

MANX HERITAGE TRANSPORT FESTIVAL



Celebrating 150 years of the Douglas Bay Horse Tramway & 50 years of nationalised bus services

EVENTS THROUGHOUT THE WEEK

BUS - Heritage Bus Shuttles

Throughout the festival week bus vinnin will operate its extensive timetable with exceptional Island wide coverage and frequency; why not take a journey on the buses to somewhere the railways can't. For details of all bus vinnin services and timings throughout the week please visit www.bus.im or collect a copy of the printed timetable from our Stations during your visit

Standard bus fares apply. Go Explore, Go Saver and Go Places cards accepted on all standard services.

DBHT - Return of Horse Tram 22

Tram 22 will be returning to the Douglas Bay Horse Tramway for the Festival week. It will be outside Strathallan every day of the festival to allow for photographs and on occasion through the festival week it will open as our exclusive DBHT 150 gift shop. 22 is referred to as a 'Canvas Roofed' or 'Umbrella' Toastrack & survives at the Jurby Transport Museum, albeit further converted during the 1970s into a mobile souvenir shop for the Tramway and we are grateful to the Museum for loaning the tram to us.

On display daily subject to weather. Gift shop opening times to be advised during the week.

Manx Northern Railway – Foxdale Branch 140th Anniversary – F.37 & F.39 'The Foxdale Coach'

In recognition of 140 years since the opening of the Foxdale Branch of the Manx Northern Railway in 1886 the Foxdale Coach will feature on service trains throughout the week. F39 was delivered to the Manx Northern Railway in 1886 from Oldbury builders and originally numbered M.N.Ry. No.17.

F37 has been extensively restored following its return to the Island and an absence from service since 1969. Originally delivered to The Manx Northern Railway in 1899 from Hurst Nelson and numbered M.N.Ry No.16.

Standard train fares apply. Go Travel Cards accepted.

TUESDAY 28th JULY

BUS - Heritage Bus Shuttles

1964 Leyland Titan PD3 operates between Douglas Railway Station (Banks Circus) & Derby Castle. Departs Douglas Railway Station at 15 past the hour from 10:15 - 15:15, from Derby Castle at 40 past the hour from 10:40 until 15:40

See 'Bus Fares' note for details of applicable fares.

MER / BUS - Parallel Run between Derby Castle & Groudle

Parallel Run using Car 16 & Car 20, as well as 1964 Leyland Titan PD3, departs at 08:50. Both cars will remain in service throughout the day.

Standard tram fares apply. Go Travel Cards accepted.

See 'Bus Fares' note for details of applicable fares.

MER - Diesel Motorman Taster Sessions with Car 34 SOLD OUT

MER - Bulkhead Trailer Day

The following combinations will be in use on services:

7 / 19 (36), 16 / 37, 9 / 60, 20 / 54, 32 / 50

Standard tram fares apply. Go Travel Cards accepted.

DBHT - Toastracks

Toastrack 21 and Toastrack 42 will be in service, weather permitting.

Standard tram fares apply. Go Travel Cards accepted.

IMR - Saloon Coaches in Service

The Saloon coaches, normally reserved to Dining car trains, will be in use on the 11:50 departure from Douglas & 16:00 departure from Port Erin, with two engines on these trains.

Standard train fares apply. Go Travel Cards accepted.

MER / DBHT / BUS - Welcome Evening at Strathallan Crescent / Derby Castle

A selection of events this evening to start the Festival, from 18:00 until 21:30.

BUS - AEC Regent V operating Promenade shuttles, new Streetdeck in Douglas Corporation livery on display, line up of Douglas Corporation livery buses on display inc

MER - Car 16 on 'Chip Shop Shuttles' to Port Jack at regular intervals, Car 20 & Van 11 on display in Groudle Siding. Discount of 10% at Port Jack Chippy on presentation of relevant ticket, speak to tram crew for details.

DBHT - Evening service (details below), Trams on display at Strathallan tram shed and on traverser.

Standard tram fares apply. Go Travel Cards accepted.

See 'Bus Fares' note for details of applicable fares.

DBHT - Evening Service

Horse tram evening service using double deck tram 18, departs Strathallan at 18:45, 19:25, 20:05 & 20:45, departs Broadway at 19:05, 19:45, 20:25 and 21:05.

