

Drive Guide

for Taxis, Hire Cars,
Charter Buses and
Tow Trucks



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In March, Victoria plays host to the biggest sporting and cultural event this state has ever seen.

Melbourne and beyond will be transformed as more than one billion people worldwide tune in to watch 4500 elite athletes from 71 nations compete in the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games.

Victoria will be on show and the city will be busy. For 12 days, from 15 to 26 March, more than a million local spectators and 90,000 international and interstate visitors will flock into venues across the city and four regional centres to cheer on their sporting heroes. Many thousands more will attend the free arts and cultural performances being staged as part of Festival Melbourne2006 – Australia's biggest free festival.

The state's taxi, charter bus and other transport drivers have an important role to play in making our visitors feel welcome and ensuring they leave with wonderful memories of their time here. Your courtesy and hospitality will form many of their lasting impressions of Victoria and its people.

This *Drive Guide* has been produced to assist drivers of Victoria's taxis, hire cars, charter buses and tow trucks as they move about the city, suburbs and regional areas during the Games. It contains important information about how to access Games venues, areas to avoid, parking changes and useful tips to help you get around town, as well as information to assist you in answering the many questions you may be asked by our international and interstate guests.

The guide has been developed in consultation with the Victorian Taxi and Tow Truck Directorate and Victorian Taxi Association. It fits inside your street directory and includes maps to help you plan your driving day and be part of the team that will host the most successful Commonwealth Games ever.



JUSTIN MADDEN MLC
Minister for Commonwealth Games



PETER BATCHELOR MLA
Minister for Transport

Commonwealth Games Sports Schedule

The following tables outline what events are being held each day of the Games, as well as the approximate start and finish times and the maximum number of spectators expected.

Venue codes		map page	Venue codes		map page
BEA	Beach Road, St Kilda	19	MSAC	Melbourne Sports & Aquatic Centre, Albert Park	25
BOT	Royal Botanic Gardens, Melbourne	21	RLA	Rod Laver Arena, Melbourne	23
BSC	Schweppes Centre, Bendigo	33	SLBC	State Lawn Bowls Centre, Thornbury	30
DOC	Docklands, Melbourne	20	SMBC	State Mountain Bike Course, Lysterfield	38
MCG	Melbourne Cricket Ground, Melbourne	23	SNHC	State Netball Hockey Centre, Parkville	27
MEC	Melbourne Exhibition Centre, Melbourne	23	STK	St Kilda Foreshore, St Kilda	17
MGC	Melbourne Gun Club, Lilydale	37	TAG	The Arena, Geelong	35
MISC	Melbourne International Shooting Centre, Port Melbourne	29	TEL	Telstra Dome, Docklands	26
MPV	Multi-Purpose Venue (Melbourne Park), Melbourne	23	TSS	Traralgon Sport Stadium, Traralgon	36
			WRR	Wellsford Rifle Range, Bendigo	34

What (event)	Where (venue)	Map page	When (session times)	Spectators
Wednesday 15 March				
Opening ceremony	MCG	23	8pm – 11pm+	75,000
Thursday 16 March				
Aquatics (Swimming)	MSAC	25	10am – 12.30pm 7pm – 9.30pm	6500 6500
Badminton	MEC	23	9am – 1pm 2pm – 6pm 7pm – 11pm	1550 1550 1550
Basketball	BSC – Bendigo TSS – Traralgon	33 36	6pm – 10.30pm 6pm – 10.30pm	1100 700
Cycling (Track)	MPV	23	6pm – 10.30pm	3250
Gymnastics	RLA	23	1.30pm – 4pm 7pm – 9.30pm	8700 8700
Hockey	SNHC	27	11am – 2.30pm 4pm – 7.30pm	4550 4550
Lawn Bowls	SLBC	30	10am – 9pm	2300
Rugby 7s	TEL	26	10.30am – 3pm 6pm – 10.30pm	44,350 44,350
Squash	MSAC	25	10am – 2pm 5pm – 9.30pm	1450 1450
Table Tennis	MSAC	25	9.30am – 2.30pm 4pm – 9pm	1350 1350
Weightlifting	MEC	23	2pm – 4.30pm 6.30pm – 9pm	2450 2450
Friday 17 March				
Aquatics (Swimming)	MSAC	25	10am – 12.30pm 7pm – 9.30pm	6500 6500
Badminton	MEC	23	9am – 1pm 2pm – 6pm 7pm – 11pm	1550 1550 1550
Basketball	BSS – Bendigo TSS – Traralgon	33 36	6pm – 10.30pm 6pm – 10.30pm	1100 700
Boxing	MEC	23	1pm – 5pm 6.30pm – 10.30pm	3150 3150

