as well as the Avenue of Honour that commemorates local soldiers' sacrifice during the Second World War. Trains usually stop over for an hour or more for visitors to explore the historic town before the return trip.

**• POLICY •**

## Cancellation Policy

- If you cancel at least 14 day(s) in advance of the scheduled departure, there is no cancellation fee.
- If you cancel between 0 and 13 day(s) in advance of the scheduled departure, there is a 100 percent cancellation fee.
- If no show, no refund.



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Australia +61(0)2 9660 8881

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enjoyauscn f Enjoyaus 享樂澳洲遊

E web@enjoyaus.com