

Melbourne International Flower & Garden Show 2022

With Trade Travel

5 Days / 4 Nights - Ex Sydney/Brisbane

Tour Departs: Wednesday 23 March - Sunday 27 March 2022



TRADE TRAVEL
Group & Private Tour Specialists



Day 1. Wed 23 March: Brisbane/Sydney - Mt Macedon - Melbourne

Lunch & Dinner

Flight VA308 Departs Brisbane 0655 arrives Melbourne 1015

Flight VA824 Departs Sydney 0900 arrives Melbourne 1035

After our flights into Melbourne we are met by our local coach captain and commence our Melbourne Garden and Flower Show tour. From Melbourne Airport we travel up to Mount Macedon and the Macedon Regional Park for **lunch at Top of the Range**, a cafe 1,001m above sea level and one of the highest altitude cafés in Victoria. Those wishing may visit the **Lookout and Memorial Cross**, an imposing structure that commemorates all those who served in wars and conflicts. After lunch visit the **Stokes Collection and Forest Glade Gardens**. The remarkable Stokes Collection represents a life-long passion of Cyril Stokes, bearing witness to his love and knowledge of beautiful decorative arts. After our guided tour of the collection we are free to explore one of the most beautiful gardens in Australia. Forest Glade embraces a mixture of landscaping styles taking inspiration from English, Italian and woodland traditions with four distinct themes: a large English section with huge exotic trees, a delightful Japanese section complete with bonsai house, a beautiful woodland area displaying masses of shade-loving plants and a cool fern gully. After our visit we make our way to our accommodation in Melbourne for check-in and rest before dinner at our accommodation.

Overnight Melbourne: Hotel 115 Premier Collection

Day 2. Thurs 24 March: Melbourne

Breakfast & Lunch

This morning after a leisurely breakfast we shoot to the dizzying heights of **Eureka Skydeck** to enjoy the most spectacular floor-to-ceiling 360-degree view of Melbourne. 285m above ground, the fastest elevator trip in the Southern Hemisphere taking only 38 seconds. From the top we can see the Albert Park Lake, Port Phillip Bay, the Dandenong Ranges and beyond plus some of Melbourne's favourite attractions and landmarks. Next is **lunch and tour at the Australian Sports Museum**, located at the Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG). No ordinary museum, it is home to Australia's largest collection of sporting memorabilia with interactive displays and a number of special faces sharing first-hand accounts of their sporting story. Then explore the inner sanctum of the MCG, walk on the hallowed arena and experience where legends play. Gain an insight into Melbourne's sporting culture while exploring one of the world's most iconic stadiums, go behind the scenes of the 'G visiting the famous MCC Long Room, MCC Library (founded in 1873), MCC Tapestry, player change rooms, Cricketers' viewing room, Ron Casey Media Centre, Portrait of Sir Donald Bradman and Sachin Tendulkar, Cricket Victoria Bill Lawry Centre plus more. After our visit we stop by **Fitzroy Gardens and Cooks' Cottage**, a memorial to Captain James Cook. This afternoon we have at leisure and this evening dinner is at own cost and venue choice.

Overnight Melbourne: Hotel 115 Premier Collection



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Day 3. Fri 25 March: The Q Train

Breakfast & Lunch

After a relaxing morning we transfer into Docklands and hop aboard the **Port Phillip ferry which takes us across to Portarlington**. On arrival we are transferred once more to the **picturesque Drysdale Railway Station** where we join **"The Q Train", Geelong's amazing restaurant train**. Enjoy a glass of local wine on the Platform Bar prior to boarding. When it's time to depart, our Maitre D' will welcome us on board and show us to one of **The Q Train's restored Dining Cars**. The Q Train proudly offers local, independent wines, beers and ciders from the Bellarine and across Geelong and the Otways. As the train whistle sounds our journey begins, travelling along the beautiful Bellarine Railway, offering views of the rolling hills. Our first course of 6 courses will be served within 30 minutes of boarding. Between the set courses of **our delicious degustation menu**, we are free to walk around the train and soak up the rich history, or to enjoy a relaxing beer in the Club Loco Bar Car. The Q Train will pause for a period of time at **Suma Park Historic Homestead**, then runs alongside beautiful Swan Bay, with another stop to enjoy views while we dine and then continues on to Queenscliff. Our final dessert course is served on our return trip from Queenscliff to Drysdale, and as The Q Train closes its return journey into Drysdale Railway Station, enjoy a final cup of coffee or tea, perhaps with a digestif of our choice? Once we arrive at the station approximately 3 hours later we cruise back across the Bay to Docklands and then transfer back to our hotel for a relaxing evening after our day on the peninsula.

