

13 Day Melbourne, Phillip Island & East Coaster



Fly into Melbourne to join your fellow travellers for this exceptional holiday. Enjoy two days of marvellous sightseeing in the Melbourne region. Travel to Phillip Island and experience all this glorious 'Emerald Isle' has to offer, from the thoroughly adorable Little Penguins at the Penguin Parade and the natural beauty of the island to the many amazing activities. Travel through Gippsland to Lakes Entrance, visit the beautiful coastal town of Eden. Spend time in the magnificent World Heritage Blue Mountains. Traverse through beautiful coastal rainforests, quaint coastal villages boasting some of Australia's most beautiful beaches and spectacular driving scenery. Don't miss out, book early to secure your seat and treasure some of the most beautiful scenery in Australia.

FLY/COACH

Departing: Friday, 12th November 2021

Fitness Level: M - Moderate

Meals: B = Breakfast, M = Morning Tea, L = Lunch, A = Afternoon Tea, D = Dinner



Prices relate to airfare & taxes from/to Eastern Seaboard major terminals only. Flights to/from other major airports are available but may incur an additional fee. Passengers are welcome to delay their flight home or fly in early but may incur an additional fee due to flight price fluctuation. Extra accommodation expenses will apply. For earlier flights or if delaying flight home passengers will need to arrange their own transport home to/from the airport.

DAY 1 BRISBANE – MELBOURNE D

Friday, 12th November: Passengers fly into Melbourne today. Airport transfers to your motel have been arranged. Tonight, enjoy a welcome dinner with your fellow passengers. A free day for passengers continuing on tour. Three night stay Oaks Melbourne on Collins.

DAY 2 NEIGHBOURS FILM SET BD

Saturday, 13th November: Everybody needs good neighbours! This morning we visit Australia's most iconic TV location, Ramsay Street and the studio backlot. Enjoy a behind the scenes guided tour around exterior sets at the studios. Our professional guides will provide you with plenty of gossip, laughs and on-board entertainment. Finish our day with a visit to the National Gallery of Victoria, Australia's oldest, largest and most visited art museum. After an enjoyable and entertaining day, return to our accommodation.

DAY 3 MELBOURNE SIGHTSEEING BLD

Sunday, 14th November: After a leisurely breakfast, we make our way to Belgrave Station to board the historic Puffing Billy Train. The journey takes us through the magnificent Dandenong Ranges. With lush fern gullies brushing past and Mountain Ash trees towering overhead, Puffing Billy makes for a wonderful opportunity to relax and breathe in the fresh air whilst the train makes its way through the temperate rainforest. Disembark at Lakeside Station, then make our way to Olinda, in the heart of the Dandenong Ranges, to enjoy a delicious German smorgasbord lunch at the Bavarian styled Cuckoo Restaurant. With the staff dressed in traditional Bavarian costume and live entertainment, music and a floor show, cowbell rings & some pretty fancy yodelling, it's sure to be a fun-filled visit. Next, make the short journey to the National Rhododendron Gardens with its unparalleled variety of brilliantly coloured blooms, mainly rhododendrons, azaleas, camellias, cherries and daffodils. After a thoroughly delightful day return to our accommodation.

DAY 4 MELBOURNE – GEELONG BMLD

Monday, 15th November: Begin our day with a visit to Living Legends, home to some of Australia's finest retired champion racehorses. Meet and mingle with turf racing champions down in their paddocks. Just some of the equine royalty in residence are Rogan Josh, Silent Witness, Apache Cat, Paris Lane, Fields of Omagh (Foo) and Might and Power. Reluctantly, we say farewell to our equine friends and make our way to Werribee Open Range Zoo. After lunch, board the safari bus and be transported through arid landscapes and savannah grasslands to explore the open plains and learn about some of the world's most endangered species. Sit back and immerse yourself in the wonder of wildlife. Make our way to our accommodation for a well-earned rest before dinner. Stay Novotel Geelong.

DAY 5 GEELONG – COWES BLD

Tuesday, 16th November: Travel to Queenscliff this morning to board the Searoad Ferry to Sorrento on the Mornington Peninsula. Sit back and relax on the 40-minute journey across Port Phillip Bay. A café is onboard for your enjoyment. After disembarking, we make our way to historic Churchill Island for lunch and a guided tour of the Heritage Farm, before we embark on a virtual journey to the world's most extreme continent at the exciting new Antarctic Journey at the Nobbies. Stroll along the Nobbies Boardwalk and enjoy spectacular views along Phillip Island's rugged south coast. See the awesome blowhole, a spectacular sea cave that thunders during big southern swells. Enjoy the sea bird gardens offering spectacular flowering displays in the spring. Silver Gulls nest here, and chicks can be seen during spring and early summer. Little Penguins are often seen here resting between seasonal and daily duties. Make our way to our accommodation to rest and prepare for tonight's visit to Penguin Parade. Stay Comfort Resort Kaloha.

