

King Island's Food, History & Culture

With Trade Travel
4 Days / 3 Nights



TRADE TRAVEL
Group & Private Tour Specialists

Tour Departs: Monday 24 October - Thursday 27 October 2022



Day 1. Mon 24 Oct: Melbourne - King Island

Dinner

Today we arrive at Tullamarine Melbourne airport for check in and our flight to King Island.

Flight Rex Air ZL3937 Melbourne to King Island 1450 - 1545 (subject to change)

On arrival into King Island we are met by Matthew, a 5th generation born and bred King Islander who will be our expert local guide this week. Matthew will take us for a **guided tour of the main township of Currie**. This is a great opportunity to purchase anything we may need for our stay on King Island or simply grab a cuppa (at own expense). We now make our way to the **Island Breeze Resort** for check in and to meet our welcoming hostess Julie, who will ensure our stay is most comfortable. This evening we are most fortunate to have Dwayne, one of King Island's best chefs prepare our welcome dinner in-house tonight.

Overnight Currie: Island Breeze Motel

Day 2. Tue 25 Oct: Southern King Island

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Today begins with a visit to the iconic **King Island Kelp Industries** where we will learn about kelp harvesting, refining and what it's used for today and why King Island is such a major player in the Kelp Industry. Travelling through some of the Island's most productive farming land before stopping for morning tea at the very interesting little boathouse on the shores of Currie Harbour, simply known as the **Restaurant Without Food**. Our journey takes us across to the east coast of **Naracoopa**, where the European explorers first set foot on King Island in this coastal township. Our guide will provide some local history before continuing our way down the hill into **Grassy Harbour** to discuss King Island's shipping and fishing fleet before our lunch stop at **the King Island Boat Club** harbour-side. The King Island Boat Club is iconic to yachters of the **Queenscliff to Grassy Yacht Race**, first sailed in the 1970's and since has become a major fixture on the Australian Ocean Racing calendar. Onto **Grassy**, where we discover the scheelite mining heritage of **King Island's Dolphin Mine** which operated between 1917 and 1992 before its closure due to extremely low tungsten prices, rather than a lack of reserves plus hear the news of its possible future. Discover **Surprise Bay**, the southernmost settlement of King Island, where our guide will provide us with the history of the first settlement of King Island. Hear the amazing **history of the Bowling family**, including stories of "Fizz" Bowling and his great-grandmother, Elizabeth Bowling, and three of her sons who were the first people to take up land on King Island for farming and settlement in 1889. Visit a very rare forest with views over some of King Island's most spectacular coastline which has had a chequered history, including the **worst peacetime maritime disaster in Australia's history**. It claimed the lives of 400 people, a great many of whom were women and their children, when the British barquentine "schooner" **Cataraqui** was wrecked in a winter storm. Move onto the **Calcified Forest** enjoying a leisurely 30-minute return stroll that takes us to a viewing platform to survey the intriguing fossilised stumps of ancient rainforest trees. Those not up for the walk can relax and enjoy a cuppa from the coach. Discover one of King Island's most dramatic parts of the coast, **Seal Rocks Lookout**, which was used by Dutch and French sealer's to spot pods of seals. Then begin our drive back up to our accommodation via **Ettrick Bay and Millers Bay** with one last stop at the **King Island Historical Society Museum**. The museum was established in a former lighthouse keeper's cottage in 1980.



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Day 2. Continued

All aspects of the Island's history are represented in the displays at the King Island Museum including the original lens from Cape Wickham Lighthouse made from crystal. Relics from the large number of shipwrecks around the coastline of the Island are also featured. Returning to the motel for a freshen up before we head out to dinner. This evening we transfer to dinner at **Wild Harvest Restaurant**, one of the best on the Island and here they will showcase the Islands fabulous produce. At dusk we have the opportunity to view the **local fairy penguin colony** as they waddle out of the water to return to their burrows where they are able to keep safe from predators to nest, rest and moult.

Overnight Currie: Island Breeze Motel

Day 3. Wed 26 Oct: Northern King Island

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

This morning after breakfast our touring takes us to the northern region of King Island. First destination is **Shag Lagoon Bird Hide** to view some of King Island's beautiful water fowl. Head further north whilst keeping a keen eye out for bird species such as pheasants, peacocks and turkeys which are plentiful in this area. Enjoy morning tea at **Quarantine Bay** while taking in the views and interesting history of **Christmas Island** and **New Year Island** located just off the coast. Visit the mouth of **Yellow Rock River**, the wreck site of the **Shannon** to hear Captain Johnson's unfortunate story before making our way across to **Penny's Lagoon**, a rare perched lake found in only three locations in the world. It's freshwater is held by compacted sand and organic matter and is a favourite swimming spot for locals and visitors. From here we visit **Martha Lavinia Beach**, a world class beach break on King Island in Bass Strait. The area has been voted one of the Top 10 Surf Breaks in Australia and is frequented by pro surfers when in the region for the Rip Curl Pro Bells Beach Classic. Then experience a **Meat Your Beef** tour with Tom and Anna Perry at their beef farm to discuss how they farm on King Island, followed by a special **'Paddock to Plate' lunch** on their property. After lunch we continue up past Lake Flannigan and on to **Disappointment Bay**, which is anything but a disappointment - in fact it's one of King Island's most beautiful locations. At the most northern point of King Island view the **Cape Wickham Lighthouse**, the tallest granite lighthouse in the Southern Hemisphere which overlooks one of Australia's top ranking golf course's, the beautiful Cape Wickham Links Golf Course. Our drive through **Egg Lagoon**, once a massive lagoon that is now used for farming. Our last stop before returning to our accommodation is at King Island Dairy to sample some of the delicious cheese. With a legacy spanning more than 100 years, **King Island Dairy** is Australia's premier specialty cheese producer and has developed an enviable reputation as a maker of some of the world's finest produce with a range including white, blue and cheddar cheeses. All dairy products are made exclusively at the King Island factory using locally sourced milk. On arrival back at our accommodation there will be time for a short rest and freshen up before transferring to the **View Dining Restaurant for our King Island farewell dinner**.