Commonwealth Games Sports Schedule

continued...				
What (event)	Where (venue)	Map page	When (session times)	Spectators
Cycling (Track)	MPV	23	6pm – 10pm	3250
Gymnastics	RLA	23	1.30pm – 4pm 7pm – 9.30pm	8700 8700
Hockey	SNHC	27	8.30am – 12pm 1.30pm – 6pm 7pm – 10.30pm	4550 4550 4550
Lawn bowls	SLBC	30	10am – 9pm	2300
Netball	SNHC	27	1pm – 4.30pm 6.30pm – 10pm	2200 2200
Rugby 7s	TEL	26	12pm – 3pm 6pm – 10.30pm	44,350 44,350
Shooting (Clay Target)	MGC – Lilydale	37	10am – 4pm	1500
Shooting (Pistol and Small Bore)	MISC	29	9am – 1pm 9am – 3.15pm	142
Squash	MSAC	25	1pm – 4pm 6pm – 9pm	1450 1450
Table Tennis	MSAC	25	9.30am – 2.30pm 4pm – 9pm	1350 1350
Weightlifting	MEC	23	2pm – 4.30pm 6.30pm – 9pm	2450 2450
Saturday 18 March				
Aquatics (Swimming)	MSAC	25	10am -12.30pm 7pm – 9.30pm	6500 6500
Aquatics (Synchronised Swimming)	MSAC	25	2pm – 4pm	900
Badminton	MEC	23	9am – 1pm 2pm – 6pm 7pm – 11pm	1550 1550 1550
Basketball	BSC – Bendigo TSS – Ballarat	33 36	6pm – 10.30pm 6pm – 10.30pm	1100 700
Boxing	MEC	23	1pm – 5pm 6.30pm – 10.30pm	3150 3150
Cycling (Track)	MPV	23	10.30am – 12.30pm 6pm – 9.30pm	3250 3250
Gymnastics	RLA	23	1.30pm – 4pm 7pm – 9.30pm	8700 8700
Hockey	SNHC	27	8.30am – 12pm 1.30pm – 5pm 6.30pm – 10.30pm	4550 4550 4550
Lawn Bowls	SLBC	30	10am – 9pm	2300
Netball	SNHC	27	1pm – 4.30pm 6.30pm – 10pm	2200 2200
Shooting (Pistol and Small Bore)	MISC	29	9am – 5.30pm 9am – 1.45pm	142
Squash	MSAC	25	1pm – 4pm 6pm – 9pm	1450 1450
Table Tennis	MSAC	25	9.30am – 2.30pm 4pm – 9pm	1350 1350

