

Travel to/from Melbourne for 23rd AMHA Conference Traralgon

V/Line Transport to and from Traralgon Conference



V/Line operates regular rail services between Melbourne and Latrobe City, stopping at Moe, Morwell and Traralgon. Services include the V/Locity railcar sets and conventional locomotive and carriage trains, with the latter including a buffet car for onboard catering. The timetable has hourly services on weekdays with approximately 20 services a day. On Saturdays 14 services are offered (from 27/8/17) at mostly 40 to 75 min intervals and on Sundays 12 services at mostly hourly intervals. All V/Line rail services commence or end at Southern Cross Station (Spencer Street) in the Melbourne CBD, with stops at Flinders Street and Dandenong for those wishing to transfer to or from south-eastern suburban train services.

Due to works on the Caulfield to Dandenong Level Crossing Removal Project, regular V/Line train services between Southern Cross and Traralgon will be disrupted during the conference period.

From Saturday 23 Sep to Thursday 28 Sep – Melbourne to Traralgon Services

Coaches will replace trains for the entire journey between Southern Cross Station and Traralgon. Travel times will take up to 1 hour longer than timetabled.

On Sunday 1 Oct – Traralgon to Melbourne Services

Afternoon services will run as a train from Traralgon to Pakenham, connecting with coaches from Pakenham to Southern Cross. Travel times will take up to 50 minutes longer than timetabled.

For more information on timetables and fares please contact V/Line by phone 136 196 or visit their website at www.vline.com.au to view and download a current Gippsland timetable.

A pre-purchased and pre-charged Myki card is required for all V/Locity services. A one-way Myki fare between Southern Cross and Traralgon (or vice-versa) should be \$20.40 adult/ \$10.20 concession on weekends. Myki cards can be purchased at railway stations or at authorised retail outlets such as newsagents and some convenience stores. Peak fares during the week will be a little more.

Note: V/Line timetables have changed from 27/8/2017, with additional services added on most routes and some changes to departure times.

Travelling from Southern Cross (Melbourne) to Traralgon

The following are the timetabled departure times for train services running from Southern Cross (Melbourne) to Traralgon for the weekend of 23 Sep & 24 Sep 2017. Further to the information provided above, these services will all be replaced by road coaches for the entire route.

Saturday 23 Sep (departure times at Southern Cross):

6:45am, 7:25am, 8:05am, 9:05 am, 10.25am, 11.56am, 12.56am, 1.56pm, 3:16pm, 4:16pm, 5:16pm, 6:16pm, 7:35pm, 9:35pm, 11:05 pm, 12:05 am

Sunday 24 Sep (departure times at Southern Cross):

8:04am, 9:05am, 10:25am, 11:56am, 12:56pm, 1:56pm, 3:16pm, 4:16pm, 5:16pm, 6:16pm, 7:35pm, 9:35pm

- ☞ Usually some services operate with a buffet car refreshment service. There will be no refreshment service on these days due to the replacement buses. The buses should be equipped with toilets, but you are advised to take advantage of the rest rooms at Southern Cross before departure.

Travel times from Southern Cross to Traralgon are typically timetabled as 2 hrs 10 min to 2 hrs 20 min. You will need to add up to another 60 minutes to the arrival time shown on the timetables, so expect your trip to take between 3 hrs and 3 hrs 20 min.

Returning to Southern Cross (Melbourne) after the main Conference Program

Friday 29 Sep and Saturday 30 Sep (departure times at Traralgon):

On these days trains should be running again for the entire route through to Southern Cross (Melbourne), however, they will operate to a Saturday timetable on both days due to Friday being the AFL Grand Final Eve Public Holiday. Departure times at Traralgon should be as follows on both days:

6:01am, 7:21am, 7:55am (☞ R), 8:30am, 9:20am, 10:40am, 11:40 am, 12:54pm, 1:48 pm (☞ R), 2:54pm, 3:54pm, 4:40pm, 6:03pm (☞ R), 6:49pm

- ☞ R – Services marked thus should include a buffet car refreshment service and may require you to book reserved seating. Check to the station ticket office to confirm this when you arrive.

Please note that due to the AFL Grand Final and Grand Final Eve Parade, the train services are likely to be busy on both days so make sure you arrive at the station with plenty of time to spare.

Returning to Southern Cross (Melbourne) after the South Gippsland Tour

Sunday 1 Oct (departure times at Traralgon):

The itinerary for the post-conference South Gippsland Coalfields Tour on the weekend of Saturday 30/9 – Sunday 1/10 has been adjusted to have the tour bus returning to Traralgon by 4:00 pm on the Sunday. This should leave participants with enough time to make any of the last three scheduled services to Melbourne, which depart Traralgon at 4:40pm, 6:03pm (☞ R), and 6:49pm.

For these services you will have a train to Pakenham and will then be transferred to road coaches for the final leg to Southern Cross.

V/Line has advised that travel times might take up to 50 minutes longer than the usual timetabled schedule due to the disruptions. Therefore, you should expect that these services to arrive at Southern Cross (by bus) at 7:50pm, 9:09pm and 9:49pm.

For anyone needing to catch an earlier flight there is the additional option of catching a V/Line bus from Wonthaggi back to Melbourne. The bus departs Biggs Drive Bus Terminal Wonthaggi at 2:40 pm and travels via Anderson & Koo-Wee-Rup (with bus change), then direct to Southern Cross arriving at 4:57 pm. With one hour for a Skybus connection you should get to Melbourne Airport by 6:00pm.

If you wish to follow the bus option, you are advised to pre-book a bus ticket at the Traralgon Railway Station earlier in the week and let the tour guides know. The tour bus will drop you off at the Wonthaggi bus terminus by 2:30 pm. A one-way bus fare from Wonthaggi to Southern Cross is \$16 adult /\$8 concession. This cannot be paid for on a Myki card.

Connections from Southern Cross to Melbourne Airport

For those needing to travel on from Southern Cross to Melbourne Airport (Tullamarine) to pick up interstate or international flights, the best options are Skybus, taxi or Uber.

The Skybus Melbourne Airport express service departs from the Southern Cross Station bus terminal on the lower level. Buses leave Southern Cross every ten minutes from the hour (i.e. 8:00pm, 8:10pm, 8:20pm, etc). Journey time is approximately 30 to 45 minutes with drop offs at the T1, T3 & T4 terminals.

One-way adult fare is \$19.

For more information:

Phone: 1300 759 287 (1300 SKYBUS)

Email: info@skybus.com.au

Website: <https://www.skybus.com.au/southern-cross-station/>

Timetables: <https://www.skybus.com.au/timetables/>