

Day One

MORNING ACTIVITIES - (GEELONG & THE BELLARINE)



Eastern Beach Geelong - Come face to face with the characters which shaped Geelong's history as you stroll along the colourful and intriguing Waterfront Bollard Trail comprising 48 sites and 103 intricately carved bollards extending along the shoreline. Discover other attractions along the foreshore trail including the beautifully restored Carousel circa 1892, Cunningham Pier, and the magnificent Art Deco Eastern Beach swimming enclosure - a favourite destination since the 1930s. www.geelongaustralia.com.au



The Geelong Gallery - Get a different perspective on Geelong! Explore one of Australia's leading and oldest regional art galleries. A particular focus of its collection is early images of the Geelong region. The Gallery's outstanding collection includes many works of national significance such as: Eugène von Guérard's 'View of Geelong' (1856) and Frederick McCubbin's 'A Bush Burial' (1890). www.geelonggallery.org.au



The Bellarine Taste Trail - will direct you around this beautiful region, with berry, olive and tomato growers, farmgates and farmers' markets. Be sure to include a visit to Advance Mussel Supply in Portarlington, where you can purchase fresh-off-the-boat mussels, Angasi oysters and abalone. www.thebellarinetastetrail.com.au



Jack Rabbit Vineyard - Jack Rabbit Vineyard's restaurant, vineyard and cellar door offer guests a brilliant regional experience! The unrivaled, spectacular panoramic views across the bay to Melbourne, the You Yangs and Geelong are just the beginning. The winery has forged a reputation as a gastronomic showpiece for the Bellarine Peninsula alongside a stable of multi award-winning sophisticated cool climate wines. Soak up the spectacular and ever-changing views across the bay in every direction. www.jackrabbitvineyard.com.au

AFTERNOON /EVENING ACTIVITIES



Gladioli Restaurant - Experience this award-winning restaurant set in a lovely restored cottage surrounded by beautifully landscaped gardens, just 20 minutes from Geelong in the delightful village of Inverleigh. Gladioli's contemporary food focuses on local and seasonal produce. There is a choice of either five or eight courses tasting menus. A three course à la carte menu is available on Wednesday and Thursday. www.gladiolirestaurant.com.au



Mustang & Co - Treat yourself! What better way to explore the magnificent Bellarine and Geelong region than with the top down in a stunning 1966 Red Mustang Convertible. The car seats up to 4 adult passengers. Your tour can be customised to suit your interests - whether it is surf, native wildlife, or just the beautiful scenic vistas. Door to door service. Minimum tour is 4 hours. www.mustangrental.com.au.



The Villages of the Bellarine - Wander the streets of the gorgeous seaside towns of the Bellarine, including Point Lonsdale and Barwon Heads. At Barwon Heads, take a walk along the river before afternoon tea overlooking the ocean at At The Heads restaurant, iconically perched on the jetty with unparalleled views to the Heads. Once in Pt Lonsdale, there's long arc of sand on the Front Beach running towards Queenscliff or, in the other direction, explore the Point Lonsdale Lighthouse precinct. www.attheheads.com.au

WHERE TO STAY



Vue Grand Hotel Queenscliff

Built in 1881, the Vue Grand reflects the grandeur of this bygone era. This award-winning boutique hotel offers 32 rooms with a variety of room types. Enjoy a truly decadent dining experience in the majestic, luxurious surrounds of the Grand Dining Room. www.vuegrand.com.au



Vue Apartments & Day Spa

Geelong's newest boutique accommodation option, located in the waterfront precinct. 60 stunning apartments consisting of studio, 1 and 2 bedroom apartments. The 1 & 2 bedroom apartments contain a beautifully equipped kitchen and enclosed balcony or private terrace with views. www.vueapartments.com.au



Athelstane House Queenscliff

Queenscliff's oldest operating guesthouse, built in 1860, has transformed into a 10-room boutique accommodation venue retaining a distinct heritage feel. It now offers ensuite spa rooms, six indoor and outdoor sitting areas and a delightful onsite restaurant www.athelstane.com.au

Day Two

MORNING ACTIVITIES - (MORNINGTON PENINSULA)



Searoad Ferries - Experience Melbourne's beautiful Port Phillip Bay! In just 40 minutes, a sleek and stylish ship will cruise you and your car effortlessly across Port Phillip Bay. It's the fastest, most relaxing and scenic way to link Mornington Peninsula with the Bellarine Peninsula and Geelong. And it reveals the most spectacular Bay views, from quaint Queenscliff on the Bellarine Peninsula to historic Sorrento on the Mornington Peninsula. www.searoad.com.au



