



**Castlemaine & Maldon Railway  
Preservation Society**  
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## **DIESEL DRIVER EXPERIENCE**

*Don't Just Ride It - Drive It!!*

**EXPERIENCE THE CHALLENGE OF DRIVING A DIESEL LOCOMOTIVE ON AN  
AUTHENTIC VICTORIAN RAILWAYS BRANCH LINE WITH THE**

**VICTORIAN GOLDFIELDS RAILWAY**

Victorian Goldfields Railway is proud to offer you the opportunity to experience the thrill and excitement of driving a diesel-electric locomotive.

### **This Experience Is For Everyone!**

Our Diesel Driver Experience is for men and woman who enjoy the sights and sounds of a diesel locomotive. Anybody can participate in the experience. You do not need knowledge of railways or any previous experience – we can teach you the basics of driving a diesel-electric locomotive.

All you need is to be over 21 and of reasonable health and fitness - it's that simple! Bring your partner and family to share in the fun.

Maldon is Australia's first notable town and offers antique and specialty shops, cafes, Carmen's Tunnel and many relics from the gold era, and is only 15 minutes from Castlemaine and 30 minutes from Bendigo.

### **About the VGR**

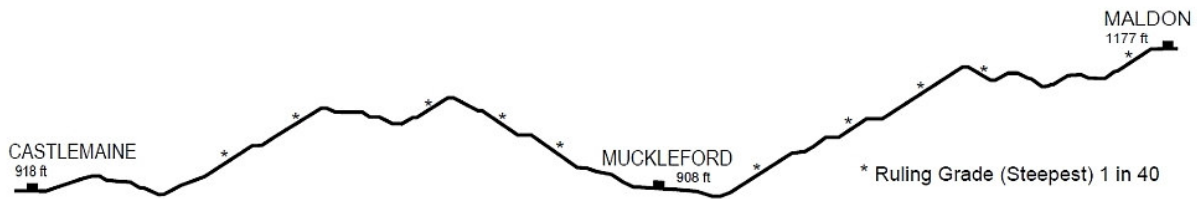
The Victorian Goldfields Railway is an authentic preserved branchline dating from 1884 and operates over a distance of 16 kilometres between Maldon and Castlemaine on the ex Victorian Railway's branchline. The Course includes two return runs between Maldon and Muckleford (8 kilometres), with the option to extend the second trip into Castlemaine (a further 8 kilometres).

After leaving Maldon, the line passes through open Box Iron-bark State forest dotted with numerous reminders of the gold mining era before opening out on grazing land around Muckleford Station. Forest is again encountered before reaching the urban area of Castlemaine. With a ruling gradient of 1 in 40 the line climbs some of the steepest gradients left in Victoria. You are sure to find the experience enthralling and a reminder of what it was like in the days of steam.

### **The Driver Experience Course:**

As places for the experience are limited, we advise that you book early to avoid disappointment. Our course can be enjoyed any day on which we are not operating our Passenger services. Refer conditions of sale for bookings during fire danger period months (December - March).

## Line Gradient Profile



## What's Involved?

After your application form has been accepted you will be issued with the Course notes. You should read these notes before attending the course. We will go through the notes with you in the crew room prior to commencing the practical part of the experience. Your Locomotive for the day will be from our fleet used to operate our regular services and works trains, and we will ensure you receive training to a standard which will enable you to safely operate the equipment under supervision.

### Clothing:

Each participant is asked to wear overalls or boiler suit, and safety boots or shoes preferably with steel caps. Jeans and an old work shirt would be a suitable alternative to overalls. Don't wear anything that needs to be kept clean!

### Locomotives and Rolling Stock:

The Victorian Goldfields Railway owns a unique variety of ex-Victorian Railways rolling stock. Availability of a particular locomotive will vary during the year due to maintenance requirements.

### DIESEL LOCOMOTIVE

**Y Class** – Ex Victorian Railway Diesel-Electric Bo-Bo Locomotive. A total of 75 Y Class units were built between 1963 and 1968. These 65 tonne 485 / 559kw units were powered by GM 2 stroke diesel engines, utilising refurbished Melbourne Electric Train bogies. The current unit on the VGR is Y133, on lease from Seymour Railway Heritage Centre. This unit is in VR Blue & Gold.

