



Silo Art Trail

12 DAYS
ESCORTED
TOUR

VICTORIAN ROVER GRAND TOUR

PHYSICAL RATING

3
ACTIVE/
MODERATE

Start/Finish Point
Rail
Overnight Stop
Towns en-route



Heli-flight over the 12 Apostles

Maremma dogs, penguin guardians

TOUR OVERVIEW & INCLUSIONS

- Return economy class flights ex Brisbane, Sydney or Adelaide to Melbourne
- Luxury **'Gold Class' coach** travel
- 3 nights Melbourne CBD
- Great Ocean Road
- Port Campbell
- The Twelve Apostles
- 25-minute scenic flight over the Twelve Apostles, Peterborough, The Grotto and The Bay of Martyrs
- 2 nights Warrnambool
- Flagstaff Hill Maritime Village and 'Shipwrecked' show
- Maremma dog experience on Middle Island
- Guided tour of Port Fairy
- Gum San Chinese Heritage Centre
- Ballarat; Sovereign Hill
- 2 nights Creswick
- Creswick Woollen Mill
- Central Deborah Gold Mine and tram tour at Bendigo
- 1 night Bendigo
- PS Emmylou paddlesteamer cruise
- 1 night Lake Mulwala
- Silo Art Trail through Tungamah, Devenish and Goorambat
- Ned Kelly Museum; Kate Kelly's Tea House
- 'Ned Kelly's Last Stand' light & sound show
- 2 nights Albury
- Bogong High Country; Annapurna Estate Winery
- 31 meals

DAY 1 (D)

Flights arrive in **Melbourne Airport** where we board our **'Gold Class' coach** to make our way to the hub of the city and check-in for two nights. Our hotel is ideally situated on the **Yarra River** and at close proximity to **Southbank** and the **Crown Casino**.

3 Night Stay: Crowne Plaza, Melbourne ★★★★★

DAY 2 (B,L,D)

Arriving at **Werribee Mansion**, we take a **guided tour** unveiling the Italianate-style architecture and Victorian period interiors along with a garden tour of the **Victoria State Rose Garden**, home to 5000 roses. Lunch is included on this day at **Wyndham Cache Café**. After lunch, we take an **off-road safari** at **Werribee Open Range Zoo**, taking in the sights of the **savannah** discovering wildlife including zebras, giraffes, the rhino and inquisitive meerkats.

DAY 3 (B,L,D)

Discover the **Dandenong Ranges**, travelling through picturesque low mountain ranges. We arrive at **Belgrave** to board the **Puffing Billy**. Travelling **first class**, we enjoy a three-hour **steam train journey** whilst savouring a delicious lunch in fully enclosed **heritage dining carriages**. As the train whistle signals entrees are served before we cross the historic **Monbulk Creek Trestle Bridge**. The journey continues through temperate rainforest chugging through dense fern foliage and wide-open fields. We arrive at **Lakeside Station** where we have time to disembark the train and explore the park which is home to abundant birdlife. We then re-board for our return journey finishing off with dessert before returning to the **CBD**.

DAY 4 (B,L,D)

Departing **Melbourne** we travel the **Great Ocean Road** via **Torquay**, **Anglesea** and **Lorne**, breaking for lunch at **Apollo Bay**. We move on to the **Twelve Apostles** for a thrilling **helicopter scenic flight** over **London Bridge**, **sandstone cliffs** and **Bay of Islands**. Other sights include **Peterborough**, **The Grotto** and the **Bay of Martyrs**. We finish our day at **Warrnambool**.

2 Night Stay: Best Western Old Maritime, Warrnambool ★★★★★

DAY 5 (B,L,D)

This morning we join a guided tour of **Flagstaff Hill Maritime Village**, home to Australia's most extensive shipwreck collection. Following lunch we take in the **'Meet the Maremma dogs tour'**, a fun, educational and interactive experience. You will learn about **little penguins** and the importance of protecting them. You will also learn how this world first project uses Maremma dogs to look after the penguins on **Middle Island**. You will be given the opportunity to pat and have a photo with a Maremma guardian dog. Tonight, we enjoy the theatrical experience **'Shipwrecked'** that brings to life the story of the Loch Ard disaster.

DAY 6 (B,L,D)

A later start today leaving **Warrnambool** we travel to **Port Fairy** where we collect a **local guide** to show us this quaint fishing village steeped in the history of whalers and seal hunters. We then make our way into the **Grampians**, breaking here for lunch before continuing on to **Ararat** to visit **Gum San Chinese Heritage Centre**, housing a fascinating selection of interactive, audio-visual and static displays offering **heritage and culture**. We end our day checking-in to our resort at **Creswick**.

