

THE ACT & NSW SOUTH COAST

12 Days / 11 Nights



TRADE TRAVEL
Group Travel Specialists

Tour Departs: Wednesday 8 August - Sunday 19 August 2018

Tour Cost: \$3699.00 per person Twin Share (Single Supplement \$737.00)

The tour prices valid for travel in 2018.

Please note that the itinerary is subject to change without notice.



The Itinerary

Day 1. Wed 8 Aug: Sydney - Nowra

Dinner

This morning we are met by our coach captain and board our luxury coach. We head to **Nan Tien Temple** stopping for lunch along the way. After lunch we make our way to the **largest Buddhist Temple in the Southern Hemisphere** and the second largest in the world costing 50 million dollars to build. Leaving the temple we travel down to **Berry** and stop at **Silos Estate** for tastings in the barrel room where we talk to the wine makers, view the art gallery and browse a range of local produce and merchandise for purchase. Silos Estate has been producing a range of premium wines that emphasise the unique characteristics of the Shoalhaven region while its Wileys Creek label sources fruit from other wine growing regions in Australia. Later in the day we arrive in Nowra where we check in to our accommodation for a rest before dinner.

Overnight: Parkhaven Resort, Nowra

Day 2. Thu 9 Aug: Nowra

Breakfast & Dinner

This morning we travel down to **Huskisson** situated on the shores of beautiful **Jervis Bay**. After a stroll along the wharf we board our **delightful Dolphin Watch Cruise** on the **crystal waters of Jervis Bay**. Our cruise provides us with the opportunity to observe these beautiful marine mammals in their natural habitat. There are 4 pods of dolphins in the bay making up to a total of about 80 in all allowing for some exciting viewing on our **morning tea cruise**. We arrive back at the wharf and take the opportunity to purchase some fish and chips for lunch. After lunch we visit the **Lady Denman Maritime Museum** which concentrates on the history of Jervis Bay and district, including early exploration, the timber industry, Aboriginal history, early settlement, lighthouse history, shipwrecks, coastal shipping, whaling history and Naval base history. Later in the afternoon we return to Nowra where we visit the **charming Meroogal House**, a trip back to yesteryear where life was simpler and a homemade sponge cake sat on the kitchen table. Home to four generations of women from the same family, this Gothic-revival timber house has hundreds of stories to tell from the multitude of belongings and objects left by each generation. After our tour of the homestead, garden and gallery we make our way back to our accommodation for dinner.

Overnight: Parkhaven Resort, Nowra



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Day 3. Fri 10 Aug: Nowra - Canberra

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

This morning we enjoy breakfast before we depart for Canberra. Upon arrival we drive to the top of **Mount Ainslie** and enjoy a cuppa from the coach. We can appreciate the complexities of Canberra and see in panorama the design concepts translated into tangibles by Walter Burley Griffin. We then visit the **National Capital Exhibition** for tour and lunch. We explore the past, present and potential futures of the capital through displays featuring the people, events, history and design of this unique, modern, planned city. Discover the people behind the design – Walter Burley Griffin and his wife Marion. Later this afternoon we head to our accommodation for check in and time to relax before dinner.

Overnight: Premier Hotel & Apartments, Canberra

Day 4. Sat 11 Aug: Canberra Highlights

Breakfast & Dinner

This morning we visit **Parliament House** where we have the chance to be apart of democracy in action. After our tour we head to **Old Parliament House** where decades of politics and passion echo through the corridors of the **Museum of Australian Democracy** making it one of Australia's most memorable heritage attractions. We experience an atmosphere steeped in history, revisit dramatic events and enjoy the 1920's architecture and fine design. On our **45-minute guided tour** we discover how the building, spaces, objects and stories teach us about Australian democracy. After our tour we make our way to the **National Museum of Australia**, situated on the shores of Lake Burley Griffin and here we explore Australia's past, present and future along with its many cultures. After our self-guided tour we can purchase lunch at the Museum Cafe. We then make our way to the **Australian War Memorial** before enjoying a **90 minute conducted tour** of the galleries. This world-class museum now has state-of-the-art display techniques to emphasise the stories of personal sacrifice. After our tour we have a wander until the **Last Post Ceremony** at 4.55pm. From here, we return to our accommodation via **Embassy Row** before dinner in the motel restaurant.

Overnight: Premier Hotel & Apartments, Canberra

Day 5. Sun 12 Aug: Canberra

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

After breakfast this morning we head to **Tharwa** stopping at the **Lanyon Homestead Garden** and the **Nolan Gallery** for tour and morning tea. The Lanyon historic precinct is set in a landscape of great natural beauty and we are able to stroll the rambling gardens, visit the station homestead and courtyard buildings as well as the Sidney Nolan Gallery. We then enjoy a leisurely **Highlights Cruise & Lunch** on the waters of **Lake Burley Griffin** offering us great views of the many iconic buildings and of course Commonwealth Park home to the Floriade. After our cruise we make our way to the **National Arboretum**, Winner of the World Architecture Festival for Landscape 2014. The National Arboretum surrounds visitors with panoramic views, stunning architecture and the natural beauty of trees and gardens. After our tour we enjoy afternoon tea before making our way up Black Mountain Drive to the **Telstra Tower** where we take in the sights of **Canberra** from high above. Later in the afternoon we return to our hotel for dinner.

