Port of Melbourne



Dredging Program 2019-2020

Port of Melbourne has ongoing maintenance dredging obligations to ensure the safe passage of ships visiting the port.

As Melbourne's population is growing, larger vessels are visiting Melbourne to supply everyday household goods to Victorian families.

As a result of increased demand we need to ensure that these ships can safely berth at the Port of Melbourne.

Dredging works will be carried out at various locations within the port precinct and the South Channel in Port Phillip Bay to remove a build-up of sediment and to ensure Port of Melbourne's berths and channels are maintained for shipping.

Dredging activities within the port have been conducted, on a routine basis, in the shipping channels throughout Port Phillip and the port area over the past 100 years.

Environmental Approvals

Port of Melbourne's dredging works are approved by the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP).

Port of Melbourne will be dredging in accordance with its Environment Management Plan which will include noise monitoring.

Dredging Schedule

Dredging work will commence on 2 December 2019 with an expected completion of March 2020.

To ensure minimal impact on Victorian import and export trade, dredging work will occur 24 hours a day – seven days a week.

Yarra River Access

During the dredging operations some closures to the Yarra River to commercial vessels will apply.

The Yarra River Channel closures will not apply to:

- Bunker vessels
- Port tugs and work boats
- Commuter ferries
- River cruisers and recreational craft

Under direction by the Harbour Master speed limits and cautions will apply to ALL vessels transiting around and in the vicinity of the dredge.

What you might see

The Magnor Dredge

With a length of 72 metres, and a width of 20.5 metres the Boskalis 'Magnor Dredge' will be undertaking the dredging works.

The specific design and the innovations developed by Boskalis for the excavator and the lifting section make the Magnor fast, powerful, economical, clean and quiet.



Community Information

Regular dredging updates will be provided on our website PortofMelbourne.com If you would like more information on our dredging program or to report an issue; call 1300 857 662 or email Port.Dredge@portofmelbourne.com



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Dredging works