

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for your enquiry regarding employment in our upcoming cherry harvest for 2018 to 2019. We will be employing seasonal **packers** from November 2018 and seasonal **pickers** from mid to late November, with both positions ending early to mid-January.

*(Please note that these dates are subject to weather conditions and other factors).*

We prefer our employees to stay for the entire cherry season; this means that you will be required to work throughout the Christmas and New Year periods with only main days off.

Transport is essential, as the orchards are a few kilometres apart, and therefore you may have to drive from one orchard to another. If you are working in the packing shed and travelling in a group, you must all have your own vehicle as we cannot guarantee that your group of friends will be rostered to work on the same days as each other.

We are 14kms from the main township of Alexandra which has a fairly large supermarket, petrol stations, library, takeaway food, cafes, pubs and other various shops. Yarck is 150kms from Melbourne and does have a bus service twice a day to Melbourne.

All of our employees must meet the requirements of the Department of Immigration and must obtain a valid working visa. Before commencing any work with Koala Cherries, we must sight your PASSPORT and your CURRENT VALID WORKING VISA and we are required to check with immigration.

**Pickers** must be physically fit as duties may involve climbing ladders, bending, carrying lugs and standing for long periods at a time. You will be working outdoors where the weather can be cold and wet or extremely hot and dry. Pickers are paid by the amount they pick and it varies from \$8 to \$15 per lug depending on the variety and other factors. Pickers usually start early in the morning, but this may vary due to the weather and crop load.

*Please note: Harvest supervisors, Pick Up Crew and machinery drivers are required to wear high-sided safety shoes (reinforced toe).*

**Packers** work indoors and must be able to work in a fast paced environment. Packers must be fast with their hands and able to sort through cherries at high speed with great attention to detail. Packing does require long hours of standing and the work can be repetitious and tiring at times. You must be able to communicate efficiently in English and be willing to work under instructions from your supervisors.

Starting dates and hours may be staggered due to crop maturity and will vary from day to day especially at the beginning of harvest. A roster system is designed for packing staff to minimize packers working 7 days a week, however longer hours are usually required in the lead up to Christmas. Packers are paid the hourly award rate, and wages for both pickers and packers are paid weekly into your nominated bank account and the applicable Tax is deducted, and Superannuation contributions paid.

*Please note: All packing shed staff are required to wear safety shoes (reinforced toe).*

If your application is successful, both pickers and packers are required to complete an online induction before commencing employment.

Koala Cherries do have **camping grounds** available for only pickers at some farms and they all include a camp kitchen, showers, toilets, washing machines, clothes lines and BBQ's. Camping sites are limited and allocated on a first booked, first served basis.

A tent can be hired at the cost of \$30.00 per week with a bond required, which is deducted from your first week's wages. Camp fees are based on per person per night- \$10.00 for an unpowered tent site, \$15.00 for a powered tent site and \$20.00 for a caravan site. Camping costs are deducted from your wages each week.

We do **not** have any camping available here at the packing shed so packers will be required to find their own accommodation. We do have a list of local accommodation options that you can request to be emailed to you.

There are STRICTLY NO PETS allowed in the camping sites, or at any of our workplaces – all farms and packing shed included.

To further your application please fill in the application form and return by email to [info@koalacherries.com.au](mailto:info@koalacherries.com.au) as well as a copy of your passport and visa if applicable. We will keep your details on hand and contact you if a position becomes available.

I look forward to receiving your application.

Regards,

*Amanda Fitcher*  
**Staff Coordinator**



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## 2018-2019 Cherry Season – Casual Staff Application Form

<b>What position are you applying for?</b>		Picking	Packing	Other
<b>Full name (as per your passport)</b>		<b>First Name</b>		<b>Last name</b>
<b>What name do you like to be called?</b>				<b>Gender</b> Male Female
<b>Mobile Phone Number (Australian)</b>				
<b>Email address</b>				
To be completed by overseas students and backpackers only				
<b>Passport Number</b>		<b>Country of Issue:</b>		(Please attach a copy)
<b>Working Visa number:</b>		1 <sup>st</sup> Year	2 <sup>nd</sup> Year	(Please attach a copy)
<b>Or do you hold a student visa?</b>		<b>Student Visa number:</b>		(Please attach a copy)
<p><b>You must be able to speak and understand English to work in this job. We cannot employ you if you cannot understand and speak English. Please rate your English speaking/writing skills and please be honest.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Excellent                  Good                  Average                  Poor</p>				
<b>Have you previously worked at Koala Cherries?</b>		Yes	No	If yes, which year?
<b>Have you had any fruit packing/picking experience?</b>		Yes	No	Please list your experiences below:
<b>Do you have any other skills E.g. Forklift/truck licence?</b>				
<b>Do you have your OWN TRANSPORT?</b>		Yes	No	Please note that there is no onsite accommodation or public transport. You are responsible for all your accommodation and travelling requirements.
<b>Are you available for the entire season which is until mid-January 2018?</b>		Yes	No	
<b>Are you available to work through the Christmas &amp; New Year breaks?</b>		Yes	No	
We only have Christmas day and New Year's day off.				
<b>When are you available to start work full time?</b>				
If you are going to have any time off for graduation or schoolies then you need to change your available start date until after you have attended. We cannot allow employees to have extended time off during our season.				
<b>Are you travelling/working with a group of people?</b>		Yes	No	<b>Please list their names below</b>
(each companion must lodge their own application)				

Please email this application form back to us: [info@koalacherries.com.au](mailto:info@koalacherries.com.au) or fax to (03) 5773 4251 with a copy of your passport and working visa if applicable. All applications will be checked with immigration.