



Established in 1994, The Blues Train is a family owned business that has been in operation for 26 years and is Australia's longest running blues music venue.

To all our Blues Train friends, fans and ticket holders for shows - March 21 to May 23, 2020 (inclusive),

As we as a community navigate the unprecedented times in which we find ourselves and the rapidly changing situation regarding coronavirus (COVID-19), we continue to monitor the situation, taking our lead from changes imposed by the Australian Federal Government and the Victorian State Government.

As at 19th March 2020 -

The Blues Train has always provided a safe and positive experience. After extensive stakeholder consultation **The Blues Train team has decided to postpone all upcoming scheduled and advertised shows, effective immediately.** We take this outbreak very seriously and assure you that whilst we have not been directly instructed to cease operation, we have determined this as the best course of action to protect the health and wellbeing of all our patrons, staff, contractors and volunteers given the current environment.

The current advice from the Australian Government is to limit non-essential outdoor group gatherings to 500 people or less, and non-essential indoor group gatherings to 100 people or less. The Blues Train event has a capacity of 204 guests and comprises of both indoor and outdoor spaces. During the indoor stages of the event when the train is in motion, guests are split into four groups of 52 people per carriage. Based on advice we have received to date and taking into consideration that the indoor and outdoor capacities come in well under the prescribed limited gathering numbers, we may have been able to continue to operate. However, based on an extensive risk assessment completed following the Prime Minister's most recent announcement, we have taken the precautionary measure to postpone all scheduled events, including this coming Saturday 21st March and all other currently advertised show dates up to the end of May 2020 (<https://www.thebluestrain.com.au/shows/>).

Before close of business on Friday 27th March, all existing ticket holders for postponed shows will be issued a credit for the value of the tickets purchased. The credit will be valid for twelve months and will allow the recipient to re-book tickets to ride The Blues Train when gathering restrictions are lifted, commencing the nation's recovery from COVID-19. (Holders of any donated, competition prize, packaged and zero price tickets will also be contacted).

It's important to remember throughout these trying times, that local businesses will need your support to overcome and recover from this crisis. The Blues Train staff and their families, our fabulous musicians, the local Queenscliff community, the Bellarine Railway and volunteers, along with our trusted suppliers are all dependent on your patronage and we look forward to welcoming you on board The Blues Train when we are back in operation.



AUSTRALIA'S MOST UNIQUE MUSIC VENUE SINCE 1994

p. 1300 885 993 a. PO Box 111, Point Lonsdale, VIC 3225 e. info@thebluestrain.com.au

www.thebluestrain.com.au



We are confident we will be able to resume operations as soon as deemed safe and practical to do so. In the meantime, we ask you to [join our email list \(https://www.theblustrain.com.au/subscribe/\)](https://www.theblustrain.com.au/subscribe/) so we can keep you up to date, and we also ask you to please promote this significant cultural tourism product to your family and friends so we can have you all on board on the other side of the COVID-19 crisis. Gift cards are still available via [our website \(https://www.theblustrain.com.au/gift-cards/\)](https://www.theblustrain.com.au/gift-cards/).

If you don't already, follow us on [Facebook \(http://www.facebook.com/theblustrain\)](http://www.facebook.com/theblustrain) and [Instagram \(http://www.instagram.com/theblustrain\)](http://www.instagram.com/theblustrain) to keep up to date with what we are doing and share YOUR stories as we are all in this together.

Stay well and be kind to one another.

The Blues Train team.



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