



MEDIA RELEASE – PHOTOGRAPHIC OPPORTUNITIES

HMAS MELBOURNE ARRIVES IN HER NAMESAKE CITY FOR THE FINAL TIME

The Guided missile frigate HMAS *Melbourne* will visit her namesake city Melbourne on Friday 13 September for her final port visit before she is decommissioned next month.

The 138-metre-long warship will sail to Melbourne along Victoria's southern coastline, which includes the iconic Great Ocean Road, before she sails up Port Phillip Bay and berth alongside Station Pier. She will remain in port for a five-day visit to say goodbye to the city where she was built.

Melbourne's crew of more than 180 officers and sailors will exercise their Freedom of Entry to the city by marching up Swanston Street towards Melbourne Town Hall on Saturday 14 September. The ship will be open to the public on Sunday 15 September.

Commanding Officer Commander Marcus Buttler said the visit would be bittersweet, with the Ship's service soon coming to an end. His crew were proud to show the community what their warship had achieved over the past 27 years.

"HMAS *Melbourne* and her crew have been deployed overseas for most of 2018 and 2019, and we appreciate the opportunity to host the people of her namesake city, just as they've always warmly welcomed us back to Melbourne over the years," Commander Buttler.

"I hope Melbournians and, more broadly Victorians, are as proud of this Ship's many achievements as we are to have carried the name *Melbourne* around the world.

"The Navy and the City of Melbourne share a long history, with all of our current frigates and both of our Landing Helicopter Docks partly built and assembled at Williamstown; and most of our crew trained at HMAS *Cerberus* on the Mornington Peninsula."

HMAS *Melbourne* was commissioned in 1992 and sailed over 780,000 nautical miles throughout her service life.

The ship deployed on operations to the Middle East eight times and earned battle honours for service in East Timor, the Persian Gulf and the Middle East.

She recently completed a four-month deployment through north Asia, including conducting international maritime surveillance operations to enforce United Nations Security Council Resolution sanctions against North Korea.

HMAS Melbourne's Open Day – Sunday 15 September - LINK

HMAS Melbourne images: <https://bit.ly/2IP2uFZ>

Photographic Opportunities: Southwest coastline

Date	Time	Location	Distance - Nautical miles
Wednesday 11 September	7:30 am	Bridgewater	2.4
	8.15 am	Portland	2.8
	10.10 am	Port Fairy	2.2
	10.45 am	Warrnambool	2.9
	12.00 pm	Peterborough	2.6
	12.20 pm	Port Campbell	2.8
	12.30 pm	Twelve Apostles	1.0
	3.50 pm	Apollo Bay	2.1
	5.40 pm	Lorne	1.8
	6.20 pm	Aireys Inlet	2.3
	6.40 pm	Anglesea	3.3

Photographic Opportunities: Southeast coastline

Date	Time	Location	Distance
Thursday 12 September	9.30 am	Cape Patterson	2.6
	10.00 am	San Remo	3.2
	10.50 am	Smith's Beach	2.9
	11.10 am	Summerland	2.0
	2.00 pm	Point Lonsdale (The Rip)	1.0
	3.00 pm	Mount Martha	1.0

Photographic Opportunities: Port Phillip Bay

Date	Time	Location	Distance
Friday 13 September	7.30 am	Mount Martha Cove	1.00
	8.00 am – 10.00 am	Port Philip Bay	Prescribed shipping lanes
	10.00 am	Station Pier, Port Melbourne	Berthing

Media Note: *The information provided in the schedules above may change due to weather and operational requirements.*

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