2 Night Stay: RACV Goldfields Resort, Creswick ★★★★★

DAY 7 (B,D)

Today we explore **Ballarat** and learn how this sleepy settlement transformed into a bustling boomtown within a matter of months after the discovery of gold nearby in 1851. We visit **Sovereign Hill**, where history comes to life as you pan for gold, meet characters in period costume and ride an old-fashioned stagecoach. Wander through the dusty streets past **Victorian homes** and stop in at old-fashioned shops like the apothecary, sweet shop or candle works and purchase unique souvenirs. ****Lunch is at own expense today.**

DAY 8 (B,L,D)

This morning we visit **Creswick Woollen Mills** to meet sheep, cashmere goats and alpacas; and learn about the journey of natural fibre from the source to our shops. We continue on via **Hepburn Springs** to **Bendigo** and the **Central Deborah Gold Mine**. Walk in the footsteps of miners who discovered almost one tonne of the world's most precious metal. Next, we board the vintage **'talking tram'** to be delighted by the grand architecture of **Bendigo** as the tram tells of the city's golden past.

1 Night Stay: Quality Hotel Lakeside, Bendigo ★★★★★

DAY 9 (B,L,D)

This morning we head to Echuca where our **local guide** takes us back in time and explains the history of this port town when hundreds of steamers raced along the **mighty Murray**, opening up large areas in New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia. We then board the **PS Emmylou**, a lovingly maintained paddleboat that will take us meandering between the **red gum lined banks** of the **Murray River** whilst we enjoy lunch on board. The rest of our day takes us to our resort on the banks of **Lake Mulwala**.

1 Night Stay: Club Mulwala Resort, Mulwala ★★★★★

DAY 10 (B,MT,L,D)

This morning we travel country roads following the **Silo Art Trail** through **Tungamah**, **Devenish** and **Goorambat**. Each oversized artwork tells a different story and was completed by a different artist. We continue on to **Ned Kelly country** arriving at **Glenrowan** in time for a cuppa at the **Homestead** at **Kate Kelly's Tea House**, followed by a visit to the **Ned Kelly Museum**. Next we witness **'Ned Kelly's Last Stand'**, a light and sound show that is a re-enactment of the events that led up to the capture and hanging of Ned Kelly. Departing Glenrowan, we make our way to **Albury**.

2 Night Stay: Best Western Hovell Tree Inn, Albury ★★★★★

DAY 11 (B,MT,L,D)

This morning enjoy the picturesque **Kiewa Valley** as we make our way to **Mount Beauty**, breaking for a cuppa before ascending the mountain, passing **Bogong Village** (built for the Hydro Electric Scheme) to the **alpine village** of **Falls Creek**. We continue, skirting the **Rocky Valley Storage Dam** to historic **Wallace's Hut**, the oldest (but still standing) hut in the **Bogong High Plains**. After a brisk walk, we descend the mountain making our way to **Annapurna Estate Winery** for **wine tasting and lunch**. Our afternoon's travel is very scenic taking us via **Tawonga Gap** and the tiny township of **Yakandandah** back to **Albury**.

DAY 12 (B)

On the last leg of our tour we make our way to **Melbourne Airport** for our flights home.

DEPARTURE DATE 2020

19 October

TOUR PRICES PER PERSON

Twin Share \$5400
Sole Use \$6740

GGP OPTION

(REFER PAGE 16)

Select the GGP option to help reduce pressures on our natural environment and get a reduced price of your tour.

SAVE: \$20PP TWIN SHARE OR \$40 SOLE USE

DEPOSIT

Non-refundable deposit of \$800pp required within 14 days of making booking to secure your reservation.

N.B. This package is subject to a fuel levy without notice for coach and air components.

Price includes airfares and taxes ex Brisbane, Sydney or Adelaide at time of printing.

Flights are arranged to suit the tour as a group in advance, therefore we cannot book individual preferences or guarantee direct flights.

INCLUDED MEALS

B = Full Breakfast MT = Morning Tea L = Lunch
AT = Afternoon Tea D = Two Course Dinner

Puffing Billy steam train

3
ACTIVE/
MODERATE

PLEASE NOTE: PHYSICAL RATING

This tour carries a strict fitness level.
Please carefully read the
Terms & Conditions on Page 3