

Five Day Itinerary

WILDLIFE & ADVENTURE

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Day One:

Head straight for Healesville Sanctuary, just 1.5 hours from central Melbourne. Spend the morning interacting with Australia's iconic animals, and some lesser known beauties. You can even do the unique Wade with the Platypus experience, only available at this sanctuary. Enjoy lunch at Rochford Winery before heading out on a winery tour with a difference - on a Segway! In the evening, sip a glass of red wine on your deck at Yering Gorge Cottages while you watch the resident mob of kangaroos (including one rare white one) graze on the lawns...

Day Two:

Up early for a dawn flight with Global Ballooning, watch the Valley spring to life as the sun comes up, and finish with a champagne breakfast. After freshening up, head south to Phillip Island. Visit Nobbies Centre and experience the Antarctic Journey, then get up close to some of our cuddliest locals at the Koala Conservation Centre. In the afternoon, head out on the Wild Oceans Ecoboat to see the 30,000 Australian Fur Seals that inhabit Seal Rocks, before the crème de la crème of wildlife experiences at the

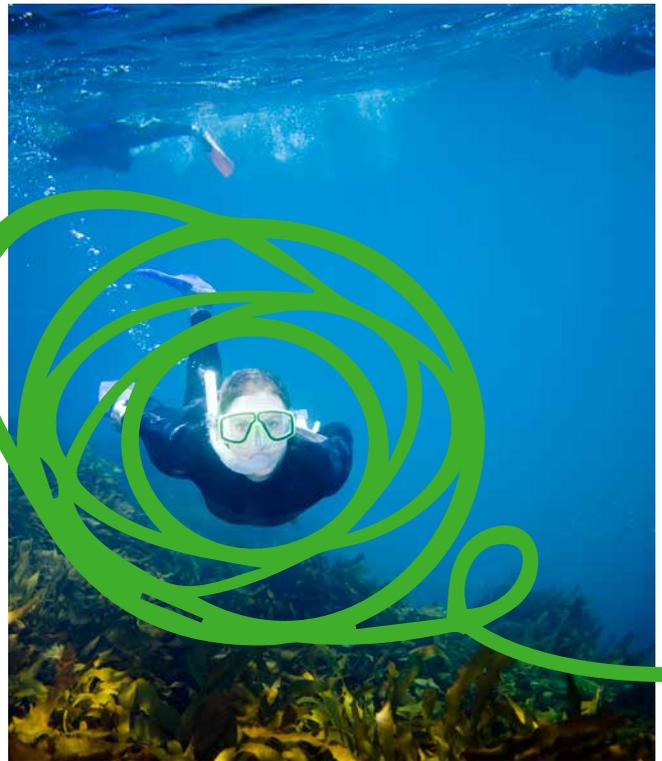
famous sunset Penguin Parade. Book early for the Ultimate Penguin Tour, a small group adventure to a remote beach, with night-vision goggles to enable you to see the tiny birds as they leave the ocean and waddle past you en route to their nests. Stay overnight at Clifftop B&B and wake up to a view of the Southern Ocean.

Day Three:

Take an early morning walk on one of Phillip Island's beautiful beaches and be the first footsteps in the sand. If you prefer a more challenging morning activity, walk out to Pyramid Rocks or Cape Woolamai, or take a surf lesson at OutThere Outdoors. And if hitting the heights is more your style, see the Island from the air with Phillip Island Helicopters. Then it's off around Western Port Bay to the beautiful Mornington Peninsula. Head to Horseback Winery Tours for an introduction to some of the region's iconic wines with a completely different viewpoint - from the back of one of their gorgeous horses. Soak any aching legs at the Peninsula Hot Springs before heading for your overnight accommodation, Glamping with Happy Glamper at Iluka Retreat.

Day Four:

An early start will have you at Sorrento by 8am for a trip out to Port Phillip Bay with Polperro Dolphin Swims. Search out the wild pods of bottlenose dolphins and visit the resident seals at Chinamans Hut. Sticking with the aquatic and coastal theme for the afternoon, hire snorkelling gear from Bayplay to view the Weedy Sea Dragons near the piers on



the bay side of the Peninsula or hire a Stand Up Paddle Board and see why this peaceful activity is so popular. If you'd rather not get wet, hire a bike from Bayplay and cruise around the national parks of the Peninsula; walk some of the Mornington Peninsula Walk (we say some because there is over 100kms of trails); or try strawberry or cherry picking in the summer months. Take a ferry across the bay with Searoad Ferries, running every hour until 6pm (7pm in summer) for the 40-minute crossing to Queenscliff, and stay overnight at BIG4 Beacon Resort.

Day Five:

If you're a scuba diver, head out from Queenscliff with Dive Victoria and visit the site of the ex HMAS Canberra, scuttled in 2009 in 30m deep water. Maybe you've always wanted to learn how to surf - why not take a lesson with the experts at Go Ride A Wave at one of Victoria's iconic surf beaches, Ocean Grove or Torquay? Or take to the water with South Bay Eco Adventures to learn about the wildlife of the bay, and the history of the treacherous stretch of water known as The Rip. Enjoy lunch at Jack Rabbit Vineyard before heading back to the city James Bond-style with a Microflite helicopter transfer from the landing pad right in front of your restaurant.

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