Standard tram fares apply. Go Travel Cards accepted.

BUS FARES - PLEASE READ

Unless detailed otherwise, the following fare structure applies to events involving our bus fleet:

Standard bus fares apply, including **Go Saver** tickets.
Go Explore cards are not accepted, and concessionary travel will only apply to children aged 5 - 15. Ages 0 - 4 travel free with full fare paying adults.

Go Silver card holders will receive half fares. Go Saver bus cards may also be used on all heritage bus shuttles and standard services throughout the festival.

WEDNESDAY 29th JULY

IMR & BUS - Marine Drive Special

To mark the 130th anniversary of the Douglas Southern Electric Tramway. Special train departs Douglas Railway Station at 09:15 to Port Soderick. Guides will then hold an escorted walk along the Marine Drive to Douglas, discussing the history of the tramway. The ex-Douglas Corporation AEC Regent V will meet the group near the turning circle at Douglas Head to continue the journey, returning to Douglas Station by 13:00.

£18pp. Book online or by phone.

MER - Parallel Run between Derby Castle & Groudle

Parallel Run using Car 16 & Car 32, departs Derby Castle at 08:50. Both cars will remain in service throughout the day.

Standard tram fares apply. Go Travel Cards accepted.

MER - Lost Trailers

The following trailers will be recreated for photographs

34 / 35 / 38 / 39 / 40 / 41 / 52

Standard tram fares apply. Go Travel Cards accepted.

DBHT - Strathallan Crescent Guided Tours

Guided tours of Strathallan Crescent Tram Sheds at 10:00, 11:00, 13:00 & 14:00, opportunities to see behind the scenes inside the shed and tramway offices.

£9pp. Book online or by phone.

DBHT - Toastrack Sunshade & Double Decker

Trams 18 & 36 will be in service.

Standard tram fares apply. Go Travel Cards accepted.

Groudle Glen Railway

Two train service from 11:00 to 20:30 using 'Sea Lion' & 'Brown Bear'. Special evening guided tour departs Derby Castle at 18:00, with tour of the Glen and GGR engine sheds, including travel on MER & GGR.

Standard Groudle fares apply or Go Explore cards accepted on standard service trains.

Evening tour £12pp. Visit ggr.org.uk to book.

MER - Four Winter Saloons to Ramsey

Trams will depart Derby Castle at 16:45, 17:00, 17:15 & 17:30, with all trams on display at Ramsey station by 19:00.

At 20:00, the first pair of trams will depart in parallel to Laxey, followed by the second pair at 20:15. Trams will then be sent individually from Laxey to Derby Castle, the first tram arriving back at Derby Castle by 21:55, the last by 22:25.

Standard tram fares apply. Go Travel Cards accepted but will incur a £5pp surcharge payable on the day.

DBHT - Evening Service

Horse tram evening service, departs Strathallan at 18:45, 19:25, 20:05 & 20:45, departs Broadway at 19:05, 19:45, 20:25 and 21:05.

Standard tram fares apply. Go Travel Cards accepted.

IMR - Steam Headboards & IOMSRSA AGM

Headboards in memory of Isle of Man Steam Railway Supporters Association members Graham Warhurst, Tony Beard, Alastair Lamberton & Max Crookall on service trains. IOMSRSA AGM meeting will be held at Port Erin Railway Museum, commencing at 20:15. A special train will depart Douglas at 19:00 for Port Erin, returning at 21:30.

Standard train fares & Go Travel Cards apply to service trains. Special train £20pp - visit iomsrsa.org to book.

THURSDAY 29th CONT.

BUS - Douglas Corporation Route Reenactment

Using the ex-Douglas Corporation AEC Regent V, our tour will commence at Lord Street Stand E at 14:00. The bus will follow the historic Douglas Corporation routes including route numbers 2, 4, 10, 16 and 25. A guide will be available to speak to about the routes undertaken and photographic opportunities will be available. At the end of each run the bus will return to Lower Douglas to commence its next run from Lord Street but will not stop here to ensure all the runs fit into the time allocated. Our final run will return to Lord Street by 16:30.

£3 per adult, £1.50 per child - pay on the day.

THURSDAY 30th JULY

MER - Parallel Run between Derby Castle & Groudle

Parallel Run using Car 1 & Car 2, departs Derby Castle at 08:50. Both cars will remain in service throughout the day.

