

12 December 2017

Announcement



Increased Speed Trial - Yarra River between Beacons 23-24 and West Gate Bridge

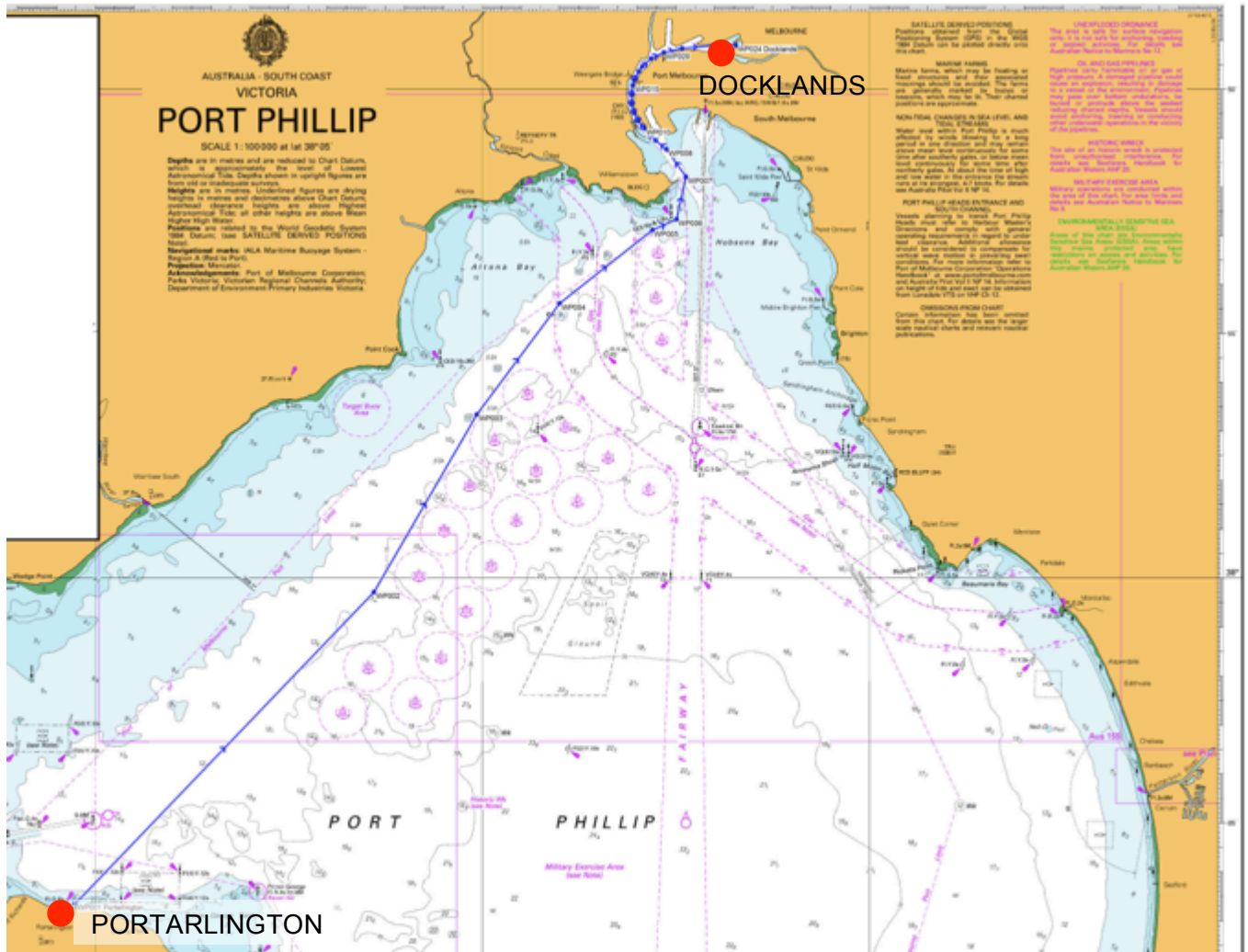
Port Phillip Ferries is pleased to announce the commencement of a 3-month trial from 16 December 2017 to operate at an increased maximum speed of 15 knots on the Yarra River between beacons 23/24 and the West Gate Bridge.

The vessel for the 3-month trial service is MV *Capricornian Dancer*, pictured above, a 35m passenger catamaran.