Commonwealth Games Sports Schedule

continued...				
What (event)	Where (venue)	Map page	When (session times)	Spectators
Triathlon	STK	17	9am – 12.15pm 1pm – 4.15pm	100,000 100,000
Weightlifting	MEC	23	2pm – 4.30pm 6.30pm – 9pm	2450 2450
Sunday 19 March				
Aquatics (Swimming)	MSAC	25	10am – 12.30pm 7pm – 9.30pm	6500 6500
Aquatics (Synchronised Swimming)	MSAC	25	2pm – 4.30pm	900
Athletics	MCG	23	9am – 2pm	80,000
Athletics (Marathon) - course includes city and surrounds	MCG (Start and Finish)	23	9am – 2pm	50,000
Badminton	MEC	23	11am – 3pm 7pm – 11pm	1550 1550
Basketball	BSC – Bendigo TSS – Geelong	33 36	6pm – 10.30pm 11.30am – 4pm 6pm – 10.30pm	1100 1100 1100
Boxing	MEC	23	1pm – 5pm 6.30pm – 10.30pm	3150 3150
Cycling (Track)	MPV	23	6pm – 10pm	3250
Hockey	SNHC	27	11am – 2.30pm 4pm – 7.30pm	4550 4550
Lawn Bowls	SLBC	30	10am – 6pm	2300
Netball	SNHC	27	1pm – 4.30pm 6.30pm – 10pm	2200 2200
Shooting (Clay Target)	MGC – Lilydale	37	10am – 4pm	1500
Shooting (Full Bore)	WRR – Bendigo	34	10am – 4pm	1500
Shooting (Pistol and Small Bore)	MISC	29	9am – 12.45pm 9am – 11.15pm	142
Squash	MSAC	25	1pm – 4.30pm 6pm – 8.30pm	1450 1450
Table Tennis	MSAC	25	9.30am – 2.30pm 4pm – 9pm	1350 1350
Weightlifting	MEC	23	2pm – 4.30pm 6.30pm – 9pm	2450 2450
Monday 20 March				
Aquatics (Swimming)	MSAC	25	10am -12.30pm 7pm – 9.30pm	6500 6500
Athletics	MCG	23	10am – 11.30am 6.30pm – 10pm	80,000 80,000
Athletics (Race Walk)	DOC	20	9am – 2pm	10,000
Badminton	MEC	23	2pm – 6pm 7pm – 11pm	1550
Basketball	BSC – Bendigo TSS – Ballarat	33 36	6pm – 10.30pm 11.30am – 4pm 6pm – 10.30pm	1100 1100 1100
Boxing	MEC	23	1pm – 5pm 6.30pm – 10.30pm	3150 3150
Gymnastics	RLA	23	7pm – 9.30pm	8700

Commonwealth Games Sports Schedule

continued...				
What (event)	Where (venue)	Map page	When (session times)	Spectators
Hockey	SNHC	27	8.30am – 12pm	4550
			1.30pm – 5pm	4550
			6.30pm – 10pm	4550
Lawn Bowls	SLBC	30	10am – 9.30pm	2300
Netball	SNHC	27	1pm – 4.30pm	2200
			6.30pm – 10pm	2200
Shooting (Clay Target)	MGC – Lilydale	37	10am – 4pm	1500
Shooting (Pistol and Small Bore)	MISC	29	9am – 2.30pm	142
			9am – 12.30pm	
Squash	MSAC	25	1pm – 5.30pm	1450
			7pm – 10pm	1450
Table Tennis	MSAC	25	9.30am – 2.30pm	1350
			4pm – 9pm	1350
Weightlifting	MEC	23	2pm – 4.30pm	2450
			6.30pm – 9pm	2450
Tuesday 21 March				
Aquatics (Swimming)	MSAC	25	10am -12.30pm	6500
			7pm – 9.30pm	6500
Athletics	MCG	23	10am – 1.30pm	80,000
			6.30pm – 10pm	80,000
Badminton	MEC	23	9am – 3pm	1550
			4.30pm – 10.30pm	1550
Basketball	MPV	23	11.30am – 4pm	8900
			6pm – 10.30pm	8900
Basketball	TAG – Geelong	35	6pm – 10.30pm	1100
Boxing	MEC	23	1pm – 5pm	3150
			6.30pm – 10.30pm	3150
Cycling (Time Trial)	Beach Road, St Kilda	19	10.30am – 12.15pm	50,000
			1pm – 3.15pm	50,000
Gymnastics	RLA	23	7pm – 9.30pm	8700
Hockey	SNHC	27	8.30am – 12pm	4550
			1.30pm – 6pm	4550
			7pm – 10.30pm	4550
Lawn Bowls	SLBC	30	10am – 9pm	2300
Netball	SNHC	27	1pm – 4.30pm	2200
			6.30pm – 10pm	2200
Shooting (Clay Target)	MGC – Lilydale	37	10am – 4.30pm	1500
Shooting (Full Bore)	WRR – Bendigo	34	10am – 4pm	1500
Shooting (Pistol and Small Bore)	MISC	29	9am – 1.30pm	142
			9am – 2.45pm	
Table Tennis	MSAC	25	2pm – 9pm	1350
Weightlifting	MEC	23	2pm – 4.30pm	2450
			6.30pm – 9pm	2450
Wednesday 22 March				
Aquatics (Diving)	MSAC	25	10am – 12pm	900
			7pm – 9pm	900
Athletics	MCG	23	10am – 1pm	80,000
			6.30pm – 10pm	80,000

