

Media Release

Steve Dimopoulos MP

Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events
Minister for Creative Industries



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MANCHESTER UNITED WELCOMED TO NATION'S SPORTING CAPITAL

Manchester United - one of the world's biggest sports clubs in the world – will thrill more than 150,000 fans in two epic games at the MCG over the coming days, in another major events coup for the Andrews Labor Government.

Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events Steve Dimopoulos today welcomed Manchester United to Melbourne following a training session at AAMI Park.

More than 40 per cent of ticketholders are from outside Victoria, underscoring the power of major events to boost the economy and support jobs.

Manchester United will take on local A-League men's team Melbourne Victory tomorrow and Premier League rivals Crystal Palace on Tuesday, 19 July.

This tour is taking place on the eve of the 2022/23 Premier League season and before the start the 2022 FIFA World Cup, giving local fans the chance to see exciting warm up action on the field.

The games will attract huge crowds into the city and deliver an important boost to local businesses and jobs. Manchester United has a big Australian following and there will be a strong showing of support for the Red Devils' first Melbourne matches since 1999.

Manchester United is one of the most popular and successful sports teams in the world, winning 13 English Premier League titles since 1992 – with a legion of fans globally.

The Labor Government is backing the return of a packed calendar of major events in 2022, attracting hundreds of thousands of visitors and supporting local jobs. In 2019, Victoria's world-class calendar of major events delivered a \$2.5 billion annual economic boost to the state.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events Steve Dimopoulos

"Manchester United is one of the biggest sporting clubs in the world and they are playing two games right here in the nation's sporting capital."

"With more than 150,000 tickets sold – many to interstate visitors – these events will deliver a major boost to the city's hotels, restaurants and bars."

"We back bringing the biggest major events in the world to Victoria because we know how important they are to create jobs for Victorians."