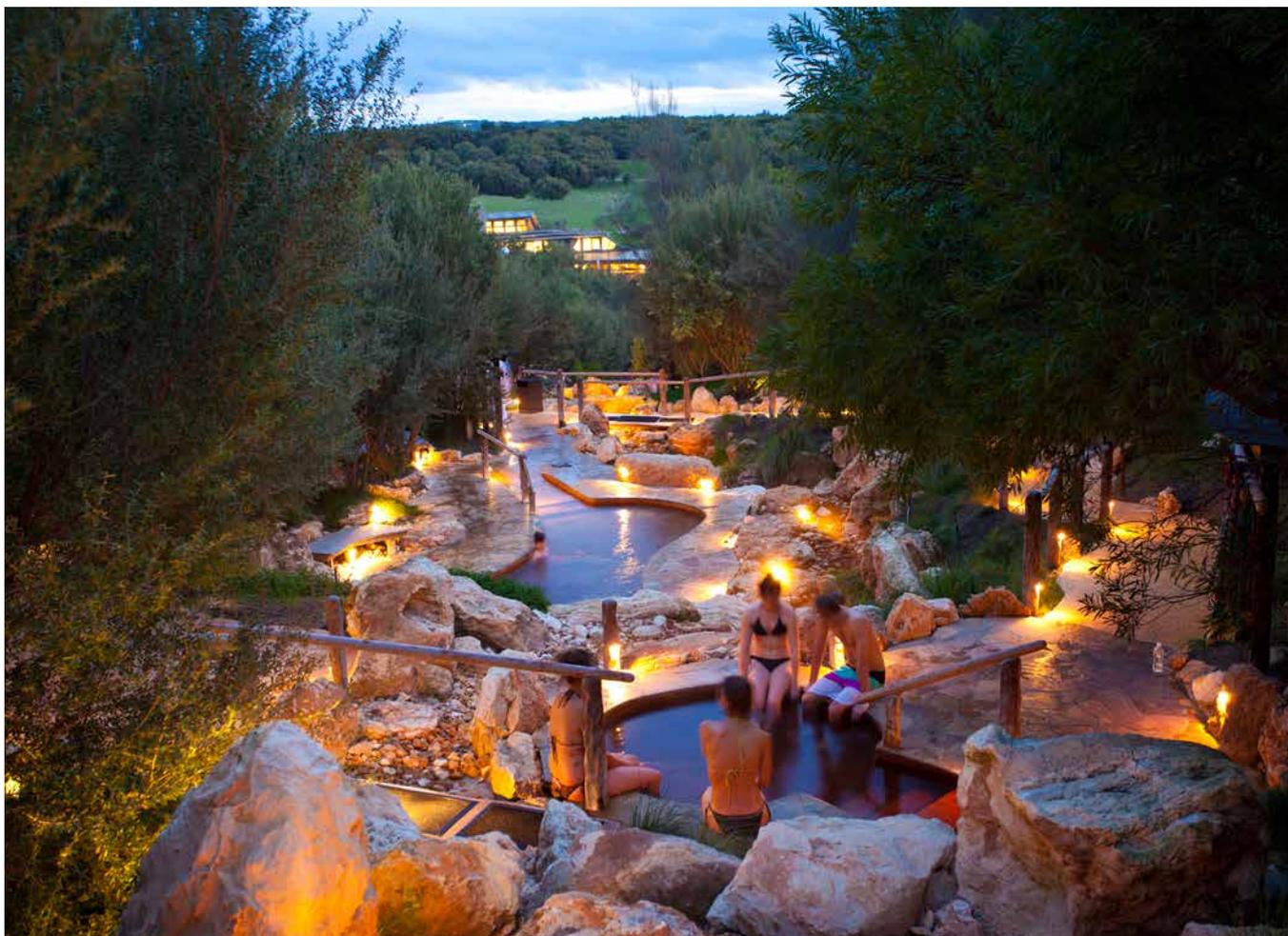


## Five Day Itinerary

# ROMANCE

[gobeyondmelbourne.com.au](http://gobeyondmelbourne.com.au)