### THE ROLLING STOCK:

Your train will consist of authentic ex Victorian Railways 4 wheel goods vehicles selected from the 'Certified to Run' items in the VGR Rolling Stock Collection. Details of the items in the collection are available on the Rolling Stock Register pages on the VGR website. ([www.vgr.com.au](http://www.vgr.com.au))

### *Experience Timetable:*

- **9.00am arrive at Maldon Station and meet your crew for the day.**
- Hands on familiarization of the locomotive and its various features.
- Review and discussion session of training notes covering
  - I. Aspects of Safe Railway Operation, including Occupational Health And Safety, Safeworking, Hand Signals, Fixed Signals, Trackside Features, Coupling And Uncoupling of Vehicles, Emergency Considerations.
  - II. Introduction to the Westinghouse Air Braking System, the principal parts on a locomotive, and the operation of the brakes on the train.
  - III. The basic controls of the Locomotive
  - IV. Train handling guidelines
- **10.30am Morning tea.**

- Introduction to the driving controls in the locomotive cab.
- Assist the crew with final preparation of the locomotive.
- Light engine movement in Maldon Yard to gain initial driving “feel” prior to “on the road” driving.
- Shunt Maldon yard with rostered VGR crew, marshal train, and place into platform.
- **12.00** (approx) **Lunch** (Please advise if you have any special dietary requirements.)
- **12.30** (approx) The participant will drive the train from Maldon to Castlemaine and Return. The participant will have the opportunity to film or video the train from the guards van, and to assist/observe the guard as Safeworking and shunting requirements are completed. Stops can be made during the trip for photographic purposes.
- The participant will travel around 34kms on the footplate
- The participant’s partner/ family are welcome to travel on the train (enquire upon application).
- The participant will assist the crew with the stabling of the locomotive and train.
- **5.00pm** (approx) **Presentation of the Certificate of Achievement**
- You will be tired, dirty, and very satisfied with your day’s efforts.

In addition the Victorian Goldfields Railway will provide you with Membership of the **Castlemaine and Maldon Railway Preservation Society** for 12 months.

### **Cost, Accommodation & Food**

- The Diesel Driver Experience is available for just \$1300.00
- Overnight accommodation for two at the Eaglehawk Motel is available for \$100 (see below).

Included in the fee for the Diesel Driver Experience is :

**FOOD:** on the day of the course - you will receive lunch (for two - if required for more than two, additional costs apply).

Not included in the Diesel Driver Experience fee is:-

**ACCOMMODATION** – If you have some distance to travel to Maldon, we need you to stay overnight at Maldon to ensure you arrive fresh for what will be a long and exciting day. In that case we will book accommodation (for two) at the Eaglehawk Motel in Maldon, on the night prior to the course. Continental breakfast is included in the cost of \$95 per night. Please advise at time of application if you require an additional night’s accommodation

## **HOW TO APPLY:**

To participate in the Diesel Driver Experience you simply:-

Read the enclosed Diesel Driver Experience Conditions of Sale.

- Complete the enclosed Statement of Medical Fitness. The operation of trains requires some amount of dexterity and fitness. If you have any doubts, you should consult your Medical Practitioner and include his certificate with your application form. The standard is not excessive. We need to know that you have the right number of arms and legs, have adequate eyesight (corrected); and will not come to any grief jumping on and off trains.
- Complete the Application Form, sign and date the Conditions of Sale. For Group Bookings, each applicant must complete and sign an Application Form, the Conditions of Sale, and a Statement of Medical Fitness. Feel free to photocopy the enclosed forms as required.
- Fax or post the Application Form, the Conditions of Sale and the Statement of Medical Fitness documents to the Victorian Goldfields Railway accompanied by your deposit or credit card details.
- Payment of the balance is required no later than 7 days prior to the date of the experience.
- Cancellation penalties will apply.
- We will notify you of acceptance and forward your copy of the training notes.

