

WA Maritime Museum

# Visual Story

Visiting the submarine HMAS *Ovens*





## What is the HMAS *Ovens*?

HMAS *Ovens* is a wonderful submarine that I can explore. It is kept at the WA Maritime Museum. It is held on a special platform on land so that it is safe for me to board.



I will need to buy a ticket at the Front Desk. There may be other people buying tickets, but I can wait patiently in line so everyone gets a turn.



I must go with a guide to get on the submarine. They wear white shirts. I will meet my guide near a white life buoy at the time of day printed on my ticket.



There might be a group of people going on the submarine. Before we start, I can practise climbing through a submarine door by climbing through the wooden copy near the meeting spot.



To get to the submarine, we will go out the front door of the Museum and turn right.

I will be able to see the submarine from far away because it is very big!



The guide will take us through a gate in a wire fence.



I will need to climb lots of stairs to get into the submarine. I will be up high and it might be windy, but I will be safe with the guide. If I feel uncomfortable, I should tell an adult.





At the top of the stairs, I will see a ladder into the submarine. I will climb down it facing the ladder, holding on with both hands as I go down. I will move slowly and be very careful. If I am with a group of people, we will take turns going down the ladder.



The inside of the submarine has lots of things in it! It will smell a little bit like a petrol station.



The guide will tell us lots of things about the submarine. I will remember my good manners and not interrupt the guide when they are talking. If I have something to ask about the submarine, I can raise my hand and wait for the guide to speak to me.



I will walk with my guide from one end of the submarine to the other. I will climb through small circle doors to move through the submarine.



There are lots of buttons and levers in the submarine. They are old and fragile. I will not touch these things unless the guide tells me I can.



I will see places that sailors lived while they worked on the submarine.  
Nobody lives on the submarine now.

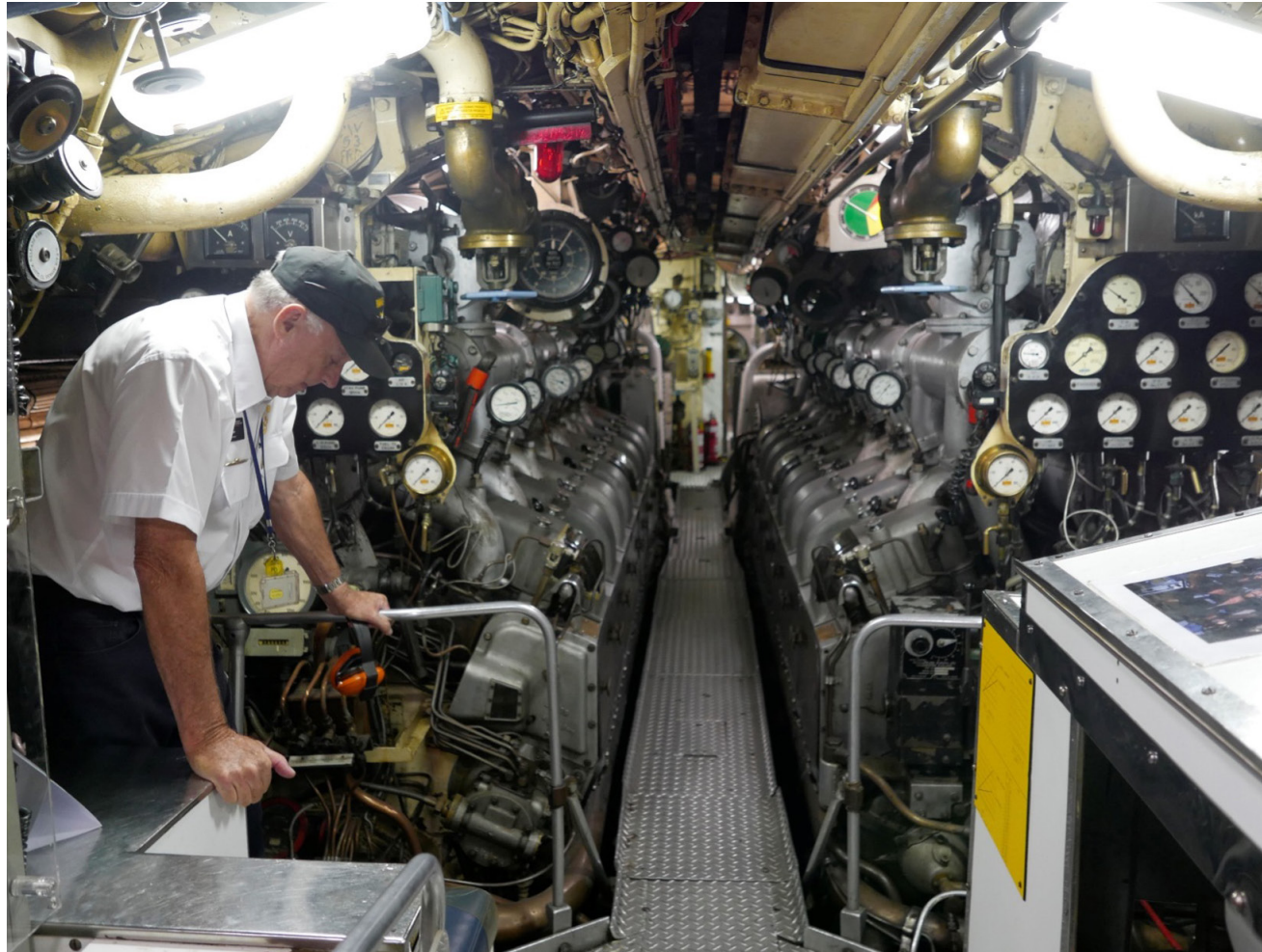


Some spaces in the submarine are very small. If I am uncomfortable, I can tell an adult and leave the submarine.



There are some holes in the floor, but they have grates over them.  
I won't fall into them.





I will see an engine room with lots of machines in it. They do not work anymore. It will be quiet and safe for me.



At the end of the submarine, I will need to climb up a ladder to get out.  
I will go slowly and carefully this time too.



When I am leaving the submarine, I will see the ocean and the outside of the Museum again. It may be windy.



I will go down the stairs and the guide will take us back to the Museum.



**Visiting the submarine will be amazing!**

## Note to parents and carers

HMAS *Ovens* is an industrial military environment.

Tours take 60 – 75 minutes. A robust level of mobility is required to climb the many stairs and ladders, and through the low circular doors. Persons under the age of six and under 100 cm tall are not permitted on board.

There are two portals in the submarine, one at each end. They are accessed with stairways and platforms that reach nine metres in height. The ground can be seen through the grated floor and stairs. The wind can become quite strong.

The submarine interior is like a winding, narrow hallway, and there may be another tour group inside it at the same time as yours.

The combination of light, warmth, scents, and small spaces has caused nausea in some cases.

**If someone needs to evacuate the tour, it can take up to 20 minutes to safely retrieve them.**

If you have **any** doubts about your child feeling safe and happy in the submarine, please do not undertake this tour. There is a submarine viewing window and a military display on the top level of the Museum.

We hope you and your child enjoy your visit to the WA Maritime Museum.