myki the only way to go on regional buses this April

Regional bus networks selling short term two hour and daily disposable smart card tickets will become myki only services in April.

The move replicates the same ticketing arrangements available in Melbourne since late December, and is in preparation for myki beginning operating on V/Line interurban trains, which is the final stage of delivery currently planned for myki.

Public Transport Victoria Director of Customer Services Alan Fedda said the switch to myki being the only ticket that can be used will be staggered across the regions.

“Seymour, Bendigo and Ballarat will be the first regional bus networks to switch to myki only ticketing from Friday, 12 April,” he said.

“This will be followed soon after by buses in Geelong from Friday 19 April, and the Latrobe Valley from Friday 26 April.

“It will take a few days to convert all buses to full myki sales and operation, but passengers should be ready for myki to be the only ticket that can be used from day one.

To support regional bus users in the transition to myki only ticketing, more than 20 additional retail outlets are being added to the regional retail network.

This is in addition to myki machines at V/Line stations selling full fare cards, and Australia Post outlets selling myki Starter Packs.

Mr Fedda said the additional retail outlets provide regional bus users with more places to buy and top up myki cards.

“These additional retail outlets take to approximately 60 locations across Geelong, Bendigo, Ballarat, Seymour and the Latrobe Valley where myki cards can be purchased and topped up,” he said.

“While passengers do have a few weeks before myki is the only ticket that can be used, I would urge them to get ready now by getting a myki or getting out one they already have but don’t really use.

“To find their nearest myki retailer, passengers can use the myki locater at myki.com.au, look for the myki sign out the front of retail outlets, or call 1800 800 007 and our staff will be able to assist.

“myki customer service staff are currently out and about on regional bus networks and passengers should ask them any questions they have about the system, including what card is best for them and where to buy and top up.”
Mr Fedda also reminded customers who might have purchased a myki a number of years ago to check the expiry date of their card.

“myki has been operating on buses in regional Victoria for close to four years now so some early issued cards might be close to expiring,” he said.

“I would urge all those passengers who do have a myki in a drawer somewhere to check the expiry date in their online account if their card is registered, or call 1800 800 007 and PTV staff will be able to assist.”

For more information about myki and public transport, people can visit myki.com.au and ptv.vic.gov.au.

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