We hope you are inspired to indulge yourself in our Diesel Driver Experience, or to arrange a date for a friend or relative - it makes an

**exciting, unique and  
memorable gift !**

# CASTLEMAINE AND MALDON RAILWAY PRESERVATION SOCIETY "DIESEL DRIVER EXPERIENCE" CONDITIONS OF SALE

BY COMPLETING AND SUBMITTING A SIGNED APPLICATION FORM THE APPLICANT PURCHASES AND PARTICIPATES IN THE DIESEL DRIVER EXPERIENCE UNDER THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS OF SALE:-

## DEFINITIONS

1. In these conditions of sale the following terms and definitions apply :
- The "OPERATOR" is the Castlemaine and Maldon Railway Preservation Society, Railway Station, Hornsby St Maldon 3463.
- The "APPLICANT" is the person whose name and address is set out in the schedule A attached to these Conditions of Sale
- "CONDITIONS" is these Conditions of Sale
- And these Conditions of Sale relate to
- A. The Operator conducts a preserved railway between Maldon and Castlemaine, marketed under the name Victorian Goldfields Railway
- B. The Operator has as a member or members a person or persons qualified to operate a diesel locomotive.
- C. The Applicant desires to apply for a driving experience to be arranged by the Operator in the operation of a diesel locomotive

## APPLICATION

2. The Applicant hereby applies to be accepted for a "Train Driving Experience" (referred to from now on in this document as the "Experience") conducted by the Operator to be instructed on and, subject to these Conditions, given experience in the operation of diesel locomotives.

## THE EXPERIENCE DATE

3. The Applicant and Operator have agreed to the Experience date as set out in the schedule. The Operator reserves the right to cancel the Experience should this at any time be necessary. The Operator will give the Applicant as much notice as possible as to such cancellation.
- If the Experience is cancelled prior to the commencement of the Experience an alternate Experience will be allocated, if possible. If it is not possible for the Operator to allocate an alternate Experience, the Applicant shall be paid a full refund of his fees. The Operator shall not in any way be liable to the Applicant over and above the refund of fee.

## DRIVING EXPERIENCE FEE SCHEDULE

4. The Experience fee shall be the amount set out in Schedule A hereto. The Applicant shall pay the Experience fee as follows:-
- (a) as to 50% of the fee ("the deposit"), on the signing of this application;
- (b) as to the balance, not later than seven days prior to the commencement of the Experience. If either the deposit or balance is not paid, the Operator shall have the right to refuse the Applicant's application. Upon such refusal, the Applicant shall be deemed to have withdrawn from the Experience and shall pay to the Operator a processing and handling fee as calculated in accordance with Clause 13 of these Conditions. Any additional amount as held by the Operator shall be refunded to the Applicant.

## RELEASE BY APPLICANT

5. The Applicant acknowledges that the Experience may involve inherent danger and/or risk including the use of steam and the operation of locomotives as well as other railway equipment. The Applicant HEREBY RELEASES the Operator to the fullest extent permissible by law, whether arising from contract or negligence or in any other manner, from liability for any loss or damage of any nature whatsoever suffered by the Applicant or any person claiming by through or on behalf of the Applicant before during or after the Experience.

## INDEMNITY BY APPLICANT

6. Without limiting the release given in Clause 4 hereof the Applicant HEREBY INDEMNIFIES the Operator from any loss or damage suffered by the Applicant or any person claiming by through or on behalf of the Applicant.

## THE EXPERIENCE

7. The Operator shall devise a structured sequence of training for the training of the Applicant. The Operator shall provide to the Applicant notes, guidelines, training and information which in the reasonable opinion of the Operator is sufficient for the instruction of the Applicant to ensure that the Experience is completed by the Applicant in a safe and proper manner. The Operator may advise the Applicant by separate notice or notices as to any additional terms conditions and requirements of the Experience including but not limited to the information as set out in Schedule B to these Conditions. Both parties hereby acknowledge and agree that any such notice shall form part of these Conditions.