Overnight: Premier Hotel & Apartments, Canberra

Day 6. Mon 13 Aug: Canberra - Batemans Bay

Breakfast & Dinner

This morning we check out of our accommodation and begin our journey to **Batemans Bay**. Our first stop is in **Bungendore**, we enjoy some free time in the village which offers a handful of galleries that are well worth a stop including the world famous **Bungendore Wood Works Gallery**, home to some of the country's finest wood artisans. While in Bungendore we have an opportunity to purchase lunch. We then re-board our coach and head down to Batemans Bay arriving late afternoon to check in before dinner at the accommodation.

Overnight: Best Western Sunseeker Motor Inn, Batemans Bay

Day 7. Tue 14 Aug: Batemans Bay

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

This morning we are joined by our local guide who will step on our coach and provide us with an **introductory tour to Batemans Bay** and the surrounding area enjoying a cuppa from the coach in a scenic setting. We then make our way to the **famous Innes Boatshed** where we board our **Merinda River Cruise** for a three hour cruise up the **beautiful Clyde River** – one of the most scenic waterways in Australia. We enjoy scrumptious fish and chips on board from the Boatshed as we cruise north to the picturesque Nelligen where we relish a 30 minute stopover to explore. Tea, coffee and biscuits are also included. We arrive back in Batemans Bay early afternoon and make our way to the **Batemans Bay Old Courthouse Museum**. Forming a historic precinct adjacent to the town's Water Gardens, collection themes at the Museum include costume, education, healthcare, domestic life, forestry and timber tales as well as crime and punishment. Our local guide from the Clyde River and Batemans Bay Historical Society provides us with insight into the area's history as we browse through an array of period costumes, dolls, antique machinery and tools, rural technology and much more! Later we return to our accommodation for a rest before dinner.

Overnight: Best Western Sunseeker Motor Inn, Batemans Bay

Day 8. Wed 15 Aug: Batemans Bay - Eden

Breakfast & Dinner

After check out we make our way down to **Mogo**, where we visit the **Mogo Gold Rush Colony** for a tour. We then make our way down to **Central Tilba Village** for some free time with the opportunity to purchase morning tea. Set against the magnificent backdrop of Gulaga / Mt. Dromedary, Central Tilba is a perfectly restored and maintained period village – protected by a National Heritage listing. Central Tilba offers a range of shops and galleries to explore and enjoy – plus a range of cafes, the beautiful and historic buildings, and the famous **ABC Cheese Factory**. After free time spent in the village we make our way to **the beautiful Port of Eden** surrounded by the magnificent Sapphire Coast of Southern New South Wales. We call into the **Eden Killer Whale Museum** to enjoy a guided tour with plenty to see and learn. Set on an enviable piece of real estate we'll also enjoy the view. Late afternoon we arrive at our accommodation for check in before enjoying dinner in the accommodation restaurant.

Overnight: Pelican Motor Inn, Merimbula

Day 9. Thu 16 Aug: Eden - Merimbula

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

This morning we enjoy breakfast and then travel to **Eden Lookout and Rotary Park**. The point that joins the two folds of Eden's stunning Twofold Bay is a great place for a walk that combines panoramic views, grassy headlands, forests of melaleuca, giant pines and key features of the town's living maritime heritage. The track begins with panoramic views of Nullica Bay, taking us past the Eden Seamen's Memorial and Marine Rescue, then joins a concrete pathway that takes you through the pine forest to the tea tree and amazing views of Calle Calle Bay. We then enjoy a tour and lunch at the **Sea Horse Inn**, a luxurious boutique hotel, situated on the shores of Twofold Bay, on the New South Wales south coast and commanding stunning views across the bay to Eden. It offers the astute guest the unforgettable experience of a luxury, contemporary escape in beautiful surroundings. As we enter the Sea Horse Inn we are greeted with an ambience of old world charm, complimented by an aesthetically luxurious appeal. The newly refurbished Inn offers modern luxury combined with original detail such as hand-carved doors, stained-glass ornamentation, winding staircases, large open grates and attic bedrooms. After lunch we make our way directly to **Eden's Main Wharf for our fabulous harbour cruise**. We board the new 16 metre, Cat Balou Catamaran for a two hour afternoon discovery cruise of the beautiful Twofold Bay. With afternoon tea served aboard, we get to see dolphins, seals and sometimes penguins. If we are lucky we may see migrating whales as well. Late afternoon we arrive back at our accommodation for a rest before dinner.

