

Melbourne's Gooney Bird



Experience the Golden Age of Aviation

THE DC-3 FOWLES WINERY FLIGHT

SCAN TO VIEW WEBSITE



INTRODUCTION

The DC-3. The Gooney Bird. 'Melbourne's Gooney Bird'

Experience this lovingly restored and meticulously maintained classic aircraft. This is a true airliner with two professional pilots and a qualified flight attendant, all subject to bi-annual proficiency checks and airline regulations.

This aeroplane was queen of the skies before the days of crowded terminals and packed aircraft, you will be delighted at the Gooney Bird's interior space and legroom. You are going to experience air travel as it was in the Golden Age of aviation.

We're privileged to have been flying it for more than thirty years and are delighted to share our experiences with you. We love interacting with our passengers, hearing their stories and answering their questions.

We can also offer something truly unique, the Cockpit Jump Seat Experience and the Crew Experience!

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SPECIAL EXPERIENCES

The Cockpit Jump Seat Experience

Our DC-3 flights give you the opportunity to ride in the Jump Seat with the pilots for either take-off or landing.

You can experience the view from the cockpit of this classic airliner, and observe a professional flight crew at work,

For takeoff, you will accompany the crew to the aircraft before passenger boarding, be installed in the cockpit jump seat and fitted with a headset. You'll observe engine start, taxi and takeoff. After takeoff the flight attendant shall escort you to your seat.

If you opt to observe a landing instead, the flight attendant will install you in the jump seat prior to descent from cruising altitude and fit your headset. You will observe the descent, then the approach and landing, deplaning after the other passengers.

The cost is \$75 in addition to your fare. You can reserve your experience when booking, or just prior to the flight if it's still available.

Gift vouchers can also be purchased.



The Flight Crew Experience

See what goes on back-stage!

Arrive one hour before normal check in time to accompany the Captain and First Officer during their pre-flight activities, then join them on board for taxi and take-off.

You will join the flight crew at the pre-flight briefing. This includes reviewing forecast weather and operational matters including normal and emergency procedures and required documentation. We will then conduct the before flight final inspection of the aircraft.

Prior to passenger boarding, you will accompany the crew to the aircraft and be installed in the cockpit jump seat, there to observe engine start, taxi and takeoff. After takeoff the flight attendant shall escort you to your seat.

The cost is \$175 in addition to your fare. You will need to reserve your experience when booking.

Gift vouchers can also be purchased.



IMPORTANT SAFETY AND COMFORT INFORMATION

Mobility Capability

The DC-3 is not as user-friendly as modern aircraft for passengers who may have mobility issues. It is also a tailwheel aircraft, which gives the cabin an upward slope on the ground.

The on-board stairs carried on the aircraft that are used at airports other than Essendon are not as wide as the ones we use at home base, and may be difficult to use for someone needing mobility aids. If you or anyone in your party are in this position we need to discuss this with you in advance of your flight, as it's possible it may not be safe for you to travel with us.

We will of course assist you in embarking or disembarking. We are also happy for you to come to our hangar prior to your flight to check boarding and disembarking procedures in order to ensure your safety, comfort and confidence.

The on-board stairs.



Cancellations

The DC-3 is a very sound and capable aircraft and is certified to fly in instrument conditions. It is equipped with modern air traffic and terrain warning equipment.

It can fly safely in poor flying conditions.

However, like nearly all airliners from the classic era of aviation, it is not pressurised, and flies at relatively low altitudes compared to modern aircraft. In less than smooth conditions, the passenger experience can be less than ideal.

To maximise your comfort and enjoyment we only fly in pleasant weather and comfortable temperatures.

We monitor aviation forecasts for several days prior to flights. These can predict uncomfortable temperatures, high winds, or turbulent flying conditions. We will keep you aware of any possible changes.

Sometimes technical issues associated with operating unique aircraft like the Gooney Bird arise that are beyond our control.

Our flights are also subject to minimum passenger numbers.

These factors can be the cause of cancellations, and we ask for your understanding if this occurs.

If we need to cancel a flight, we will advise you immediately and offer rebooking or a refund.

A special note to passengers coming from interstate:

If a late cancellation occurs, we will of course rebook or refund you, but cannot reimburse travel and any associated expenses you incur travelling to Melbourne. **Please consider this when you fly with us.**

Step back in time with us aboard our beloved DC-3, an aircraft that has touched countless hearts over the decades. This isn't just a flight; it's a journey through cherished memories and moments.

Imagine reconnecting with a bygone era, feeling the presence of loved ones from the past, and marvelling at how far we've come. The nostalgia of this experience is profound, evoking smiles, joy, and sometimes tears.

Children and young people gaze in awe at this magnificent piece of history, their eyes wide with wonder and curiosity about a world before smartphones and modern technology. Every flight is a tapestry of emotions, and we are honoured to be a part of these precious moments. Guests often reach out to us, sharing their amazement that such experiences still exist.

Join us and create a memory that will linger in your heart. Feel the magic, the history, and the profound connection that our DC-3 offers. This isn't just a flight; it's a timeless experience that will stay with you forever.

TESTIMONIALS

"We've had the pleasure of working with Short Stop Jet Charter on a number of occasions, utilising their space and their amazing DC3 Gooneybird for both corporate and wedding shoots. The results have been nothing short of spectacular (see attached photos by Euro Photography and Art By I). Short Stop are pleasant, accommodating and easy to work with, and we highly recommend using them for your next photo shoot or charter alike!"

-Mustangs in Black



"What a fantastic day trip to King Island. Julie, Mike and Craig made us feel so welcome and safe. The Gooney Bird was a brilliant ride. 🌟 100% recommend"

-Julie Holland



"We did the king island trip on the DC3 yesterday. It was great. Really good experience, and the lunch and King Island dairy was great too. A really professional operation, and the plane is an aviation enthusiast's dream. Definitely recommended for people who like old planes. The view you get flying around Melbourne is also awesome. It's quite a slow plane by today's standards, and flew at quite low altitude, so the scenery was really accessible. A+"

-Scott Wallace



"We have done 2 flights in the magnificent DC3, one around Melbourne of an evening & also did the King Island trip with Mike Falls & his newly in command Lady captain. First class operation with very experienced crew & staff. The food at the King Island restaurant was fabulous. Congratulations to all the staff!"

-Brian Simpson



"Absolutely loved our trip to King Island on their DC3. The service and communication provided from the time of booking through to the end of the trip was second to none. We had to reschedule our initial date due to bad weather which can't be helped but I always had all the information I needed."

-Meg B



"Had a wonderful flight to King Island. Excellent service and your safety is taken seriously. The flight back to Essendon was even better as now we had some King Island cheese!"

-Debbie Campbell



"Great experience with a great crew on the DC3 to King Island. 10/10"

-Daniel Seaman



"Evening flight over Melbourne in December. Nostalgic Casablanca style. Great experience."

-Ash Plummer



"Went on a charter with these guys to Sydney. Awesome service, great employees and a high standard. Recommend"

-Enviro Mag



"Excellent flight super friendly staff loved the experience."

-Tracey Williams



"Very friendly staff and the Gooney Bird experience is awesome."

-Jayden Boyde



"Great day out"

-Kerry Eldred



MAP

HOW TO GET TO THE DESTINATION



228 Wirraway Rd,
Melbourne,
VIC 3041, Australia