## DRIVING EXPERIENCE CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT

8. The Operator and Applicant acknowledge that the Experience is designed to enable the Applicant to be instructed on and participate in the running of a diesel locomotive on the Operator's railway. The Applicant further acknowledges that the Experience is not designed to give any Certificate of Proficiency or Competency which would enable the applicant to become approved as an engine driver or other like qualification. A Certificate of Achievement will be given on completion of the Experience.

#### STATEMENT OF MEDICAL FITNESS

9. The Applicant acknowledges that prior to commencement of the Experience the Applicant shall provide to the Operator a Statement of Medical Fitness as appropriate to the requirements of the Experience. Schedule B is only by way of indication and the Applicant must fully satisfy himself or herself as to the Applicant's physical fitness to participate in the Experience. If a Statement of Medical Fitness is not provided to the operator at the time of payment of the balance of the Experience fee as referred to in Clause 3(b) hereof, the Operator shall have the right to reject the applicant's application and the provisions of Clause 12 shall then apply.

#### DUE CARE

10. The Applicant will at all times exercise due care in the performance of the Applicant's duties. Any lack of care as exhibited by the Applicant will entitle the Operator to remove the Applicant from the task then being performed. If in the reasonable opinion of the Operator a serious lack of care is evidenced by the Applicant the Operator may dismiss the Applicant forthwith from the Experience. The Applicant shall not be entitled to any refund of fees should the Applicant be so dismissed.

#### ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS

11. The Applicant acknowledges that the following conditions shall apply at all times to the Applicants participation in the Experience :-
- (a) The Applicant shall provide and at all times wear protective clothing and safety equipment as advised by the Operator as being required, including overalls, hat, gloves, and safety boots. If the Applicant fails to wear such equipment the Operator may stand down the Applicant until such correct equipment is worn.
  - (b) The Applicant shall at all times follow the reasonable directions of the Operator or its representative.

#### ZERO BLOOD ALCOHOL LEVEL REQUIREMENTS

12. In accordance with the Railway and Tramway Safety (Alcohol Controls) provisions of the Transport Act 1983 (or such amendments thereto) and the \ Tourist Railway Rules and General Instructions, the Applicant must comply with a zero blood alcohol requirement during all stages of participation in the Experience. The Applicant agrees to comply with all provisions of such Act Regulations Rules and Instructions made thereunder as if the Applicant was a "worker" as defined in the Transport Act. Should the Operator on reasonable grounds have reason to believe this requirement has been breached the Operator shall have the right to dismiss the Applicant forthwith from the Experience.

#### CANCELLATION FEES AND/OR WITHDRAWAL BY THE APPLICANT

13. The Applicant shall have the right to withdraw from the Experience provided that on such withdrawal the following fee shall be paid by the Applicant to the Operator by way of handling and processing fee:-
- (a) if the Applicant withdraws more than seven days prior to the date of the Experience - 10% of the Experience fee;
  - (b) if the Applicant withdraws less than seven days but more than three days prior to the date of the Experience - 25% of the Experience fee;
  - (c) if the Applicant withdraws less than three days prior to the commencement of the Experience - 100% of the Experience fee.

#### REJECTION OF APPLICATIONS

14. The Operator reserves the right to refuse any application at any time without being required to give reasons for such refusal.

#### APPROVAL OF APPLICATIONS

15. Approval of this application after the signing of the Conditions of Sale by the Applicant and payment of the deposit will be evidenced by the signing of a copy of this Condition of Sale by the Operations Manager or delegate as approved by the Operator.

#### ALTERATION TO TERMS AND CONDITIONS

16. The terms and conditions of these Conditions are as set out herein. However should the Operator be required to alter any terms and conditions arising from any alteration in the requirements of the Department of Infrastructure Victoria or other statutory regulatory body or insurance requirement, the Operator shall notify the Applicant in writing as soon as reasonably possible after the Operator becomes aware of such alteration and such altered conditions shall then form part of these Conditions of Sale. If the alteration materially adversely affects the ability of the Applicant to participate in the Experience, the Applicant may withdraw from the Experience prior to the commencement thereof and a full refund shall then be paid to the Applicant.

