

Scottsdale Tours Limited

P O Box 130 ♦ Waihi 3641 ♦ New Zealand ♦

VICTORIA IN AUTUMN

May 4-15, 2012 12 days - 11 nights



A comprehensive tour of Victoria from the lovely old world Melbourne through the Victorian Alps back to the Ocean at Lakes Entrance and down the coast through to Phillip Island. Then we take the Great Ocean Road out to the mighty Murray River through the historic mining areas of Ballarat and Bendigo. Should be some great autumn colours as we travel through some of the prettiest areas of Australia.

Day 1 Friday May 4

D

We join our flight today to Melbourne. On arrival we transfer to our hotel opposite Albert Park.

Day 2 Saturday May 5

BD

Our first day of touring takes us out to the Dandenong Ranges at Belgrave where we board the historic "Puffing Billy" steam train. Disembarking at Emerald we carry on to the village of Olinda and a visit to Cloudehill Nursery and Gardens where we have a guided tour. We make our way back to Melbourne for our dinner treat on board The Colonial Tramcar Restaurant. See the sights of the central city while you dine.

Day 3 Sunday May 6

BD

Heading out on the Hume Highway today we travel through Benalla and Milawa where we visit the Milawa Cheese Company and see if the Aussies can make cheese. Continuing on to perhaps Victoria's best preserved mining town of Beechworth we have a guided tour around the 32 National Trust listed buildings. We complete the day traveling through Myrtleford and down the Alpine Road to Bright for our overnight stop.

Day 4 Monday May 7

BD

Starting our day in the Victorian Alps we explore lovely Bright where there should be lots of Autumn colours. Making our way across the Great Dividing Range and down the Omeo Highway we arrive at our stop for the next 2 nights at Lakes Entrance.

Day 5 Tuesday May 8

BLD

Today we visit Nyerimilang Heritage Park, a lovely homestead and garden from the 1800's. Before lunch visit to Wyanga Park Winery, this is the oldest vineyard in East Gippsland. After lunch we have a short cruise on the Lakes. Some free time later to explore the town.

Day 6 Wednesday May 9

BLD

We continue our travel today to Bairnsdale where we visit the historic Church of Murals. Later we travel down the Latrobe Valley, home of much Hydro Generation, where we have a tour. Our day ends at the famous surfing area of Phillip Island where following an early dinner we make our way to the waterfront to watch the fairy penguins come ashore. Quite a unique spectacle. We then make our way to our overnight stop at Hastings.

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Day 7 Thursday May 10

BD

This morning we head for the Mornington Penninsular and Sorrento where we join the ferry to take us across the heads to Queenscliff. After some time to explore we start our our journey around the coast through Torquay and Bells Beach to our overnight at Apollo Bay.

Day 8 Friday May 11

BLD

One of the highlights today as we travel the Great Ocean Road to Warrnambool. This whole journey is a scenic delight and of course includes the Twelve Apostles and the ill fated London Bridge. On the way we also visit the Otway Fly Tree Walk where you are able to walk high in the canopy of the myrtle forest. Overnight Warrnambool.

Day 9 Saturday May 12

BD

Leaving the coast we head inland through Mortlake to the historical goldmining town of Ballarat. After a local tour we will spend time exploring Sovereign Hill, the most authentic replica mining town you will see. Tonight we will enjoy "Blood on the Southern Cross" a re-enactment of the battle of Eureka Stockade. This exciting show takes place over the whole 50 acres of Sovereign Hill. Overnight Ballarat.

Day 10 Sunday May 13

BD

Travelling on to Bendigo today we enjoy a ride on the famous "Talking Tram" that takes us through the main part of Bendigo while giving us the local history. Some fabulous old buildings here too. Later we arrive at the old port of Echuca on the mighty Murray River where we have a guided tour and time to explore. Dinner tonight will be a great finish to this part of the tour with a 3 hour evening cruise and buffet meal on the "Pride of the Murray". Overnight at Moama just across the river.

Day 11 Monday May 14

BLD

This morning we make our way through the orchard district around Shepperton in the Goulburn Valley. Continuing south to Nagambie we enjoy a luncheon cruise along the Goulburn River. Later we arrive back in Melbourne for our last night.

Day 12 Tuesday May 15

B

A free day in Melbourne today. Lots to see and do in this lovely old city with very easy access on the free tram. In the evening we join our flight back to New Zealand and home.

All inclusive escorted package

TOTAL COST \$3995

\$100 deposit on booking

\$1000 by February 1, 2012

Balance of \$2895 by March 1, 2012

Single Supplement \$850

