

## Bicycle tour of the Port of Melbourne

### Directions (finishing at Williamstown Station)

1. Leave Southern Cross Station (formerly Spencer Street Station) at the Collins St end.
2. Turn right on Collins St away from the city and over the bridge.
3. At the end of Collins St, go straight ahead through a park, over some tram tracks and turn right onto the bike path.
4. Continue along Harbour Esplanade past sculptures, the colourful National Australia Bank building and Telstra Dome.
5. Follow the bike path along Footscray Rd.

The Port of Melbourne starts at Appleton Dock Rd. As you cycle along Footscray Rd you first pass Patrick Stevedores container terminal on the left then, once you cross Swanson Dock Rd, you pass DP World container terminal.

Around 1.9 million containers pass through (import and export) the Port of Melbourne each year, and they generally come in two sizes: 20 feet (approx six metres) and 40 feet (approx 12 metres) in length. Most containers are for general cargo but some have built-in refrigerating units for goods that require cold storage, these are called reefer containers.

6. Stay on Footscray Rd as you cross the Maribyrnong River on Shepherd Bridge.
7. Just after crossing the Maribyrnong River, turn left on the bike path along Moreland St and then onto Whitehall St.
8. At Somerville Road, turn right till you meet Hyde Street, then turn left.

9. Follow Hyde St towards the West Gate Bridge past a large Mobil terminal.

After crossing Francis St, you'll pass the Mobil oil terminal on the left. A large proportion of the petroleum that comes into the Port of Melbourne arrives at Holden Dock which is on the river-side of the Mobil terminal. On average, the Port of Melbourne handles 10,800 tonnes of petroleum per day.

10. Travel under the West Gate Bridge and past the West Gate Memorial Park.

11. Downstream from Riverside Park you may notice some boats with black hulls and pipes coming out of their decks.

Just past Scienceworks, near some overhead pipes, you'll find an area where Bunker Barges are moored. These strange-shaped boats are used to refuel the large ships that call into the port. The name dates from the time when ships were steam powered and the fuel – coal was stored in bunkers on the barges.

12. Follow the bike path along the shore towards Williamstown.

From near the HMAS Yarra National Memorial, if you look across the river, you can see Webb Dock. Webb Dock has many uses, cargo ships to and from Tasmania call at Webb Dock on a daily basis and cars are imported or exported here. The port receives 700 cars a day on average and Webb Dock has space for 6000 cars. Car-carrying ships are almost square in shape and like floating car parks, they are usually known as RO-ROs (Roll On-Roll Off).

13. Cycle through the shore-front area of Williamstown and once past the Royal Yacht Club of Victoria, take the next street on the right (Ann St) and cycle along it until Williamstown Station is reached.