

2017/18 State Budget Outcomes for the Visitor Economy

Description	Budget allocation
Tourism and Events, including attractions and experiences	
Visit Victoria funding	\$25 million over two years, including an additional \$2 million for the Business Events Fund, \$4 million operational funding for Melbourne Convention Bureau and \$18.7 million in marketing.
Major Events Fund	\$20 million
The completion of Stage 3 of the Melbourne Park redevelopment, ensuring that Melbourne will continue to host the Australian Open until 2036.	\$271.55 million
Continued support of the National Gallery of Victoria for improving permanent exhibitions, ongoing maintenance works, and the continuation of the NGV Summer program	\$28.7 million
Arts Centre upgrades	\$40 million
Film Festivals including Melbourne International Film Festival	\$10.7 million
Australian Centre for Moving Image redevelopment	\$5 million
Shrine of Remembrance – funding for Galleries of Remembrance, and for commemorative and ceremonial activities.	\$2.8 million over four years
Zoos Victoria – Kids free policy: children under 16 years of age will continue to enjoy free entry to Melbourne Zoo, Healesville Sanctuary, and Werribee Open Range Zoo on weekends, public holidays and during school holidays for another two years.	\$5.8 million over two years
Regional Tourism Infrastructure	
Regional Partnerships and Economic Projects including (but not limited to): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early works for the Shipwreck Coast Masterplan • Swan Hill riverfront development • North-east cycle tourism project • Gippsland Destination Management Plan 	\$27.5 million
Funding to support Parks Victoria and unlock the benefits of Parks and special natural assets across Victoria, with particular focus on the visitor experience; includes employment of up to 60 park rangers.	\$54.6 million
Transport and Access	
The commencement of planning for a rail link to Melbourne Airport from the CBD	\$10 million
Upgrades to all regional rail lines	\$1.5 billion
Improvements to regional roads	\$531 million
Keeping Melbourne Moving – Transport for Victoria: includes funding to develop a network impact management plan to better understand and manage impacts of the delivery of significant transport upgrades.	\$13.5 million over three years

VTIC INDUSTRY UPDATE



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VICTORIA TOURISM INDUSTRY COUNCIL

Description	Budget allocation
Digital Infrastructure	
Connecting Regional Communities Project, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Extending regional Victoria's free Wi-Fi program• Improvements to mobile phone coverage in regional blackspots• Trials to improve broadband in business precincts in North Geelong, Horsham and Morwell	\$45 million
International Engagement	
Investment Attraction and Assistance Program, including air services attractions	\$90 million over two years
Public transport discount scheme for international students	\$3.7 million
Tax	
25 per cent payroll tax cut for regional businesses with 85 per cent of employees in regional Victoria, saving businesses an estimated \$173 million over four years.	