



# Sid Sidebottom MP ... for a fair go in Braddon

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## **Sid welcomes more affordable travel on Spirit of Tasmania**

Federal Member for Braddon Sid Sidebottom has welcomed an increase to vehicle rebates for travel on the Spirit of Tasmania.

The increases follow the first annual review of the Bass Strait Passenger Vehicle Equalisation Scheme.

“This increase provides even greater incentive for tourists to come and explore Tasmania, and most importantly for us, they begin their journey in Devonport,” Mr Sidebottom said.

From July 1, 2009, the maximum rebate will be:

Type of Vehicle	Maximum one way trip rebate	Maximum round trip rebate
Motor Car	\$183 (\$3)	\$366 (\$6)
Bus	\$183 (\$3)	\$366 (\$6)
Motorhome	\$366 (\$6)	\$732 (\$12)
Eligible passenger vehicle towing a caravan	\$366 (\$6)	\$732 (\$12)
Motorcycle	\$91 (\$1)	\$182 (\$2)
Bicycle	\$25 (unchanged)	\$52 (unchanged)

- The rebate paid is limited to the ferry operator's vehicle fare for that particular type of passenger vehicle.

“This Scheme is crucial to Tasmania’s tourism industry,” Mr Sidebottom said.

“This increase comes a year after the Rudd Government honoured its promise to raise the standard motor car rebate from \$168 to \$180 for a one way trip, and committed to an annual indexation of the rebates.”

The Bass Strait Passenger Vehicle Equalisation Scheme was introduced to reduce the cost of seabound travel by assisting with eligible vehicle transportation fees across Bass Strait. The rebate is paid to drivers of eligible passenger vehicles in the form of a reduction in the fare charged by service providers.

More than \$30m in rebates was paid out last year.

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