

17 December 2020

Christmas ‘Grinch’ at Brisbane and GC bowzers

RACQ has warned Brisbane and Gold Coast motorists to fill up the tank immediately before cheap fuel disappeared and they were forced to pay top dollar at the pump this Christmas.

Club spokesperson Lauren Ritchie said drivers were in for an unwelcome gift at the bowser with prices expected to peak at an average of between 144 and 148 cents per litre (cpl) in the days before Christmas.

“Expensive fuel isn’t on anyone’s Christmas list but as we’re in the hike phase of the cycle now, it’s likely that’s what’ll be in our stockings in the days before 25 December,” Ms Ritchie said.

“With plenty of Queenslanders taking festive season road trips our advice is to fill up the tank now, because last cheap fuel will disappear fast.

“Across south east Queensland motorists should be aiming to fill up for 110cpl.

“There’s no evidence of a price hike on the Sunshine Coast or in Ipswich, but prices could start to increase at any time.”

Ms Ritchie said more than 28 percent of sites in Brisbane and seven percent of sites on the Gold Coast had already hiked prices above 145cpl.

“This is why it’s so important motorists don’t delay filling up where they find a good deal, and by doing some homework they can locate the cheapest place to fill the tank,” she said.

“Some retailers are charging as much as 151.9cpl for ULP, but fuel for less than 110cpl can still be found.

“At this time of year we’d all rather a few extra dollars in our pockets, so jump on apps, like RACQ’s Fair Fuel Finder to make sure you’re not coming across a Grinch at the bowser.”

Ms Ritchie said in good news for motorists, unleaded prices could start to drop between Christmas and New Year.

“On your road trip home it might be easier to find a better deal, as the south east should enter the discounting phase after Christmas,” she said.

“So, make sure you’re shopping savvy and plan where you’re going to fill up so you don’t end up paying more than you have to.”

Media inquiries: RACQ spokesperson Lauren Ritchie 0427 137 022; Media Advisor Vivien O’Connor 0427 261 932.

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 more than 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.