Commonwealth Games Sports Schedule

continued...				
What (event)	Where (venue)	Map page	When (session times)	Spectators
Badminton	MEC	23	9am – 3pm 4.30pm – 10.30pm	1550
Basketball	MPV	23	11.30am – 4pm 6pm – 10.30pm	8900
Boxing	MEC	23	1pm – 5pm 6.30pm – 10.30pm	3150 3150
Hockey	SNHC	27	11am – 2.30pm 4pm – 7.30pm	4550 4550
Lawn Bowls	SLBC	30	10am – 9.30pm	2300
Netball	SNHC	27	1pm – 4.30pm 6.30pm – 10pm	2200 2200
Shooting (Clay Target)	MGC – Lilydale	23	10am – 3.30pm	1500
Shooting (Pistol and Small Bore)	MISC	29	9am – 2.30pm	142
Squash	MSAC	25	11am – 1.30pm 6pm – 8.30pm	1450 1450
Table Tennis	MSAC	25	9.30am – 3pm 4.30pm – 9.30pm	1350 1350
Weightlifting	MEC	23	2pm – 4.30pm 6.30pm – 9pm	2450 2450
Thursday 23 March				
Aquatics (Diving)	MSAC	25	10am – 12pm 7pm – 9pm	900 900
Athletics	MCG	23	6.30pm – 10pm	80,000
Badminton	MEC	23	9am – 3pm 4.30pm – 10.30pm	1550 1550
Basketball	MPV	23	11.30am – 4pm 6pm – 10.30pm	8900 8900
Boxing	MEC	23	1pm – 5pm 6.30pm – 10.30pm	3150 3150
Cycling (Mountain Bike)	SMBC	38	10.30am – 1pm 2pm – 4.40pm	10,000 10,000
Hockey	SNHC	27	8.30am – 3pm 5.30pm – 9.30pm	4550 4550
Lawn Bowls	SLBC	30	10am – 9pm	2300
Netball	SNHC	27	9am – 12.30pm 2pm – 5.30pm 7pm – 10.30pm	2200 2200 2200
Shooting (Clay Target)	MGC – Lilydale	37	10am – 5pm	1500
Shooting (Full Bore)	WRR – Bendigo	34	10am – 12.45pm	1500
Shooting (Pistol and Small Bore)	MISC	29	9am – 12.15pm	142
Squash	MSAC	25	11am – 2.30pm 6pm – 9.30pm	1450 1450
Table Tennis	MSAC	25	9.30am – 3pm 4.30pm – 9.30pm	1350 1350
Weightlifting	MEC	23	6.30pm – 9pm	2450
Friday 24 March				
Aquatics (Diving)	MSAC	25	10am – 12pm 7pm – 9pm	900 900