Bayplay Adventures - Hire some bikes from Bayplay Adventures and explore Point Nepean National Park located at the tip of the Mornington Peninsula. 360 degree views take in the dangerous Rip, wild Bass Strait and Port Phillip Bay. Take a picnic, walk or cycle to old military forts and tunnels, visit the historic Quarantine Station. The Bayplay team are also experts with almost endless aquatic activities. Snorkeling with weedy seadragons, sea kayaking with dolphins, stand-up paddling. www.bayplay.com.au



Héronswood House & Garden - An idyllic location to escape the crowds! Home of the famous Diggers' Club. Magnificent 5-acre gardens, huge trees, historic bluestone mansion, garden café and extensive retail plant nursery. Dine at The Fork to Fork Restaurant, located within the historic Heronswood House. Meals are created using vegetables and fruits grown in the Heronswood gardens complemented with local Peninsula produce. www.diggers.com.au



Crittenden Wines - The Crittenden Wine Centre introduces a new way of experiencing wine on the Mornington Peninsula. Sample alternative and traditional wines in a unique and carefully designed wine flight in delightful surroundings with views over the lake and some of the Peninsula's oldest vines. The process is designed to be informative, yet casual, allowing visitors to enjoy the experience of sampling wine. www.crittendenwines.com.au

AFTERNOON ACTIVITIES



Max's at Red Hill Estate - Award-winning light-filled hilltop restaurant with spectacular views over the vineyard to Westernport Bay and Phillip Island. Right next to Red Hill Estate cellar door with delectable house brand produce. Established 20 years ago, Max's was the first winery restaurant in the region and is still producing sensational local produce driven cuisine. Max's sister, Danielle, offers personalised private tours of the region for groups of up to 8. www.maxsrestaurant.com.au



Mornington Peninsula Brewery - This craft brewery has a relaxed atmosphere, complemented by a rustic beer garden and a viewing mezzanine which overlooks the industry of the brew house. Watch the whole brewing process, right from the hot liquor tank through to the bright tank where the beer is conditioned and carbonated before being packaged into kegs, bottles and cans. Enjoy a tasty menu of traditional wood fired pizzas. www.mpbrew.com.au



Peninsula Hot Springs - Natural hot mineral water flows from deep underground into the many pools and private baths at this coastal oasis of relaxation. You can relax all year round in Victoria's first natural hot springs in a tranquil bushland setting. More than 20 varied bathing experiences feature in the social Bath House, while there are luxurious treatments and perfect pampering in the private Spa Dreaming Centre. www.peninsulahotsprings.com

WHERE TO STAY



Woodman Estate Luxury Country Retreat
Hidden away beside a private lake. Spacious lakeside chalets, day spa, formal and casual dining, including terrace overlooking the lake. Acclaimed restaurant dining and an indulgent wellness retreat,

www.woodmanestate.com.au



Lakeside Villas at Crittenden Estate
The ultimate vineyard escape! Three boutique villas constructed over the vineyard lake provide a sense of floating among the vines. Each secluded villa comprises a fully self-contained experience.

www.lakesidevillas.com.au



Polperro Winery
Four beautifully styled, spacious studio apartments overlooking the vineyard and valley. Each villa features a king size bed, open fire place, central spa bath and an in-room cellar door.

www.polperrowines.com.au

Day Three

MORNING ACTIVITIES - (MORNINGTON PENINSULA) Select from:



MP Experience - Uncover some of Mornington Peninsula's delicious secrets on a personalised small group discovery tour with MP Experience. Meet the winemakers, the growers and the artisan producers and taste an astounding array of olive oils, ciders, aromatic gins and wine. In winter, MP Experience offers tours of a truffle farm followed by a 'truffle' themed lunch. www.mpexperience.com.au



Arthurs Seat Eagle - Board a state-of-the-art gondola at the Arthurs Seat Eagle and fly over the State forest to the highest point of the beautiful Mornington Peninsula where the views will take your breath away. You will be torn between looking at the amazing view across the bay to the city or over the Peninsula, and spotting the wildlife, as you soar high above the trees. Visit the Eagle Café, explore one of the many walking trails through the Arthurs Seat State Park. www.aseagle.com.au



Moonlit Sanctuary Wildlife Conservation Park - Stop by this extraordinary sanctuary en route to Phillip Island to explore 10 hectares of bushland, meet endangered species, feed kangaroos and wallabies, pet koalas and enjoy encounters with colourful birds, reptiles, dingoes and many other animals. The sanctuary is an ark for endangered creatures and a showcase of their unique beauty. www.moonlit-sanctuary.com

AFTERNOON ACTIVITIES - (PHILLIP ISLAND)



