

NSW Transport Facts 2

Review of Fares for Sydney Ferries in NSW 2006

From 2 January 2007

A Fact Sheet on IPART's Review of Fares for Sydney Ferries from 2 January 2007

On 13 December, IPART released its determination on Sydney Ferries fares from 2 January 2007. This fact sheet provides an overview of IPART's report on this determination. The full report and determination are available on IPART's website.

Overview

Sydney Ferries' fares will increase by a weighted average increase of 3.9 per cent under the Independent Pricing Tribunal of NSW (IPART) determination. This increase is the result of the IPART's decision to increase maximum fares by 3.2 per cent before rounding. The 3.2 per cent increase was applied to the existing fares, with the resulting prices rounded up or down to the nearest 10 cents for single tickets and the nearest dollar for adult TravelPasses leading to the 3.9 per cent increase after rounding.

The price of individual fares will change as follows:

- ▼ Standard single tickets will increase by 20 and 30 cents (for all services including Manly JetCat services)
- ▼ FerryTens will increase by between \$1.00 and \$2.10
- ▼ Bus and ferry TravelPasses will increase by between \$1.00 and \$2.00
- ▼ Rail-bus-ferry Travel Passes and DayTripper tickets will not change.

In the future, the difference in fare increases before and after rounding will be smoothed out, as the Tribunal intends to apply future fare increases to an unrounded 'master fare schedule', rather than to existing fares.

IPART considers that its decision to increase Sydney Ferries fares is justified because the corporation's costs have increased by more than the change in the CPI in the last financial year, particularly its fuel and labour costs. Sydney Ferries has also implemented several initiatives to improve the quality, reliability and safety of its services that will benefit its customers. In addition, IPART considers that it is reasonable to require Sydney Ferries' customers to pay slightly more to ensure an appropriate proportion of the corporation's costs are recovered through ticket revenue.

However, IPART notes that there is scope for Sydney Ferries to improve the efficiency of its costs, particularly its labour costs. It also notes that Sydney Ferries expects to be able to achieve efficiency gains over the next few years. Therefore, it intends to closely examine Sydney Ferries' cost efficiency and efficiency gains in the next fare reviews.

In making its determination, IPART considered the impact of its pricing decisions on Sydney Ferries, its customers, and the general community. It believes these decisions achieve a reasonable balance between the varied interests of these different stakeholders. In particular, its analysis suggests that the decisions will have a relatively minor financial impact on customers, while helping to ensure the long-term financial viability of Sydney Ferries' services and containing the need for increased government funding of these services. In addition, these decisions are not likely to lead to a major shift from public transport to cars, so their impact on the environment will be minimal.

The maximum fares for specific Sydney Ferries services that will apply from 2 January 2007 are shown in the attached tables.

James P. Cox
Chief Executive Officer and Full Time Member

Attachment 1 – Sydney Ferries fares, 2007

Table 1 Daily single fares from January 2007

	Current Fare (\$) 05/06	Unrounded fare (\$) 06/07	New Fare 06/07 (\$) (rounded)	Absolute change (\$)	% Rise
Daily singles					
Inner Harbour Adult	5.00	5.16	5.20	0.20	4.0
Inner Harbour Conc.	2.50	-	2.60	0.10	4.0
Meadowbank Adult	5.30	5.47	5.50	0.20	3.8
Meadowbank Conc.	2.60	-	2.70	0.10	3.9
Rydalmere Adult	6.20	6.40	6.40	0.20	3.2
Rydalmere Conc.	3.10	-	3.20	0.10	3.2
Parramatta Adult	7.50	7.74	7.70	0.20	2.7
Parramatta Conc.	3.70	-	3.80	0.10	2.7
Manly Adult	6.20	6.40	6.40	0.20	3.2
Manly Conc.	3.10	-	3.20	0.10	3.2
Manly Jet Cat	7.90	8.15	8.20	0.30	3.8

Table 2 FerryTen fares from January 2007

	Current Fare (\$) 05/06	Unrounded fare (\$) 06/07	New Fare 06/07 (\$) (rounded)	Absolute change (\$)	% Rise
FerryTens					
Inner Harbour Adult	32.50	33.54	33.50	1.00	3.1
Inner Harbour Conc.	16.20	-	16.70	0.50	3.1
Meadowbank Adult	34.50	35.60	35.60	1.10	3.2
Meadowbank Conc.	17.20	-	17.80	0.60	3.5
Rydalmere Adult	46.60	48.09	48.10	1.50	3.2
Rydalmere Conc.	23.30	-	24.00	0.70	3.0
Parramatta Adult	52.60	54.28	54.30	1.70	3.2
Parramatta Conc.	26.30	-	27.10	0.80	3.0
Manly Adult	46.60	48.09	48.10	1.50	3.2
Manly Conc.	23.30	-	24.00	0.70	3.0
Manly Jet Cat	65.70	67.80	67.80	2.10	3.2

Table 3 TravelPasses and DayTripper fares from January 2007

	Current Fare (\$) 05/06	Unrounded fare (\$) 06/07	New Fare 06/07 (\$) (rounded)	Absolute change (\$)	% Rise
Travel Passes ¹					
Blue Adult (BF)	30.00	31.14	31.00	1.00	3.3
Blue Conc.(BF)	15.00	-	15.50	0.50	3.3
Green Adult (RBF)	41.00	-	41.00	-	-
Green Conc. (RBF)	20.50	-	20.50	-	-
Orange Adult (BF)	37.00	38.41	38.00	1.00	2.7
Orange Conc. (BF)	18.50	-	19.00	0.50	2.7
Pink Adult (RBF)	48.00	-	48.00	-	-
Pink Conc. (RBF)	24.00	-	24.00	-	-
Pittwater Adult (BF)	51.00	52.94	53.00	2.00	3.9
Pittwater Conc.(BF)	25.50	-	26.50	1.00	3.9
Purple Adult (RBF)	55.00	-	55.00	-	-
Purple Conc. (RBF)	27.50	-	27.50	-	-
Red Adult (RBF)	33.00	-	33.00	-	-
Red Conc. (RBF)	16.50	-	16.50	-	-
Yellow Adult (RBF)	45.00	-	45.00	-	-
Yellow Conc. (RBF)	22.50	-	22.50	-	-
DayTripper²					
DayTripper Adult (RBF)	15.40	-	15.40	-	-
DayTripper Conc.(RBF)	7.70	-	7.70	-	-

BF = Bus and Ferry., RBF = Rail, Bus, Ferry.

¹ Rail-bus-ferry TravelPasses tickets were part of the Tribunal's decision on fares for CityRail from 2 July 2006 which is available on the Tribunal's website.

² DayTripper tickets were part of the Tribunal's decision on fares for CityRail from 2 July 2006 which is available on the Tribunal's website. There is no unrounded fare for DayTrippers as the Tribunal accepted RailCorp's proposal to increase DayTrippers by 40 cents.