Overnight Melbourne: Hotel 115 Premier Collection

Day 4. Sat 26 March: Melbourne Flower Show

Breakfast & Dinner

After breakfast we make our way to the **Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show** which is held at the **Royal Exhibition Building and Carlton Gardens**. Australia's top landscape designers are responsible for the breathtaking "Show Gardens" and, as a result of their stunning designs, could be crowned the Gold, Silver or Bronze winner for the top Exhibition Garden. **The Royal Exhibition Building** turns into the **Great Hall of Flowers** for the 5 days of the Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show. A glorious and vibrant exhibition from Victoria's leading florists and floral designers. Everybody loves a great flower market, the sights and sounds, the people, the atmosphere and the visual beauty of some magnificent floral displays. The show also comes alive with roving entertainment throughout the Carlton Gardens and the Royal Exhibition Building. An open exhibition and sale of garden sculptures, organised by the Association of Sculptors of Victoria, will also take place in the Carlton Gardens in the Central Boulevard. There is also the opportunity for those wishing to stroll next door and visit the **Melbourne Museum** or hit the **Bourke Street Mall** shopping precinct for some retail therapy and even catch a theatre show. After a day at leisure exploring the gardens, museums, mall or Melbourne Central its back to our hotel for a rest before gathering for dinner in 115 Grill and Brewhouse.

Overnight Melbourne: Hotel 115 Premier Collection

Day 5. Sun 27 March: Melbourne - Sydney/Brisbane

Breakfast & High Tea

This morning we visit the **Melbourne Flower Markets** showcasing hundreds of varieties of fresh flowers, foliage and potted colour, which come direct from local growers and other suppliers to The Melbourne Market weekly. After the markets we are in for a treat, enjoying a delicious **Wedgwood High Tea** at the **Langham Hotel** with an exquisite selection of tea time delights served on the finest Wedgwood china. Then transfer to Melbourne Airport for our flights home after exploring Melbourne and the annual International Flower and Garden Show with Trade Travel.

Flight VA859 Departs Melbourne 1600 arrives Sydney 1725

Flight VA337 Departs Melbourne 1600 arrives Brisbane 1710



Melbourne International Flower & Garden Show



Tour Highlights:

Top of the Range Tea Rooms; Mt Macedon Lookout & Memorial Cross; The Stokes Collection & Forest Glade Gardens; Eureka Skydeck; Guided MCG Tour & Australian Sports Museum; Fitzroy Gardens & Captain Cook Cottage; Return Ferry Cruise of Port Phillip Bay; The Q Train Lunch & Peninsula Rail Journey; Melbourne International Flower & Garden Show; Melbourne Flower Markets; Wedgwood High Tea Langham Hotel & much more!

Tour Price Includes:

- Return flights to Melbourne from Brisbane/Sydney
- Luxury coach travel
- 4 Nights quality accommodation
- Breakfast, lunch & dinner as per itinerary (9 Meals + High Tea)
- All entry fees & guides as per itinerary

Tour Price Excludes:

- Group airport transfers - price on application

\$2198.00 per person Twin Share Ex Sydney

\$2298.00 per person Twin Share Ex Brisbane

(Single Supplement \$352.00)

Tour cost based on minimum 20 pax

The tour prices valid for travel in 2022. Please note that the itinerary is subject to change without notice.

Deposit: A deposit of \$200 per person is due now on booking to secure your place on this tour, along with completed & signed booking forms

Final Payment: Due no later than **Friday 21 January, 2022.**

For information, bookings & travel insurance contact Trade Travel 1800 034 439

Email: bookings@tradetravel.com



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