As part of the 3-month trial, Port Phillip Ferries will host a monthly stakeholder meeting which will provide regulatory authorities and key stakeholder groups a forum/opportunity to raise any real issues and/or areas of concern identified as a direct result of the trial.

Please consider this communication as formal notification of our intent to commence to operate at an increased speed of 15 knots during our trial. Further information about vessel operations is provided in the next pages.

1. PPF Passage Plan – Portarlington to Docklands



2. PPF Passage Plan – Yarra River Entrance (Beacons 23/24) and West Gate Bridge



3. Vessel Operations

Port Phillip Ferries operate scheduled services between Portarlington and Docklands in both directions between the hours 05:00 and 21:00 seven days a week. Our vessel timetable can be viewed [here](#).

The vessel Master has the responsibility for the safe and the efficient operation of the vessel. The vessel Master is to monitor the speed of the vessel at all times with due regard to vessel traffic, weather conditions and manoeuvrability of the vessel.

The vessel Master may deviate from this passage plan if human life, property or the environment is at risk.

Information on specific sections of the vessel's passage plan during the trial period is summarised below:

Section	Distance	Travel Time	Vessel Speeds and Conditions
Portarlington to Breakwater	19.35nm	47 mins	The recommended speed is 25 knots and is subject to prevailing weather conditions and traffic situations.
Breakwater to Beacons 23/24	0.948nm	3 mins	Master to reduce speed in sufficient time, to be at a speed not greater than 18 knots speed over ground (SOG) in this section.
			The increased speed limit to 18 knots is the maximum speed in this section of the river and is subject to prevailing weather conditions, traffic situations and Harbour Master directives.
Beacons 23/24 to West Gate Bridge	1.45nm	6 mins	Master to reduce speed in sufficient time, to be at a speed not greater than 15 knots SOG in this section. Reducing speed from 18 knots to 15 knots should be done in a gradual manner to reduce the effect of wash.
			The increased speed limit to 15 knots is the maximum speed in this section of the river and is subject to prevailing weather conditions, traffic situations and Harbour Master directives.
West Gate Bridge to Bolte Bridge	1.86nm	19 mins	Master to reduce speed in sufficient time, to be at a speed not greater than 6 knots SOG in this section.
			Speed limit of 6 knots is the maximum speed in this section of the river and is subject to prevailing weather conditions, traffic situations and Harbour Master directives.
Bolte Bridge to Victoria Harbour	0.6nm	6 mins	Master to reduce speed in sufficient time, to be at a speed not greater than 5 knots SOG in this section.
			Speed limit of 5 knots is the maximum speed in this section of the river and is subject to prevailing weather conditions and traffic situations.

4. Vessel Complement

The following personnel who have completed the additional training required by Transport Safety Victoria will operate MV *Capricornian Dancer* during the 3-month trial period:

Name	Position
1. Craig Ballinger	Master
2. David Le Roy	Master
3. Matt Wardley	Master
4. Laurie Chapman	Lookout & Mate
5. Jacques Kint	Lookout & Mate
6. Jay Marriott	Lookout & Mate

Additional personnel will be required to complete the additional training prior to assuming shipboard duties during the trial period.

5. Additional Safety Information

1. To comply with the Guide to Vessel Operating and Zoning Rules (VOZN), the master of a vessel must not cause or allow a vessel to be operated at a speed exceeding 5 knots when:
 - within 50 m of a person in the water
 - within 100 m of a vessel or buoy on which a dive flag is displayed
 - within 50 m of another vessel
 - within 200 m of the water's edge except in an access lane
 - within 50 m of a wharf, jetty, slipway diving platform or boat ramp; or passing through a recognised anchorage for small craft
2. Increased speed limits are subject to a minimum of 100 meters clear visibility.
3. Even when operating within the applicable speed limit, the vessel Master must always be mindful of the possible impact the vessel's wake may have when passing other vessels or objects and if necessary adjust the vessel's speed to minimise such impact.
4. The wake wash of the vessel at 15 knots is expected to be 328mm or less for the area of the Yarra River (beacons 23/24 to West Gate Bridge) under review.
5. An Amber Flashing Light is to be displayed at all times day and night on masthead.

6. Emergency signals will be communicated with the vessel's air horn.
7. The vessel air horn is to be sounded when approaching Portarlington entrance beacons to give other vessels warning of approach.

6. Contact Details

Should you have any queries regarding this announcement, please contact us between 7am – 8pm on (03) 9514 8959 or email info@portphillipferries.com.au.