Commonwealth Games Sports Schedule

continued...				
What (event)	Where (venue)	Map page	When (session times)	Spectators
Athletics (Race Walks)	DOC	20	8am – 1pm	10,000
Athletics	MCG	23	6.30pm – 10pm	80,000
Badminton	MEC	23	9am – 2pm 4.30pm – 9.30pm	1550 1550
Basketball	MPV	23	6pm – 10.30pm	8900
Gymnastics (Rhythmic)	RLA	23	12.30pm – 4pm 6pm – 9.30pm	8700 8700
Hockey	SNHC	27	8.30am – 3pm 5.30pm – 9.30pm	4550 4550
Lawn Bowls	SLBC	30	10am – 9.30pm	2300
Netball	SNHC	27	1pm – 4.30pm 6.30pm – 10pm	2200 2200
Shooting (Clay Target)	MGC – Lilydale	37	10am – 4.30pm	1500
Shooting (Pistol and Small Bore)	MISC	29	9am – 12pm 9am – 2pm	142
Squash	MSAC	25	11am – 1.30pm 6pm – 8pm	1450 1450
Table Tennis	MSAC	25	9.30am – 3pm 4.30pm – 9.30pm	1350 1350
Weightlifting	MEC	23	2pm – 4.30pm	2450
Saturday 25 March				
Aquatics (Diving)	MSAC	25	10am – 12pm 7pm – 9pm	900 900
Athletics	MCG	23	6.30pm – 10pm	80,000
Badminton	MEC	23	4.30pm – 9.30pm	1550
Boxing	MEC	23	3pm – 5.30pm 7pm – 9.30pm	3150 3150
Hockey	SNHC	27	10.30am – 3.30pm	4550
Netball	MPV	23	6.30pm – 10pm	8700
Shooting (Clay Target)	MGC – Lilydale	37	10am – 3.30pm	1500
Shooting (Pistol and Small Bore)	MISC	29	9am – 12.15pm	142
Squash	MSAC	25	11am – 1pm 6pm – 8pm	1450 1450
Table Tennis	MSAC	25	9.30am – 3pm 4.30pm – 9.30pm	1350 1350
Sunday 26 March				
Closing ceremony	MCG	23	8pm – 11pm+	75,000
Badminton	MEC	23	10am – 3pm	1550
Cycling (Road Race)	BOT	21	9am – 12.30pm 1pm – 6pm	50,000
Gymnastics (Rhythmic)	RLA	23	12.30pm – 4pm	8700
Hockey	SNHC	27	10.30am – 3.30pm	4550
Netball	MPV	23	2pm – 6pm	8700
Squash	MSAC	25	10am – 3pm	1450
Table Tennis	MSAC	25	10am – 3.30pm	1350

With so many visitors moving about the city and suburbs for the Games and Festival Melbourne2006 events, taxis, hire cars and charter buses are on constant parade.

For many travellers, a taxi journey is their first and last impressions of a city. Our visitors are our guests. Your knowledge and customer service can help make their time here more enjoyable and ensure they leave with wonderful memories of Victoria and the Games.

Tip: Be proud of your city and your role in making the Games a success. Take extra care to keep your vehicles and uniforms in top condition during the Games.

Here's where to direct passengers if they ask you where to go for more information about the many Commonwealth Games events and celebrations happening in March.

The Melbourne Visitor Centre at Federation Square

Open for general tourist and Games information (ground level) from 9am - 9pm everyday.



About the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games

Visit www.melbourne2006.com.au or call the Games Hotline on 1300 00 2006.

About Victoria

Visit Tourism Victoria's website at www.visitvictoria.com.

About Melbourne

Go to Tourism Victoria's Visit Melbourne website at www.visitmelbourne.com or the City of Melbourne's That's Melbourne website at www.thatsmelbourne.com.au.

Arrangements for taxi, hire car, charter bus and tow truck drivers

Your *Drive Guide* contains important information about temporary road and lane closures and changes to parking arrangements in areas surrounding Games venues. It can help you to plan ahead to minimise disruptions as you move about the city during this busy time.

Taxis

Taxis are not permitted to drop-off passengers at the entrance to Games venues. Taxi **T** and wheelchair accessible taxi **WAT** drop-off and pick-up locations are located within close walking distance to entrances and are marked on the maps in this guide.

Some venues have special arrangements in place for wheelchair accessible taxis, as follows. For other venues, use the standard taxi drop-off and pick-up points, located close to the entrance (see maps).

Special WAT arrangements

MCG drop-off and pick up point is located in Jolimont Terrace (west side). Access to this area is via Jolimont Road (via vehicle permit check point). WATs are permitted to enter this area without a permit (see map page 23).