The Cape Kitchen - With uninterrupted views over the Southern Ocean, it is no wonder that the Cape Kitchen holds a special place in the hearts and memories of all who visit. The setting is Cape Kitchen's inspiration: beautiful, natural, distinctive. The menu features carefully sourced, local seasonal produce, thoughtfully prepared and served with genuine hospitality. www.thecapekitchen.com.au



Churchill Island Heritage Farm - A tiny historic island that's been farmed since the 1850s. Restored farmhouse and cottages, working farm, fragrant cottage gardens, lawns, coastline walks with magnificent views of Phillip Island and Westernport. Visitor Centre, licensed café for lunch and gift shop. www.penguins.org.au



Phillip Island Chocolate Factory - It's been called the sweetest and most addictive attraction on Phillip Island. A celebration of all things chocolate, with interactive play machines, make-your-own chocolate, a chocolate café and a vast range of truffles, bars, clusters, gift boxes and animals. www.phillipislandchocolatefactory.com.au



The Ultimate Penguin Tour - Witness Victoria's largest colony of little penguins in the nightly Penguin Parade as hundreds of little penguins come out of the sea at dusk and head back to their sand dune burrows for the night. An intimate wildlife experience to a secluded beach away from the main parade, this eco adventure is limited to just 15 people accompanied by a ranger guide. Listen through headphones to the Ranger's informative commentary and view penguins with the use of night vision technology. www.penguins.org.au

WHERE TO STAY



Oak Tree Lodge

An unforgettable experience of self-contained, luxury indulgence. Four stunning suites with their own lounge areas, kitchens, bathrooms and outdoor seating areas in a magical garden setting overlooking the old oak tree. www.oaktreelodge.com.au



Silverwater Resort

High on hills above San Remo. Apartments and resort rooms, parkland and water views, private balcony or terrace, Watermark Restaurant and lounge bar. 170 spacious apartments - 1, 2, 3 bedroom available with full kitchens. www.silverwaterresort.com.au



Clifftop Accommodation

Perched between sea and sky, with space, privacy and glorious views of rolling farmlands, beaches and Bass Strait. Perfect for romantic getaways, with just eight rooms. www.clifftop.com.au

Day Four

MORNING ACTIVITIES - (PHILLIP ISLAND) Select from:



Phillip Island Helicopters - Take a spectacular and exciting flight across Phillip Island. There is no better way to see the island! Explore parts of the island that you can only see from a helicopter. The views are amazing! See Cape Woolamai, Seal Rocks, the Australian Grand Prix track, Summerland Bay (home of the Penguin Parade) and miles of gorgeous coastline. Choose from a range of heli experiences and packages. www.phillipislandhelicopters.com.au



The Koala Conservation Centre - Stroll through this eucalypt woodland and come 'face-to-face' with koalas in their natural habitat, living as they would in the wild. Unique tree top boardwalks provide exceptional koala viewing. Catch a glimpse of this year's koala joeys, as they take their first adventures out of the mother's pouch. Explore the life of koalas through the interactive displays in the new visitor centre. www.penguins.org.au



Phillip Island's Grand Prix Circuit - Internationally famous and the home of Australian and world championship motor cycling. Take the chance to follow in the tyre tracks of the world's best. Buckle in for an adrenalin-amping triple Hot Lap lightning ride around the circuit, or test your skills on the Grand Prix Circuit Go Kart Track, based on a scale replica of this world famous circuit. Licensed cafe, guided tours and more. www.phillipislandcircuit.com.au

AFTERNOON ACTIVITIES - (PHILLIP ISLAND then YARRA VALLEY & DANDENONG RANGES)



The Antarctic Journey - Take a virtual journey into the wonderful world of the Southern Ocean and the world's most extreme continent - Antarctica. A large multimedia installation within the exhibition will tantalise the senses as it showcases the captivating landscape and stunning wildlife along the journey from Phillip Island through to Antarctica. Enjoy fun, interactive experiences and an unforgettable augmented reality experience which puts you "right in the heart of Antarctica". www.penguins.org.au



Wildlife Coast Cruises - The waters surrounding Phillip Island teem with wildlife. Take an unforgettable cruise to one of Australia's largest wild fur seal colonies at Seal Rocks, 2km from Phillip Island. See their natural environment and watch thousands of playful and inquisitive animals as the boat drifts within metres of them. Underwater cameras aboard the boat provide a unique glimpse into the seals' playful antics beneath the waves. www.wildlifecoastcruises.com.au