Standard tram fares apply. Go Travel Cards accepted.

MER - Open Crossbench & Edwardian Trailers

The following trailers will be in service throughout the day:

42 / 57 / 58 / 61 / 62

Standard tram fares apply. Go Travel Cards accepted.

MER - Motorman Taster Sessions with Car 7 SOLD OUT

MER - Derby Castle Yard & Workshop Tours

Guided tours of Derby Castle Yard & Workshops at 11:15, 12:15, 14:15 & 15:15, meeting at Derby Castle sheds for the tour.

£12pp. Book online or by phone.

DBHT - Winter Saloons

Tram 27 and Tram 29 will be in service.

Standard tram fares apply. Go Travel Cards accepted.

BUS - North Line Closed Lines Bus Tour

Our bus, 315 painted in Isle of Man Road Services livery leaves Douglas Railway Station at 09:30 with a commentary along the way. Highlights include the Ballaugh Goods Shed and Sulby Glen Station. Guides from the Heritage Railway Volunteers Group will accompany the tour. Meet at Douglas Railway Station at 09:15, returns by 17:00.

£30pp. Book online or by phone.

IMR - IOMSRSA Projects on display at Port Erin

The IoM Steam Railway Supporters' Association will host a display the various items of rolling stock that they have been involved in restoring over the last few years. The display will include locos No.5 Mona, No.6 Peveril, No.9 Douglas. Also freight stock including van G.1, wagons H.1 and M.78 and much more. On display from 10:00 until 16:00.

Free to enjoy the display - visit iomsrsa.org for full details.

IMR - Transport Festival Pie & Mash

The Station Master's hearty homemade pie with delicious fillings. A selection of classic desserts will be offered on your return journey. Fully stocked bar on board, with a range of real ales from Bushy's. Departs Douglas 19:00 to Castletown. Returns to Douglas by 22:30

£38. To book email steamdining@gov.im or call 01624 697457

To book events or for further travel information, visit www.rail.im, www.bus.im or call the Welcome Centre on 01624 662525

FRIDAY 31st JULY

MER - Parallel Run between Derby Castle & Laxey
Parallel Run using Car 7 & Car 14, departing Derby Castle at 09:20. Car 14 will depart Laxey for Derby Castle at 10:10.
Standard tram fares apply. Go Travel Cards accepted.

MER - Laxey Car Shed Open Day

Laxey Car Shed open between 10:30 and 15:00, an opportunity to view stored rolling stock and volunteer restoration projects. Please do not walk along the tram line to the shed, use the tram, shuttle or walk along the main road.
£9pp. Book online or by phone.

MER - Snaefell Mountain Railway Car Shed Tours

Guided tours behind the scenes of the Snaefell workshops. Tours start at 10:00, 11:00, 13:00 & 14:00. No parking on site.
£9pp. Book online or by phone.

MER - Wickham Railcar Shuttles

Wickham 7442 operating frequent shuttles between Laxey station & Laxey Car sheds. Limited capacity.
£4pp. Pay on the day.

MER - Car 34 & Trailer 57 shuttles.

Laxey Station to Dhoon Quarry Shuttles using Manx Electric Railway Car 34 'Maria' and Winter Trailer 57. Shuttles depart from Laxey Station at 09:50, 10:50, 11:50, 13:50 & 14:50. Each shuttle will include a photography stop around the spectacular Bulgham Bay.
£7pp for Rover ticket valid on all departures. Book online or by phone.

DBHT - Double Deck Tram 18

Recently refurbished double deck Tram 18 in service.
Standard tram fares apply. Go Travel Cards accepted.

BUS - Vintage Transport Reception at Jurby Transport Museum

To celebrate the 50th Anniversary of nationalised bus services a special evening will be held at Jurby Transport Museum. Welcome speeches, live music, celebration cake and refreshments. During the evening a unique cavalcade of buses will parade onto Jurby Airfield offering a spectacular photography opportunity of buses through the decades. Museum guides will also be available to offer their expertise on the fascinating exhibits and artefacts housed inside the museum. Special buses including 315 and 316 will depart Lord Street for ticket holders as follows:

Option 1 (316): 18:00 Jurby Transport Museum via Lord St, Peel Road, Union Mills, St. Johns, Peel Town Hall, Knocksharry, Kirk Michael, Sulby & St. Jude's.

