

Media Release

The Hon Jaclyn Symes MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Regional Development
Minister for Agriculture
Minister for Resources
Acting Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events



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MORE VOUCHERS TO SUPPORT TRAVEL IN REGIONAL VICTORIA

New \$200 travel vouchers will be made available to Victorians as a show of good faith after heavy demand for the initiative yesterday caused long delays for people planning summer trips to regional Victoria.

Victorians will be able to seek to register for the extra allocation of 30,000 vouchers on the Business Victoria website from midday on Monday, for travel until Friday, 22 January.

The Regional Travel Voucher Scheme will now support a total of 150,000 trips by Victorians in regional Victoria, helping people take a well-earned break after a trying year and backing local economies and workers across the state.

The rush on the Business Victoria voucher registration page caused significant issues, with the page forced offline for extended periods. The full complement of 40,000 voucher registration places was taken up by mid-evening, but not before a day of frustration was experienced by many.

The scheme is open to Victorian residents aged 18 or over with the \$200 vouchers able to be redeemed when travellers spend a minimum \$400 on accommodation, experiences, tours or attractions in regional Victoria during set periods.

Vouchers are limited to one per household and travellers must spend at least two nights in paid accommodation in regional Victoria, the Yarra Ranges or the Mornington Peninsula.

Successful registration provides the ability to redeem a voucher after travel is completed. Allocations of 40,000 vouchers will be released on 20 January for travel between 27 January and 1 April and 30 March for travel between 6 April and 31 May.

Quotes attributable to Acting Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events Jaclyn Symes

"We recognise the serious inconvenience caused to many people by the website issues yesterday."

"These extra vouchers will mean even more people have the chance to get out and about in regional Victoria this summer."

"Victorians are clearly excited by the prospect and the extra money poured into communities across Victoria will provide a real boost for businesses and jobs."