#### NOTICE

17. Any notice required to be given to either party may be given either personally or by post and if posted such shall be by pre-paid post addressed to the party to be served at the address set out in these Conditions of Sale. The notice shall be deemed to have been delivered either at the time of hand delivery or if posted two business days after the date of posting.

#### HEADINGS

18. Headings in these Conditions of Sale have been inserted for assistance and do not affect the interpretation of these Conditions of Sale.

[END]

**CASTLEMAINE AND MALDON RAILWAY PRESERVATION SOCIETY  
"DRIVER EXPERIENCE" CONDITIONS OF SALE  
SCHEDULE A**

I hereby accept the Conditions of Sale relating to the provision of the Diesel Driver Experience course provided by the Castlemaine and Maldon Railway Preservation Society

**DATED:** the.....day of..... in the year .....

**APPLICANT:** Name: .....

Address.....

.....

**FEE PAYABLE:** \$.....

**SIGNED BY THE APPLICANT**..... **SIGNATURE OF WITNESS**.....

**DATE**..... **NAME OF WITNESS**.....

**ACCEPTED BY THE OPERATOR**..... **DATE OF ACCEPTANCE**.....

Operations Manager or an APPROVED DELEGATE (delete one)

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**CASTLEMAINE AND MALDON RAILWAY PRESERVATION SOCIETY  
"DRIVER EXPERIENCE" CONDITIONS OF SALE  
SCHEDULE B  
STATEMENT OF MEDICAL FITNESS**

**TO BE COMPLETED BY THE APPLICANT**

The applicant declares that they do not suffer from any of the following that would make them unsuitable to participate in the Steam Driver Experience as offered by the Castlemaine and Maldon Railway Preservation Society.

- Defective hearing\* ( Hearing assistance worn .....Yes/No ).
- Defective sight\* (Glasses or contacts worn .....Yes/No ).
- Colour blindness that does not allow the person to differentiate between red and green.
- Physical impairment.
- Untreated dizziness, diabetes or heart condition.
- Any other medical condition and/or treatment that would prevent the driving of a motor vehicle.  
\* If you use hearing assistance or wear glasses or contacts please nominate here, it will not preclude you from undertaking the course but it will be necessary for you to wear these at all times while undertaking the experience.

Applicants Name .....of

Address.....

Signature ..... Date.....

This Statement of Medical Fitness should be forwarded with the Application form.

CASTLEMAINE & MALDON RAILWAY PRESERVATION SOCIETY

Calculation of Fee Payable for your Diesel Driver Experience -	\$	\$
Driver Experience Course	1,300.00	1,300.00
Accommodation – Eaglehawk Motel – night prior to experience	100.00	
	<b>Total</b>	

**To the Operations Manager:**

I would like to undertake the DIESEL DRIVER EXPERIENCE COURSE on the Victorian Goldfields Railway.

My Deposit / full payment of \$..... is enclosed with this application.  
(please circle)

I enclose Cheque / Money Order for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ payable to Castlemaine and Maldon Railway Preservation Society.

Or: please debit my:  Visa  Mastercard

Card No     -     -     -

Name on Card .....

Card Expiry Date ...../ ..... Cardholder Signature .....

FULL NAME OF PARTICIPANT.....

ADDRESS.....

POSTCODE..... HOME PHONE..... WORK.....

MOBILE..... FAX.....

\* Please tick box for Gift Certificate.

NAME OF PERSON PURCHASING GIFT CERTIFICATE.....

ADDRESS.....

POSTCODE..... CONTACT PHONE .....MOBILE.....

PREFERRED DATES: 1st..... 2nd..... 3rd.....

LUNCH REQUIRED FOR 1\* 2\* PERSONS (Participant & one other included in fee - additional lunches and / or catering can be arranged – Please contact Marketing Office for details)

Brief details of any previous train driving experience: .....

SIGNED..... DATE.....

**DON'T FORGET!! INCLUDE THE COMPLETED CONDITIONS OF SALE AND OF MEDICAL FITNESS WITH YOUR APPLICATION FORM.**