Option 2 (315): 18:00 Jurby Transport Museum via Lord St, Ridgeway St, Promenades, Summerhill, Onchan, Baldrine, Laxey, Glen Mona, Ramsey Bus Station, Jurby Road, St. Jude's, Both options return from Jurby Transport Museum at 21:45.
£37pp. Book online or by phone.

IMR - Transport Festival Quiz Night Dining Car

How good is your knowledge? Time to team up with family and friends for an exciting quiz night. Fun prizes to be won including 2026 Dining Car experiences. Additional standard passenger carriages to U timetable on this train, with the service to feature two engines. Port Erin Railway Museum open until 21:00 for customers to explore.
£42 per adult, £25 per child. To book email steamdining@gov.im or call 01624 697457

SATURDAY 1st AUGUST

DBHT - 150th Anniversary Cavalcade

A spectacular cavalcade of Douglas Bay Horse Tramway rolling stock along Douglas Promenade as far as Broadway. Departs Derby Castle from 10:00. Normal services resume from 13:05 onwards or as soon after the bus cavalcade has finished its procession.
Standard tram fares apply. Go Travel Cards accepted.

BUS - 50th Anniversary Cavalcade

The cavalcade of heritage and modern vehicles, some provided by Jurby Transport Museum, will depart at 12:30 from Port Jack as far as The War Memorial for a static display of vehicles taking part. Free heritage bus shuttles loops depart from War Memorial every half hour from 14:00 to 16:30

Spectators are encouraged to watch the cavalcade from key vantage points along the Promenade. Admission to the display of buses is FREE for all to attend. Shuttle bus runs are FREE, but we would encourage a small donation to the Jurby Transport Museum who have kindly supplied some of the buses to assist with their costs.

MER - Derby Castle Yard & Workshop Tours

Guided tours of Derby Castle Yard & Workshops at 13:15, 14:15 & 15:15, meeting at Derby Castle sheds for the tour.
£12pp. Book online or by phone.

MER - Wickham Railcar Shuttles

Wickham 7442 operating frequent shuttles between Derby Castle station & Derby Castle Yard. Limited capacity.
£4pp. Pay on the day.

MER - UEC 120

Car 32 & Trailer 62 in service during the day, as well as Trailer 61 with another motor car. Car 33 will be on display in Derby Castle Yard as part of the tours above.
Standard tram fares apply. Go Travel Cards accepted.

MER - Laxey to Groudle Shuttles

Shuttle runs between Laxey Station and Groudle Glen on 1898 Ratchet Car 14. Departing from Groudle Glen at 5 past the hour from 10:05 to 16:05, returning from Laxey at 35 minutes past each hour from 10:35 to 16:35 (16:35 continues to Derby Castle).
Standard tram fares apply. Go Travel Cards accepted.

Groudle Glen Railway

Two train service from 11:00 to 16:30 using diesel and electric locomotives, alongside workshop tours.
Standard Groudle fares apply or Go Explore cards accepted on standard service trains. Visit ggr.org.uk to book.

Great Laxey Mine Railway

The Great Laxey Mine Railway offers a fascinating insight into the industrial heritage of Laxey Village and will be in operation from 11:00 until 16:30. Demonstration ore trains will also be in operation
Return journey £3pp, or Go Explore Cards accepted.

Douglas Bay Horse Tramway Guided Walk

A fascinating guided walk exploring the history of the tramway with guide Patricia Newton - meet for 13:00 start at Terminus Tavern, concluding at Sefton Hotel no later than 15:00.
Free - donations to Douglas Bay Tramway Trust welcomed.

SUNDAY 1st AUGUST CONT.

IMR - Transport Festival Summertime Gala Train
Celebrate summertime on our elegant Gala dining train. Four course dinner on board with a scenic trip through the Isle of Man's countryside. Smart attire and fancy frocks.
£50pp. To book email steamdining@gov.im or call 01624 697457

MER - Evening Service with Enhancement

Open car and bulkhead trailers operating to timetable DG. Additional 20:10 service from Derby Castle to Ramsey using Car 14, running in parallel with the 22:10 service from Ramsey as far as Laxey. Trams subject to weather conditions.
Standard tram fares apply. Go Travel Cards accepted.