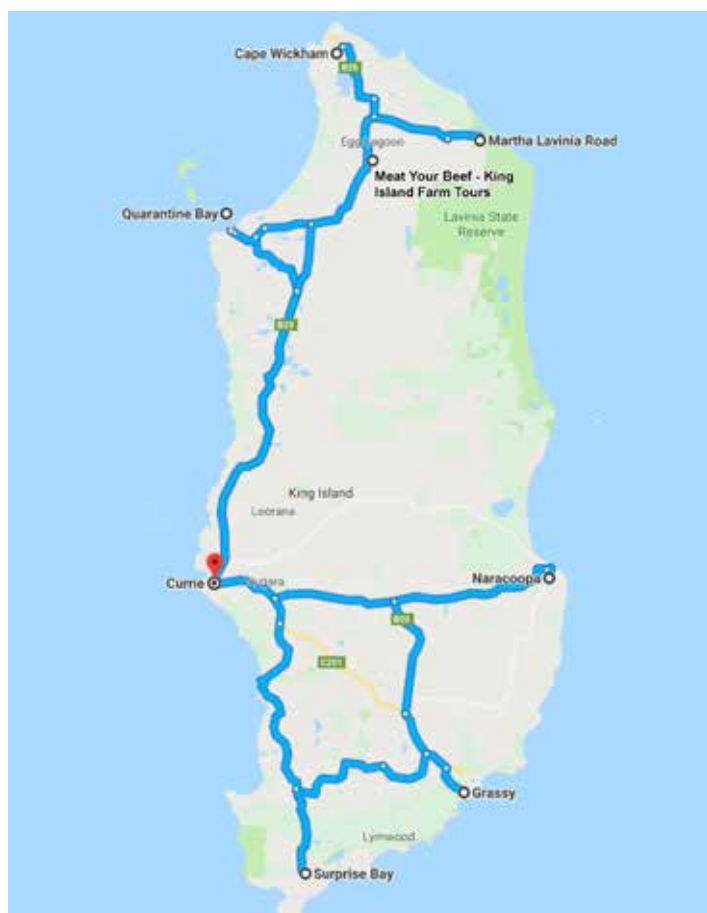
Overnight Currie: Island Breeze Motel

Day 4. Thur 27 Oct: King Island - Melbourne

Breakfast

Flight Rex Air ZL3937 King Island to Melbourne 1015 - 1110 (subject to change)

This morning after breakfast and check out, we farewell our host Julie. We check into King Island Airport for our flight home to Melbourne after a wonderful time away on King Island with **Trade Travel**.



King Island

History - Culture - Food - Beauty



Tour Highlights:

Currie Discovery Tour; King Island Kelp Industries Tour; Restaurant "Without" Food; Naracoopa Soldier Settlement; Sea Port of Grassy & King Island Boat Club; King Island's Dolphin Mine; History of Surprise Bay & The Bowling Family; Calcified Forest; Seal Rocks Lookout; Etrick Bay & Millers Bay; King Island Historical Society Museum; Dinner Wild Harvest Restaurant; King Island Fairy Penguins; Shag Lagoon Bird Hide; Quarantine Bay; Christmas Island & New Year Island; Yellow Rock River & Shannon Shipwreck Site; Intriguing Penny's Lagoon; Martha Lavinia Surf Beach; Meat Your Beef Tour with 'Paddock to Plate' Lunch; Scenic Disappointment Bay; Cape Wickham Lighthouse; King Island Dairy; Farewell Dinner View Dining Restaurant and more.

Tour Price Includes:

- Return REX flights ex Melbourne
- Coach travel on King Island
- 3 Nights quality accommodation
- Breakfast, lunch & dinner as per itinerary (8 Meals)
- All entry fees & guides as per itinerary

Tour Price Excludes:

- Return group airport transfers in Melbourne - POA

Tour Cost: \$2059.00 per person Twin Share (Single Supplement \$295.00)

Tour cost based on minimum 10 pax

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

Deposit: \$200 per person is due on booking along with your completed & signed booking form to confirm your place on the tour.

Final Payment: Due no later than **Friday 15th July, 2022**

For information, bookings & travel insurance contact:

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