



Busking Permit Guidelines

It will take up to 10 working days to approve all busking permits.

How to apply?

1. Complete and submit application, including all supporting documentation.
2. Assessment will begin only once the application form and supporting documentation are provided.

What are the fees?

Permits are \$30 for 6 months or \$55 for 12 months.

What is busking?

Busking is defined as playing a musical instrument and/or singing, conjuring, juggling, mime, mimicry, dance, puppetry, performance art, recitation and other appropriate theatrical and visual forms.

What about group performance busking?

Group performances can apply under one permit, noting that there is a limit of four (4) people on any one permit.

What are the location restrictions?

- The locations in which busking may be permitted is limited to local shopping strips, the Upper Esplanade and any other areas fixed by resolution of the Port Phillip Council.
- Busking during the St Kilda Festival requires a separate permit. Please contact the Festivals Team on 03 9209 6306 for information.
- Buskers are not permitted inside South Melbourne Market. The Market has designated busking locations outside the Market on Cecil and Coventry Streets. Buskers can perform for up to one hour in each location.
- No space allocated to the St Kilda Esplanade Market may be used by buskers without prior approval. Contact the Esplanade Market on 03 9209 6777 or esplanademarket@portphillip.vic.gov.au
- Buskers must keep clear of entrances to shops and buildings at all times.
- Buskers are not permitted to busk in front of or beside Bank Automated Teller Machines (ATM's)



- No obstruction to pedestrian or other traffic movement will be caused by buskers.

What activities are not permitted?

- The use of mains or battery powered electrical amplifiers is strictly prohibited
- Activities involving tobacco, gambling or alcohol promotion or advertising
- Activities which are deemed illegal, or could promote violence
- Activities that do not meet goals or objectives of the Council Plan
- Activities that are part of an advertising campaign or advertising a product
- Activities that are selling, offer or expose for sale any article or commodity
- Activities that involve the use of balloons (including helium filled balloons)
- The use of fire, knives, swords, chainsaws or any other dangerous instrument is prohibited under any circumstances. This includes instruments that have been modified for safety but can still be perceived as dangerous
- Permanent pavement art of any form

What are the permit conditions?

- A copy of the permit must be retained at the busking site and produced for inspection upon request by Victoria Police or an authorised Council Officer
- All busking must comply with all local laws, conditions, and requirements.
- Directions of members of the Victoria Police Force or authorised Officers of the Port Phillip Council must be complied with at all times
- A passport-sized or similar photograph must be attached to the permit to identify the permit holder
- Permits are not transferable
- Buskers can only perform between the hours of 9:00am and 9:00pm and must only perform for a continuous maximum period of 30 minutes followed by a 10-minute break (maximum of 2 hours stationed in any one location)
- No nuisance may be committed. Buskers must not create a disturbance, annoy, or impact any member of public by their performance/behaviour
- Busking permit holders are not permitted to ask for or expect payment of any kind based on their busking performance
- Buskers or their audience must not interfere in any way with an entertainment or activity approved by Council. This includes, but is not limited to, encroaching on or around any authorised street stall, market, event or promotion



- Persons under 16 years of age will require written permission from a parent/guardian and will have to be accompanied by a parent/guardian when performing
- Buskers must obey all relevant laws

Busking activity which does not meet these conditions and restrictions may be terminated at the direction and/or discretion of a member of the Victoria Police or an authorised Council Officer.

Do I need Public Liability Coverage?

The applicant can be covered under the City of Port Phillip public liability coverage. This is third party coverage only. Please indicate on the application form if you would like to use this coverage.

Who can I contact for further information?

Event Services

- **Email** us at eventpermits@portphillip.vic.gov.au
- **Phone** us on 9209 6777
- **In person** at St Kilda Town Hall – cnr Brighton Rd and Carlisle St, St Kilda. Please make an appointment by calling 03 9209 6777
- **Mail** to City of Port Phillip, Attention Event Services, Private Bag 3, St Kilda PO VIC 3182.