Condition of Exile

The Exiles were the only convicts transported directly to the Port Phillip Districts. They were prisoners of the Crown who, through meeting a number of pre-requisites, were offered Royal Pardons - conditional upon their accepting transportation to the Australian colonies.

All the Exiles were selected from among the populations of Pentonville, Parkhurst and Millbank prisons. Their pardons took effect upon their disembarking in the colonies.

Prisoners needed to be:
➢ Under short sentence
➢ Undergo a period of exclusion intended for reflection about "the evils of their former course"
➢ Show good behaviour and potential for reform
➢ Receive training in trades deemed necessary in the colonies
➢ Prisoners were listed until a suitable number had been selected for the next ship
➢ The List was sent to the Queen for signature confirming the grant of pardon
➢ Conditions were that they accept transportation and that they not return to the United Kingdom until the expiration of their original sentence

➢ Between 1844 and 1849 – 9 ships
➢ 11 November 1842 – Royal George (21 landed at Melbourne)
➢ 20 March 1845 – Sir George Seymour (175 landed at Geelong)
➢ 27 January 1846 – Stratheden (51 Landed at Melbourne)
➢ 9 November 1846 – Maitland (291 Landed at Melbourne)
➢ 4 May 1847 – Thomas Arbuthnot (288 Landed at Melbourne)
➢ 24 Sept 1847 – Joseph Somes (248 Landed at Geelong)
➢ 25 January 1848 – Marion (292 Landed at Melbourne)
➢ 22 June 1848 – Anna Maria (163 Landed at Geelong)
➢ 4 February 1849 – Eden (133 Landed at Portland & 65 at Geelong)

A total of 1727 Exiles transported to Victoria over 5 years