

Victoria's Hidden Gems

Delve into the cosmopolitan sophistication and natural beauty of Victoria, journeying past elegant Melbournian arcades, sandstone peaks and the Twelve Apostles that stand imposingly along the spectacular coastline. From trendy cityscapes to quaint villages, scenic coastal drives to white-capped surf, Victoria's intoxicating charm is revealed on this Inspiring Journey.



Their original names: What we now call the Twelve Apostles were originally called The Sow and Piglets. The Sow was Mutton Bird Island, which stands at the mouth of Loch Ard Gorge, and her Piglets were the 12 Apostles.



📍 Flagstaff Hill Maritime Village



📍 Australian Surfing Museum



📍 Dunkeld Kitchen Garden



📍 Hepburn Bathhouse & Spa



📍 Melbourne's shopping arcades

7 DAYS Melbourne • Daylesford • Dunkeld • The Grampians • Warrnambool • Great Ocean Road • Mornington Peninsula

Discover

The eclectic town of Daylesford, with antique shops, bazaars and cottage industries

The iconic Melbourne Cricket Ground

Explore

Melbourne's vibrant laneways and arcades

Green Olive Farm at Red Hill on the Mornington Peninsula

Immerse

Visit Creswick Woollen Mills, the last coloured woollen spinning mill in Australia

Call in at the high-tech Eureka Centre in Ballarat

Experience a Welcome to Country ceremony in the Grampians 📍

Browse the Australian National Surfing Museum in Torquay

Relax

Indulge in a relaxing mineral bath at the historic Hepburn Bathhouse & Spa

On a scenic coastal drive along the Great Ocean Road



📍 Loch Ard Gorge

Day 1: Welcome to Melbourne

Admire the style and spirit of Victoria's capital. This evening, join your Journey Director for a Welcome Reception with drinks and canapés before boarding the Colonial Tramcar Restaurant to trundle through the glittering city streets.

- 🏨 Sofitel Melbourne on Collins
- 🍷 Dinner with wine

Day 2: Melbourne – Daylesford

View the city's impressive skyline over breakfast on the 35th floor restaurant of Sofitel Melbourne on Collins. Return to earth and begin your exploration of Melbourne's wide avenues, charming arcades and trendy street art in the company of a local expert. Indulge in the Melbournian tradition of morning tea before enjoying lunch at your leisure. We head for the eclectic spa town of Daylesford, then relax in the healing waters of the historic Hepburn Bathhouse & Spa. Tonight enjoy dinner in the award-winning restaurant, The Argus.

- 🏨 Peppers Mineral Springs Hotel, Daylesford
- 🍷 Full buffet breakfast, dinner with wine

Day 3: Daylesford – Dunkeld

A leisurely start to the day could see you enjoy a stroll through the enchanting Wombat Hill Botanic Gardens. Your first stop today is Lavandula Swiss Italian Farm for morning tea. Drip syrupy lavender honey over freshly baked scones before heading to Creswick Woollen Mills, for an exclusive guided tour. Continue on to the historic town of Clunes admiring beautifully preserved Victorian architecture. Grab a spot of lunch at one of the cafés or the country pub, the National Hotel. En route to Dunkeld, visit the Eureka Centre, where the original Stockade flag is housed to gain insights into the birth of Australian democracy. Settle in to the picturesque surrounds of the Southern Grampians this evening. Your dinner at the hotel is made with fresh local ingredients and available produce growing in the extensive kitchen garden.

- 🏨 Royal Mail Hotel, Dunkeld
- 🍷 Full buffet breakfast, dinner with wine

Day 4: Dunkeld – Warrnambool

After breakfast, you're invited to join the ground's gardener for a guided walk through the hotel's kitchen garden. Then head to Halls Gap and the Brambuk Cultural Centre. **Witness a Welcome to Country ceremony** and then the local Gariwerd, Djab Wurrung and Jardwadjali people will teach you how to throw a boomerang and gather local bush tucker for sampling. Admire the views over the Grampians Mountain range before heading down the mountain to coastal Warrnambool. **This evening, discover the maritime history of the region during a Sound and Light Show at Flagstaff Hill Maritime Village.**



- 🏨 Deep Blue Hotel & Hot Springs, Warrnambool
- 🍷 Full buffet breakfast, dinner with wine



📍 Indigenous culture at Halls Gap



At a glance:

TOP 3 HIGHLIGHTS

1. Aboriginal Cultural Experience at Brambuk in the Grampians
2. An indulgent 3 course lunch at Jack Rabbit Winery
3. Swimming at Hepburn Natural Hot Springs

DINING

- 6 Full buffet breakfasts
- 5 Dinners with wine
- 1 Local Dining Experience
- 1 Celebration Lunch



Day 5: Warrnambool – Lorne

Enjoy a leisurely morning, preparing for one of the world's most scenic coastal drives later today. Golden beaches stretch endlessly along the route. Wind through lush forests and stop to admire highlights including the Bay of Islands, London Bridge, Loch Ard Gorge and the Twelve Apostles. The crisp sea air provides a refreshing backdrop for a lunch stop in the seaside town of Port Campbell or 🚁 consider an optional experience helicopter flight over the Twelve Apostles. Stop in quaint Apollo Bay before arriving in the seaside village of Lorne late afternoon.

- 🏠 Cumberland Lorne
- 🍽️ Full buffet breakfast

Day 6: Lorne – Mornington Peninsula

The last leg of the Great Ocean Road brings us to the surf capital of Torquay, where you'll learn about Australia's beloved surf culture before continuing to the Bellarine Peninsula. **Indulge in a Local Dining Experience lunch and wine tasting at the award-winning Jack Rabbit Vineyard.** Appetites quelled, board a ferry to Queenscliff and Green Olive Farm. This evening at your hotel, enjoy a meal prepared with ingredients sourced from hotel's kitchen garden and select Mornington Peninsula producers.

- 🏠 Jackalope Hotel, Mornington Peninsula
- 🍽️ Full buffet breakfast, Local Dining Experience, dinner with wine

Day 7: Mornington Peninsula – Farewell from Melbourne

The aroma of coffee beans beckon as you head back to Melbourne after breakfast. As this Inspiring Journey nears its end, venture into the hallowed grounds of the Melbourne Cricket Ground. Later, enjoy a Celebration Lunch with

newfound friends after an epic adventure through the diverse landscapes and lifestyles of Victoria. For now, all that's left to say is a fond farewell till next time.

- 🍽️ Full buffet breakfast, Celebration Lunch

“It's important to take time for friends and family. Also, it's important – and interesting – to know the story behind what you're eating and drinking. Our menu is seasonal and showcases local produce as much as is humanly possible. A lot of our produce is sourced from small artisan growers here on The Bellarine. We take a lot of pride in showcasing our regional 'goodness'.”

– Kristie Luscott, Jack Rabbit Vineyard

IJVIC: Melbourne Return

Flights are not included in holiday price. Flight Information:

- Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 2.00pm into Melbourne Airport
- Day 7 – flights to depart after 5.00pm (domestic) or 7.00pm (international) from Melbourne Airport