

20 December 2019

## Traffic forecasts for Christmas road trips

Congestion on south east Queensland's major roads would begin from lunchtime today, as tens of thousands of people began their Christmas holidays, RACQ has predicted.

Club spokesperson Lauren Ritchie said those heading north and south from Brisbane should prepare for lengthy delays.

"Historic traffic data shows the Pacific Motorway south to the Gold Coast and the border and the Bruce Highway heading north will be jammed from around midday and remain busy until well into tomorrow morning," Ms Ritchie said.

"It's likely there will be a second congestion peak on Christmas Eve as the next wave of people embark on their festive road trips.

"We see it every year, so drivers shouldn't be fooled into thinking they won't face congestion."

Meanwhile, Ms Ritchie warned drivers petrol prices in south east Queensland remained high and urged them to hold off until prices fell into the low one dollar 40s.

"After those recent record-breaking petrol highs, prices are falling but we're yet to reach the cheap phase of the cycle," she said.

"Currently retail margins are in excess of 20 cents per litre (cpl) and it would be nicer at this time of year for drivers to be feeling the Christmas cheer, rather than fuel companies.

"We advise drivers to avoid filling up the tank for as long as possible as prices will continue to fall every day. If you're in Brisbane, Ipswich, or the Gold and Sunshine Coasts, 143cpl is a cheap price.

"There are some cheap pockets around the south east selling unleaded for this price, including East Ipswich, Booval, Bundamba, Glass House Mountains, Beerwah, North Lakes, Mango Hill and Deception Bay.

"Now is the perfect time to be using apps such as RACQ's Fair Fuel Finder to locate the sites with the lowest prices."

**Media inquiries: RACQ spokesperson Lauren Ritchie 0427 137 022, Media Advisor Emma O'Mara 0427 949 358.**

RACQ is Queensland's largest club and peak independent motoring organisation. We were formed in 1905 to represent the interests of the State's first motorists and today campaign for safer drivers, vehicles and roads on behalf of the 1.7 million members who own the Club. We offer those members a vast range of motoring, insurance, banking, entertainment and travel services and benefits, and each year respond to more than a million calls for roadside assistance.