

2015-16 STATE BUDGET: What's in it for tourism and events?*

Description	Budget allocation
Infrastructure	
Major upgrade for MCEC – provision for Stage 2 expansion	\$190m - \$210m
Additional funding for major events in Victoria	\$80m (\$20m p.a. over 4 years)
Simonds Stadium, Geelong upgrade	\$70m
Kardinia Park precinct upgrade to trust status	\$4.8m
Geelong Performing Arts Centre development	\$30m
Ballarat Station Precinct redevelopment	\$25m
Eureka Stadium, Ballarat upgrade	\$31.5m
Junction Oval, St Kilda upgrade for first-class cricket	\$25m
Portarlington Safe Harbour development	\$12m
Palais Theatre, St Kilda upgrade	\$13.4m
Grampians Peaks Trail development and construction	\$19m
Funding for new facilities for parks and reserves, and Parks Victoria critical infrastructure	\$11m
Tourism Attractions and Experiences	
Regional Creativity and Culture package, inc. regional touring strategy for major exhibitions, performances and programs; support for significant creative projects in regional communities; development of a Regional Centre of Culture program	\$20m
Sovereign Hill by Night project	\$8m
Canadian State Park, Ballarat	\$300,000
Zoos Victoria: Predator Prey Precinct at Melbourne Zoo	\$9m
Zoos Victoria – free entry for children under 16 years of age on weekends, public holidays and during school holidays	\$2.9m p.a. over 2 years
Arts and cultural facilities maintenance fund	\$20m (\$5m p.a. over 4 years)
Museum Victoria exhibition renewal	\$18m (\$4.5m p.a. over 4 years)

State Library of Victoria redevelopment	\$55.4m
Victorian Wine Tourism Strategy	\$1m
Harcourt Mountain Bike Trail	\$1m
Ararat Arts Precinct Development	\$3.7m
Transport and Access	
Securing future of Avalon Airport	\$12m
Melbourne Metro Rail Project	\$9-11bn
Flinders Street Station upgrade	\$100m
“Homesafe” initiative: Trial of all-night public transport on weekends	\$50m
Frankston Station precinct development	\$13.1m
Bendigo Metro Rail Project	\$2m
Improvements to bus services, expansion of routes and bus-rail network integration	\$100m
Widening of CityLink and Tullamarine Freeway from Burnley Tunnel to Melbourne Airport	\$273m
Build 20 new E-Class trams, 21 new VLocity train carriages and refurbishment of Comeng train fleet and B-Class trams	\$600m
Trade	
Inbound trade missions	\$12m over 4 years
Expansion of Victorian Government Business Office program to South America, Singapore and Turkey	\$6m over 4 years
Education and Training	
TAFE Back to Work Fund, meeting the needs of local employers and creating new training courses for local students	\$50m
TAFE Rescue Fund for re-opening of closed buildings and upgrades of workshops and classrooms	\$300m
Local Learning and Employment Networks	\$32m

**The Budget items are for new projects. Recurrent Business-As-Usual programs still continue, with opportunity to bid for funds following the outcomes of the Victorian Visitor Economy Review.*

<i>In the lead up to the 2014 State election The 2015-16 State Budget includes: VTIC called for:</i>		
Intrastate marketing campaign	\$7.5m campaign to be delivered in September 2015 (announced by Min. Eren at VTIC Program Launch, 20 February 2015)	✓
Expanding our event calendar, targeting medium sized events	\$20m for Regional Arts and Creativity Funds, including a regional touring strategy for major exhibitions, performances and programs.	✓
Attracting Asian markets	\$12m for inbound trade missions; establishment of Vic. Govt. Business Office in Singapore, as part of \$24m VGBO expansion.	✓
Getting small businesses online	n/a	x
MCEC Expansion	Provision of funds of \$190m - \$210m for Stage 2 development of MCEC.	✓
Major events: Boost funding to VMEC by \$20m each year from 2015-16.	Additional funding for major events - \$20m p.a. over four years, from 2015-16.	✓
Strategic investment in tourism product, particularly in nature-based tourism infrastructure.	\$19m for Grampians Peaks Trail	✓

Win
Partial win – more to be done
Needs more work