

# Victoria's Hidden Gems

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Delve into the cosmopolitan sophistication and natural beauty of Victoria, journeying past elegant Melbourne arcades, embarking on an Indigenous experience at Halls Gap and witnessing the Twelve Apostles along the spectacular coastline. From trendy cityscapes to quaint villages and scenic coastal drives, the hidden gems of Victoria await your discovery.



© Halls Gap

*Nga Keenatt means welcome. Experience a moving Welcome to Country ceremony at Halls Gap, Victoria. In the very heart of the ancient Grampians National Park, lies Halls Gap, the shared home of the Djab Wurrung and Jardwadjali Traditional Owners. Learn about the traditional six seasons, recognised in the Gariwerd (Grampians) seasonal cycle. For thousands of years, the lives of the Jardwadjali and Djab Wurrung have been intimately linked to this seasonal cycle. By understanding these seasons, you can begin to understand the rich ancient culture of these custodians of the land.*



Jack Rabbit



Melbourne street art



Hepburn Bathhouse & Spa

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

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**Discover**  
Uncover Melbourne's laneways and arcades with a local guide, then drive the famously scenic Great Ocean Road.

**Explore**  
Explore the ancient rock formations and eucalypt forest of Halls Gap

**Immerse**  
Enjoy a taste of farm life at Green Olive Farm, then gain an insight into the traditional people of Gariwerd, the Djab Wurrung and Jardwidjari.

**Relax**  
Indulge in wine tasting at the Jack Rabbit Vineyard, then enjoy an exclusive dining experience at the Royal Mail Hotel.



Lake Daylesford





🌱 **Cover story: Dunkeld Kitchen Garden**

*Revel in a truly unique food experience at the Royal Mail Hotel Dunkeld Kitchen Garden. Join the ground's gardener on a guided walk as they share with you the incredible array of fresh produce as well as the challenges and benefits of maintaining and utilising Australia's largest working restaurant kitchen garden.*

**Day 1: Welcome to Melbourne**

On arrival in Melbourne spend time on your own to relax or explore the surroundings. This evening, meet your Journey Director and see the city from a different perspective at a **Welcome Reception on the Melbourne Star Observation Wheel**, followed by dinner at Berth Restaurant on Victoria Harbour.



🍽️ **Sofitel Melbourne on Collins**

🍷 **Dinner with wine**

**Day 2: Melbourne – Daylesford**

After a leisurely breakfast at the Sofitel's 35th floor restaurant overlooking the city, you'll enjoy this cosmopolitan city taking in its premier sights. **Explore the vibrant laneways and arcades as you wander the streets of Melbourne** with your knowledgeable local guide. Relax and enjoy morning tea at one of the local Melbourne cafés. Visit Lavandula Swiss Italian Farm for afternoon tea. See their manicured vegetable, herb, lavender gardens and friendly farm animals. We then **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**

🍷 **Breakfast, dinner with wine**

**Day 3: Daylesford – Clunes – Ballarat – Dunkeld**

After breakfast, why not see all that Daylesford has to offer before leaving to **visit the family-owned and operated Creswick Woollen Mills, the only remaining coloured woollen spinning mill of its kind in Australia**, for an exclusive guided tour. Continue a little way down the road to the historic town of Clunes. Step back in time and wander along the main street where you're free to grab a spot of lunch in one of its cafés or the country pub. En route to Dunkeld visit the Museum of Australian Democracy at Eureka in Ballarat, where the original Stockade flag is housed, to gain insights into the birth of Australian democracy. We'll **check in to the Royal Mail Hotel at the base of the Grampian Mountains**, and indulge in an exclusive dinner experience at the hotel, made with fresh local ingredients and available produce growing in the extensive kitchen garden.



🍽️ **Royal Mail Hotel**

🍷 **Breakfast, dinner with wine**

**Day 4: Dunkeld – Halls Gap – Warrnambool**

After breakfast, you're invited to join the ground's gardener for a guided walk through the hotel's kitchen garden. We'll **head to the top of the Grampians today at Halls Gap for a 'Welcome to Country' ceremony** by the local Indigenous people at the Brambuk Cultural Centre. The traditional people of Gariwerd, the Djab Wurrung and Jardwidjari, will teach you how to throw a boomerang. Admire the views over





the Grampians Mountain Range before heading to the coastal town of Warrnambool. Tonight it's a **Local Dining Experience and Stage Show at Flagstaff Hill**, where you'll learn about the region's maritime history.

🏠 **Deep Blue Hotel & Hot Springs**  
🍷 **Breakfast, Local Dining Experience**



Flagstaff Hill Maritime Village Tour

## Choose this journey if you'd love to experience:

- A farm-to-fork dinner at Jackalope Hotel
- Historic Hepburn Bathhouse & Spa
- The famous Great Ocean Road
- Lesser known gems of Victoria

## Dining

- 6 Breakfasts
- 4 Dinners with wine
- 2 Local Dining Experiences
- 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.** Stretch your legs this afternoon in Apollo Bay before arriving in picturesque Lorne late afternoon.

🏠 **Cumberland Lorne Resort**  
🍷 **Breakfast**

### Day 6: Lorne – Torquay – 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 an exclusive Local Dining Experience lunch and wine tasting at the award-winning Jack Rabbit Vineyard.** Board a ferry from Queenscliff to Sorrento and Green Olive farm, for a taste of farm life with a local guide. Later head to your accommodation where you will enjoy dinner at the award-winning Jackalope Hotel.

🏠 **Jackalope Hotel**  
🍷 **Breakfast, Local Dining Experience, dinner with wine**

### Day 7: Mornington – 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 new-found friends. For now, all that's left to say is a fond farewell till next time.

🍷 **Breakfast, Celebration Lunch**

### 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

For departure dates, pricing, and ways to save, see pages 66 & 68/69.