### Day One:

Start your journey with lunch with a view at Jack Rabbit Vineyard, overlooking beautiful Corio Bay, just 1.5 hours from Melbourne on the Bellarine Peninsula. Stretch your legs with a walk on one of the stunning surf beaches here, or explore some of the villages of this region – Barwon Heads, Point Lonsdale and Queenscliff offer boutique shopping, cafés and providores as you meander your way around the Peninsula. Catch a late

ferry from Queenscliff to Sorrento on the Mornington Peninsula (keep an eye out for dolphins as you cross), and make your way directly to Big Blue Backyard, a boutique B&B nestled in the dunes of St Andrews Beach. Book dinner onsite tonight – Paul and Lisa, the owners, will bring a meal direct to your suite for a quiet night in.



## Day Two:

It's a 5 minute ramble through the dunes to start your day with a walk on St Andrews Beach, so fill your lungs with fresh sea air before heading to the hinterland of the Mornington Peninsula for a day of wine, food and indulgence. Schedule lunch at the stunning Montalto Vineyard and Olive Grove, and make sure you wander through their sculpture park. Then taste more of the Mornington Peninsula's wine offerings at nearby Red Hill Winery and T'Gallant. Visit the famous beach boxes at Dromana, Mornington or Mt Martha, and perhaps pick up something for home at the Red Hill Market or vintage stores in the villages of Red Hill and Flinders. Settle in this afternoon with a massage at Peninsula Hot Springs and a soak in a private bath of geothermally heated mineral water. Sunset today can be seen from the top pool of this relaxing complex, with a 360-degree view of the Peninsula. Choose another dining option tonight - perhaps Paringa Estate, or The Long Table - and be sure to allow time for an outdoor bath or shower at Big Blue Backyard, surrounded by candles...

## Day Three:

Make it a slow start today, then continue around Western Port Bay to Phillip Island, with its abundance of wildlife, beaches and walks. Stop in at the Koala Conservation Centre and get up close to these beautiful creatures as you take the boardwalk up to treetop level; if you like a little adrenaline in your day, cruise with the Wild Ocean EcoBoat to Seal Rocks and be delighted by the thousands of Australian Fur Seals that frolic off these shores and wave at you from the water. Lunch at Cape Kitchen is recommended, with stunning vistas of the Southern Ocean and fresh local fare. And for a view of the Island you'll remember forever, take to the skies with Phillip Island Helicopters. Check in early to your accommodation at Glen Isla House or Oak Tree Lodge and relax, before heading off to the legendary Penguin Parade at sunset. Take the Ultimate Tour to be on a private beach with just 10 guests, or view them from the new Penguins Plus area where you'll be right up close to these adorable birds as they make their way home to their nests.



## Day Four:

Head north to the Dandenong Ranges and spend time wandering through the villages of Sassafras and Olinda. Take a stroll through the giant Mountain Ash forest, or pick berries as you wind your way to the Yarra Valley. The Dandenongs are home to some beautiful national parks and gardens, as well as the Tesselaar Tulip festival held every September – plenty of opportunities to get some fresh air and inspiration. Arrive in the Yarra Valley in time for a late lunch at TarraWarra Estate, followed by a look around their stunning art gallery. This evening, you'll have plenty of time to relax and indulge at your accommodation, Chateau Yering. Stay onsite tonight for dinner in Eleonore's Restaurant.

## Day Five:

What better way to start the last day of your romantic journey than with a hot-air balloon ride over the Yarra Valley at sunrise, watching the vineyards and farms come to life? Enjoy a champagne breakfast, freshen up, then head to Healesville Sanctuary for your chance to Wade with the Platypus, or experience a Magic Moment with some of the other friendly locals – hand feed an echidna, or give a wombat a tickle behind the ear. Lunch at Herd in Healesville, outdoors at Levantine Hills, or overlooking vines at Meletos or Oakridge, before heading back to Melbourne, just 1 hour from the Yarra Valley.