Overnight: Pelican Motor Inn, Merimbula

Day 10. Fri 17 Aug: Eden - Lakes Entrance

Breakfast & Dinner

This morning we enjoy breakfast before we begin our journey down to the beautiful **Lakes Entrance** area. We travel **via Genoa Falls, Wingan River and the Cann River** before arriving in the **township of Orbost - Marlo "Mouth of the Snowy River"** situated on the banks of the legendary **"Snowy River"**. Upon arrival in Orbost we have the opportunity to purchase lunch before we stop in at the **historical Slab Hut Tourist Information Centre** situated in beautiful **Forest Park**. We also take a look at the **Netherbyre Gemstone** and **Art Gallery** and the **Orbost Indoor Market**. Leaving Orbost we travel through Nowa Nowa and down to **Lakes Entrance**. Later this afternoon we arrive at our motel for check in and time to relax before dinner at the accommodations restaurant.

Overnight: Esplanade Motel, Lakes Entrance

Day 11. Sat 18 Aug: Lakes Entrance

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

After breakfast this morning we make our way up to **Nowa Nowa** to pay a visit to **Mingling Waters**, which has a gallery displaying **The Ramsdell Collection**. We are shown through the gallery, which comprises 35 unique Wood Sculptures. The feature of the collection is "RA" the Sun God, housed in the Pyramid. This 7m x 4m tree root grew on a limestone shelf on the banks of Lake Tyers. John cleaned 2 tonnes of dirt and rock from the root with dentistry tools and then hand sanded and hand polished it. "RA" is truly a unique masterpiece to be found nowhere else in the world. Mike will also be on hand to takes us for a leisurely stroll down to the foreshore of Lake Tyers. After our tour we make our way to the docks Post Office Jetty where we board our **Metung Luncheon Cruise on the delightful water ways of the Gippsland Lakes**. Our cruise takes us into Lake King and around the shores of Metung to the **Metung Hotel for lunch**. After a relaxing stop in Metung our return cruise takes us around Rigby Island and Chinamans Creek. Thirty kms of pristine waterways where we may spot dolphins, view the wildlife on assorted islands and take in the expert commentary on the Gippsland Lakes from our skipper. We arrive back into Lakes Entrance and are joined by our **local tour guide** to begin our **highlights tour** around the Lakes Entrance area including a visit to the **Avenue of Honour Memorial Tree Statues**. We take a stroll along the promenade to view six of the trees that originally formed the avenue of honour. The trees have been preserved and turned into sculptures representing scenes from the World War One period. Sculptures represent a World War One soldier, a wounded soldier with a donkey, a World War One nurse, Simpson helping two wounded soldiers and a family waiting for their father. Later in the afternoon we make our way back to the accommodation for dinner.

Overnight: Esplanade Motel, Lakes Entrance

Day 12. Sun 19 Aug: Lakes Entrance - Melbourne

Breakfast

This morning we bid the beautiful Lakes Entrance area farewell as we travel across to Trafalgar via Rosedale for a **comfort and morning tea stop at the delightful Victoria Rose and Tea Room**. We then travel across to the **Yallourn North & District Historical Society** for a tour of the **Old Brown Coal Mine Museum** and the former State Electricity Commission works area incorporating the Yallourn Power Station. After our tour we continue across to Trafalgar where we visit the **Holden Museum** and learn the whole story behind Holden, from saddles to motor cars, aero engines to pedal cars. After wandering through the countless unique cars, interactive displays and theatrette we can purchase lunch from the unique cafe. Leaving Trafalgar we continue up to Melbourne after a delightful time away with Trade Travel.



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Tour Price Includes:

- Luxury Coach Travel
- 11 Nights Quality Accommodation
- Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner as per itinerary (27 meals)
- All entry fees & guides as per Itinerary

Tour Price Excludes:

- Flight to Sydney & from Melbourne
- Any meals not specified on the itinerary
- Travel Insurance

Tour Highlights:

Nan Tien Temple; Silos Estate; Jervis Bay Dolphin Watch Cruise; Lady Denman Maritime Museum; Charming Meroogal House; Mount Ainslie; National Capital Exhibition; Parliament House; Old Parliament House; Museum of Australian Democracy; National Museum of Australia; Australian War Memorial; Last Post Ceremony; Embassy Row; Lanyon Homestead Garden & The Nolan Gallery; Highlights Cruise on the waters of Lake Burley Griffin; National Arboretum; Telstra Tower; Bungendore Wood Works Gallery; Batemans Bay Discovery Tour; Merinda River Cruise; Batemans Bay Old Courthouse Museum; Mogo Gold Rush Colony; Central Tilba Village; Eden Killer Whale Museum; Eden Lookout & Rotary Park; Sea Horse Inn; Cat Balou Catamaran Discovery Cruise; Orbost - Marlo "Mouth of the Snowy River"; Historical Slab Hut Tourist Information Centre; Netherbyre Gemstone & Art Gallery; Orbost Indoor Market; Mingling Waters; The Ramsdell Collection; Metung Luncheon Cruise; Lakes Entrance Highlights Tour; Victoria Rose & Tea Room; Yallourn North & District Historical Society; Holden Museum & much more...



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