SUNDAY 2nd AUGUST

MER - Intensive Service

Enjoy the last day of the festival with our traditional intensive services on the M.E.R. Unusual combinations will be in service including Car 34 pulling Trailer 19. See supplements available during the Festival for timetable.
Standard tram fares apply. Go Travel Cards accepted.

DBHT - Strathallan Terminus Tram Display

All the tramcars will be pushed out of the depot to display in the sidings at the front of The Terminus Tavern and Strathallan Sheds, weather conditions depending.
Free.

Upper Douglas Cable Tramway Guided Walk

A guided walk along the route of the former Upper Douglas Cable Tramway taking in the history of Douglas along the way. Meet at the Bottleneck Carpark, Loch Promenade for a 09:00 start. The walk will last approximately 90 minutes. Please note this walk involves steep hills and is not suitable for anyone with limited mobility.
Free. Book online or by phone.

Goods Van Railwayana Sale

A Manx Electric Railway Goods van will be positioned in the Groudle siding at Derby Castle from 10:00 until 15:00 selling a selection of unusual railwayana including trolley wheels, old timetables and anything else interesting we may find! Make sure to visit us.
Free.

Groudle Glen Railway

Two train service from 11:00 to 16:30 using all four steam locomotives, alongside workshop tours.
Standard Groudle fares apply or Go Explore cards accepted on standard service trains. Visit ggr.org.uk to book.

Great Laxey Mine Railway

The Great Laxey Mine Railway offers a fascinating insight into the industrial heritage of Laxey Village and will be in operation from 11:00 until 16:30.
Return journey £3pp, or Go Explore Cards accepted.

IMR - Double Header / Banked Trains Day

The following trains will be double headed or banked:
09:50 Douglas to Castletown - doublehead.
10:27 Castletown to Douglas - banked.
15:50 Douglas to Castletown - double headed.
16:27 Castletown to Douglas - banked.
Standard train fares & Go Travel Cards apply to service trains.

SUNDAY 2nd AUGUST CONT.

IMR - Douglas Workshop, Running Shed & Signal Box Tours

The Isle of Man Steam Railway Supporters' Association will be offering guided tours of the workshops, steam sheds and signal box to enable visitors to get a glimpse behind the scenes to see how the islands unique railways are maintained. Tours start: 10:00, 12:00, 14:00 & 16:00 (15 per tour). Please wait at Douglas Station for your tour to start. A guide will come to collect you
£12pp. Book online or by phone.

BUS - Vintage Transport Running Day at Jurby Transport Museum

Join us for our annual running day in the North of the Island. The Museum houses a wide range of vehicles including cars, buses, lorries, and fire engines and the preserved Douglas Cable Tram dating from the 19th century with some new additions to the collection. Additional bus services using the latest bus vannah buses in heritage liveries, 315 and 316 on service 19 will operate from Ramsey Tram Station to meet Manx Electric Railway arrivals, while a direct service from Lord Street, Douglas via Ridgeway St, Victoria St, Promenades, Summer Hill and the Manx Arms and over the mountain (weather permitting) will also be provided departing Lord Street at 09:10. A direct bus from Jurby via the Mountain into Douglas will depart at 15:40 or 15:55 from Ramsey Tram Station. Standard bus fares will apply.
Admission free. Donations Welcome (Tap and Donate available). Open from 11:00 to 16:00 with Museum shop, refreshments, and toilets available.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY!

Friday 7th August 2026:

150th Anniversary celebrations for the Douglas Bay Horse Tramway

Saturday 26th September – Sunday 2nd November:

50th Anniversary of bus nationalisation exhibition at The House of Manannan, Peel

Thursday 1st October 2026:

50th Anniversary celebrations for the Nationalisation of buses

Saturday 31st & Sunday 1st November 2026:

End of Season finale weekend special events

Tuesday 27th July – Sunday 1st August 2027:

Manx Heritage Transport Festival

Keep up to date with the volunteer's WhatsApp channel - focused primarily on the MER, but including updates from all railways where possible:



Scan the QR code or visit
tinyurl.com/merwhatsapp

Find the full brochure, terms and conditions at the following link:
tinyurl.com/MHTF2026

ENJOY THE FESTIVAL!

To book events or for further travel information, visit www.rail.im, www.bus.im or call the Welcome Centre on 01624 662525