

**PRESS RELEASE**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**Tuesday 2 June 2020**

**TOURISM  
NORTH  
EAST**

## **Victoria's alpine resorts prepare for a quiet start to winter**

Victoria's alpine resorts are preparing for a very different start to the winter season this year, ahead of the season opening on 22 June. Mt Buller, Falls Creek, Mt Hotham, Mt Stirling, Mt Baw Baw and Lake Mountain are busy preparing their COVIDSafe operational plans, following the state government announcements of a further easing of restrictions from 1 June.

People will still be able to visit the resorts this Queen's Birthday long weekend in line with current guidelines allowing overnight travel, but should be aware of the limited offering ahead of the season starting later in the month. Visitors travelling to the alpine resorts from the long weekend must pre-purchase vehicle entry passes prior to arrival. Those staying overnight will also need to pre-book their accommodation. No tobogganing is currently permitted, and the downhill ski areas and most visitor facilities are not expected to open before 22 June.

Speaking on behalf of the alpine resorts, Tourism North East Chief Executive Officer, Bess Nolan-Cook, emphasised the need for visitors to be considerate and organised. "While we're pleased about the prospect of a snow season commencing 22 June after such a difficult start to 2020, we do want to stress the importance of people planning ahead and considering all elements of their travel.

"The alpine resorts have all implemented strategies to manage capacity from the long weekend, including the need for visitors to book their vehicle entry pass prior to arrival. People arriving without a vehicle entry pass might not be able to enter the resort due to capacity constraints.

"We ask guests to be considerate and to respect the rules necessary for everyone to be able to enjoy a trip to the snow this year. If we do, we'll be able to enjoy those first turns on the slopes before we know it."

Anyone intending to travel to the alpine areas from Friday 5 June should check individual websites for the latest information and conditions, and confirm their bookings before leaving home.

### **MEDIA CONTACT:**

Sue Couttie  
Public Relations Manager  
Tourism North East (on behalf of Victoria's alpine resorts)  
**e:** [sue.couttie@tourismnortheast.com.au](mailto:sue.couttie@tourismnortheast.com.au)  
**m:** 0419 522 064

**ENDS**