State Netball Hockey Centre, Royal Park drop-off or pick-up at shuttle bus stop (east side of Royal Parade, Princes Park); a free shuttle bus will take passengers to venue. Venue taxi drop-off point is 800m from venue entrance, and is not recommended for passengers with special needs.

State Mountain Bike Centre, Lysterfield drop-off or pick-up at Hallam Station; free shuttle bus will take passengers to the venue

Wellsford Rifle Range, Bendigo drop-off or pick-up at the spectator car park (Bendigo Harness Racing Club); free shuttle bus will take passengers to venue.

Coach and charter buses

Drop-off and pick-up points are provided at all Games venues; access arrangements vary. A limited number of coach parking spaces will be provided at most venues (as indicated with **C** on maps in this guide).

Coach and charter bus drivers are advised to observe the directional and parking signs. Charter buses will be provided with allocated parking spaces.

Victorian hire cars - category A, B and C

The **HL** symbol on the maps in this guide indicates the areas allocated for exclusive use by hire cars bearing VHA, VHB and VHC number plates.

The points will be clearly sign posted, and signs will also direct these vehicles into and out of venues along arterial roads.

Please allow for waiting times of approximately five minutes, and remember that parking arrangements will be different at each Games sporting venue.

Limousines that do not have VHA, VHB and VHC plates will be permitted to stop at designated areas **only** to drop off and pick up pre-booked passengers.

Tow trucks

Procedures for tow trucks called to a Tow-Away area will remain the same. All accident-attending tow truck bookings in the Melbourne metropolitan area will be received at the Accident Allocation Centre. In Geelong, all requests must go through the Geelong Accident Allocation Centre, telephone: 5277 2111. In Ballarat and Bendigo, local police will be contacted if access is required to a Games area.

Tips for drivers – preparing for the Games

Tip: check daily newspapers and listen to radio traffic bulletins for the latest Games traffic updates.

Avoid Games areas. Traffic congestion is expected in inner Melbourne and around Games sporting and celebration venues. If you are not travelling to the Games, you should avoid these areas if possible. Plan an alternative route that avoids areas of congestion.

Observe the Exclusive Games Lanes. Taxis are not permitted to use these lanes. Look for the blue lines and signs. Respect Exclusive Games Lanes and do your bit to help Melbourne host a successful Commonwealth Games. (see page 14)

Know the Games venues. Take a look at the maps in this guide to find out where the passenger drop-off and pick-up points are – and where to enter and exit Games venues (note: special arrangements for wheelchair accessible taxis, see page 10).

Be security smart. Please help to protect yourself and others. If you see any suspicious packages or bags left around or in your vehicle, please telephone 000 immediately.

Deliver lost property to Victoria Police. Taxi regulations require drivers to promptly deliver any property left in their vehicles to Victoria Police. Please also notify your taxi depot of any lost property.

Very busy roads – 15-26 March 2006

Tip: unless travelling to Games venues, avoid using these roads if at all possible, especially during morning and afternoon peak periods.

Melbourne:

- Exhibition Street: 15-26 March
- Princes Bridge: 15-26 March (note: closed after 7.00pm on 15 and 26 March)
- Spencer Street: 15-26 March (note: closed 10.00pm - 11.30pm on 16 and 17 March and 6.00am to noon on 18 March)
- Wellington Parade, East Melbourne: 20-26 March

Other:

- Swan Street (and Swanston Street Bridge): 15-26 March
- Mt Alexander Road, all suburbs - Flemington Road, Parkville: am and pm peaks, 15-26 March
- Park Street, Parkville - Royal Parade, Parkville – Brunswick Road, all suburbs: 15-26 March
- Fitzroy Street, St Kilda: 16, 18 (Triathlon) and 19 March (Marathon)
- Nepean Highway, all suburbs - Beach Road, St Kilda to Mentone: 20-21 March (Cycling Time Trial)
- Punt Road, all suburbs - Domain Road, South Yarra and Melbourne: 25-26 March (Cycling Road Race)

Note: the entire city and some inner suburbs will be particularly busy on 19 March for the staging of the Men's and Women's Marathon events.