DAY 6 COWES – LAKES ENTRANCE BMLD

Wednesday, 17th November: Take a sightseeing tour of Phillip Island this morning as we make our way to Panny's Amazing World of Chocolate. See the chocolatiers at work as they hand-make delicious chocolate varieties. See the statue of David (made from chocolate), the mural of Dame Edna consisting of 12,000 chocolate pieces, a chocolate waterfall made of 400 litres of chocolate and the chocolate village where even the buildings are made of chocolate. Continue our journey north to Moe for lunch and free time at Old Gipps town before arriving in Lakes Entrance mid-afternoon to settle into our accommodation. Two night stay Bellevue on the Lakes.

DAY 7 GIPPSLAND LAKES CRUISE BLD

Thursday, 18th November: A little sightseeing tour is in order this morning before boarding the ML Stormbird for a four-hour cruise into Lake

King, then around the shores of Metung for lunch at the Metung Hotel. Enjoy some free time in Metung before the return journey to Lakes Entrance.

DAY 8 LAKES ENTRANCE – EDEN BLD

Friday, 19th November: From Lakes Entrance follow the Princes Highway to Eden where we visit the Killer Whale Museum, followed by lunch and a talk at Wheeler's Oyster Farm. Return to Eden for some sightseeing then onto our accommodation. Stay Coachman's Rest Motor Inn.

DAY 9 EDEN – WOLLONGONG BLD

Saturday, 20th November: Northward bound, stop at the Bodalla Dairy before continuing our journey to Nowra for lunch. Mid-afternoon arrive at Kiama's famous Blowhole. The blowhole is the largest in the world and is an awesome natural spectacle. The powerful display is dependent on southeast ocean swells and waves entering the rocky cavern. Next, visit the Wollongong Head Lighthouse before arriving at our motel. Stay Novotel Wollongong Northbeach.

DAY 10 WOLLONGONG – KATOOMBA BMD

Sunday, 21st November: Relax over a delicious breakfast while admiring the ocean view from the dining room, then we say goodbye to the coast and head inland to the beautiful Blue Mountains. At Leura enjoy a Devonshire morning tea and guided tour at Everglade Gardens before free time in Katoomba to purchase your lunch. After lunch, make our way to Echo Point with its stunning views of the Jamison Valley and the iconic Three Sisters. Finish our day with a visit to Scenic World. Choose from a range of activities which include unlimited rides on the cableway, skyway and railway or take a stroll along the walkway. Stay Skyrider Motor Inn.

DAY 11 KATOOMBA – FORSTER BD

Monday, 22nd November: At Blackheath, take in the iconic Blue Mountains views from Govetts Leap Lookout, including sandstone escarpments, sheer cliff walls, the deep canyons of the Grose Valley, and tall waterfalls. Next, enjoy a guided tour of the Blue Mountains Botanic Gardens at Mount Tomah followed with some free time to purchase morning tea or further explore the gardens. Continue our journey through Richmond and the outskirts of Sydney to Wyong for lunch (own expense), then follow the Pacific Highway to Forster. Stay Island Palms Motor Inn.

DAY 12 FORSTER – BALLINA BMLD

Tuesday, 23rd November: Travelling north, stop at Macksville for morning tea followed by a visit to Mary Boulton's Pioneer Cottage and Museum. The cottage is a replica of an early settlers' home with furnishings appropriate to the era. Arriving in Coffs Harbour enjoy lunch at the Clog Barn's Big Oma's Café, watch a clog making demonstration and take a wander through the miniature Dutch village. Continue on to our home for the night in Ballina. Stay Ballina Byron Islander Resort.

DAY 13 BALLINA – HOME BL

Wednesday, 24th November: This morning admire the panoramic view of the Pacific Ocean and Seven Mile Beach from Pat Morton Lookout at Lennox Head. On to Macadamia Castle for some free time, then onward to Duranbah's Tropical Fruit World for lunch and a Plantation Tour. Arrive in Brisbane mid-afternoon and Wide Bay early evening.

Adult: \$5584 pp

Pensioner: \$5558 pp

Past Passenger: \$5545 pp

Single Supplement: \$1401 pp

Final Payment Due: 18th September 2021