

Media Release

The Hon Anthony Carbines MP

Minister for Police
Minister for Crime Prevention
Minister for Racing



Friday, 30 December 2022

CELEBRATING SAFELY AS WE BRING IN 2023

Victorians are being urged to look after themselves and look out for each other while enjoying all Victoria has to offer this New Year's Eve - with the Andrews Labor Government working closely with Victoria Police, emergency services and local councils to ensure everyone can celebrate and bring in 2023 safely.

Minister for Police Anthony Carbines today joined City of Melbourne Lord Mayor Sally Capp, Victoria Police Deputy Commissioner Rick Nugent and emergency services agencies to outline the extra precautions that will be in place to ensure festivities across the state are safe.

In Melbourne's CBD, rooftop fireworks and open non-ticketed celebration zones will be in full swing as Melbourne rings in 2023. The city will come alive with over 50 artists performing live across four, family-friendly celebration zones.

Each celebration zone across the city will boast a 9.30pm display of fireworks, followed by rooftop fireworks at midnight, which will be visible from anywhere you can see the city skyline.

With more than 400,000 people expected to attend, New Year's Eve brings more people into the city at one time than any other event.

Police will be out in force across Victoria this New Year's Eve to keep everyone safe, with uniform and plain clothes officers carrying out extra patrols throughout the night, targeting anti-social behaviour, violence and drink and drug driving.

Security in the city will be supported by additional wardens and security guards monitoring behaviour, as well as 7 kilometres of fencing to manage crowds in key CBD areas.

Police will be using specialist squads where needed, including the water police, mounted branch, operations response unit, public order response team and air wing.

Mobile Protective Services Officers (PSOs) will be on trains and trams and at train stations around the Melbourne CBD and in key areas across the state including Geelong, Ballarat, Frankston, Bendigo and Traralgon.

Police will also have a strong presence on Victoria's roads, targeting motorists who are drug and alcohol affected, speeding, driving dangerously, on their phones or distracted.

New Year's Eve in the city is being delivered through the \$200 million Melbourne City Recovery Fund – a joint partnership between the City of Melbourne and the Labor Government to support the operation on the night and keep attendees safe.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Police Anthony Carbines

"Whether you're in the CBD, on holidays and camping trips in regional Victoria or at home with family and friends, our state has so much to offer at this special time of year – and we want everyone to bring in 2023 safely."

"Don't get behind the wheel drunk, stay out of the water if you have been drinking, and check on a mate who's had one too many - we all have a role to play in ensuring we can celebrate safely this New Year's Eve."

Media contact: Casey Lodge 0410 964 928 | casey.lodge@minstaff.vic.gov.au

Quotes attributable to City of Melbourne Lord Mayor Sally Capp

“Melbourne is magnetic, and this New Year’s Eve we’re going to bring in 2023 with a spectacular line-up of fireworks, laser beams and music.”

“Hundreds of thousands of people are expected to come into the city to ring in 2023 - the best way to experience our New Year's Eve programming is to head to one of our four, free celebration zones, or dine the night away at a fabulous city restaurant or bar.”