Puffing Billy Steam Railway - Share an authentic journey on board Australia's premier preserved steam railway - loved by generations for over 100 years! Share the sense of wonder of steam train travel and take in the amazing scenery of the Dandenong Ranges' winding forests and fern gullies. Perhaps opt for a First Class wine and dine experiences in beautifully restored heritage dining carriages. Select from the daily Steam & Cuisine Luncheon Train, or the Evening Dining Trains which operate on selected Fridays and Saturdays. www.puffingbilly.com.au



SkyHigh Sunset across Melbourne and Maze - Explore the maze in the afternoon, then witness Melbourne's most spectacular sunset views. Enjoy sweeping vistas of the city, Mornington Peninsula, Port Phillip Bay and the You Yangs. Stay for dinner and watch the city turn on its brilliant carpet of lights. www.skyhighmtdandenong.com.au

WHERE TO STAY



Chateau Yering Hotel
Historic homestead reborn as a gracious 5-star hotel. Luxury accommodation, fine dining restaurant and café, beautiful gardens to explore, magnificent views. www.chateauyering.com.au



Art at Linden Gate
Curl up in a delightful mud brick cottage with wood fireplace and stunning views. Fully equipped kitchen, a dining setting and an outdoor patio or terrace with seating and BBQ facilities.. Art gallery onsite and garden sculptures. www.artatlindengate.com



Oscars on the Yarra
Boutique 4-star luxury guesthouse situated by the banks of the Yarra River against the backdrop of majestic mountains. Unwind in style and relax in nature with kookaburras, wildlife and tall eucalypts all around you. info@oscarsontheyarra.com.au

Day Five

MORNING ACTIVITIES - (YARRA VALLEY & DANDENONG RANGES)



Global Ballooning Australia - Take an exhilarating balloon flight and let the early dawn breezes transport you to breathtaking heights that take in the picturesque panorama and landscapes of the valley and its patchwork of world class vineyards, mountain ranges and rivers. Optional champagne breakfast. Flight certificate included. www.globalballooning.com.au



Alowyn Gardens - Delight in this 7-acre display garden! Six clearly defined areas include: a perennial border, birch forest, Casuarina forest, parterre garden, French garden and edible garden. Through all this runs a wisteria and rose covered arbour, 100 metres long with a sunken garden and a classical three-tiered fountain as a centrepiece. www.alow yngardens.com.au



Yarra Valley Chocolaterie & Ice Creamery - Enjoy abundant free chocolate tastings. Watch European Chocolatiers hand craft over 250 different chocolate products. Indulge in a delicious selection of ice creams. Relax in the café specialising in decadent sweet treats and let the children run and play in the expansive lawns and gardens. Ice creams, decadent sweet treats, breakfast and lunch await in the all-day Café. www.yvci.com.au



De Bortoli Yarra Valley Estate - Taste award-winning wines and sample beautifully matured cheese from the custom-made cheese maturation room. The restaurant, 'Locale' is set in picturesque surroundings on top of a hill overlooking the estate vineyards to the Great Dividing Range. Locale sources only the best local and seasonal produce and reflects the De Bortoli family's rich Italian heritage. www.debortoli.com.au

AFTERNOON ACTIVITIES Select from:



Coombe Yarra Valley - Once the home of Dame Nellie Melba, Coombe - The Melba Estate is a property with an unrivaled provenance. Seven acres of stunning gardens and beautifully appointed facilities in the restored motor house and clock tower offer a truly unique gourmet and cultural experience. 150 seat à la carte restaurant; cellar door with award winning wines; providore featuring estate grown produce; guided garden tours. Melba gallery features changing display of Melba private collection. www.coombeyarravalley.com.au



Healesville Sanctuary - Explore a bushland haven for Australian wildlife. Wander through the tranquil tracks and meet iconic Australian animals including koalas, kangaroos, platypus, dingoes, wombats and emus. Visit the Australian Wildlife Health centre. Enjoy unique experiences: wade with the platypus experience, spirits of the sky bird presentation and more! www.zoo.org.au/healesville



Cherryhill Orchards - Known for growing some of the best cherries in the world! Pick your own big, sweet, fresh, cherries straight from the trees. Taste a large range of premium cherry products - such as cherry ice-cream and unique cherry cider. Open every cherry season - mid November until early January. www.cherryhill.com.au



Tesselaar Tulip Festival - Frolic amongst the tulips! The Tesselaar Tulip Festival began in 1954 and is now one of Victoria's most iconic tourist attractions. Set on a 55-acre working farm, it offers a visually breathtaking sight over one million spring flowers in bloom. The fields burst into colour each September and include over 100 different varieties of tulips alone. This unique festival runs from mid-September to mid-October only. www.tulipfestival.com.au