

2020

# *Desert Sky Tours*

*Proudly Presents*

## The Sapphire Coast

8 days - \$3750 per person

Includes

Motel Accommodation and all Meals



**Day 1**

After home pick-up, we travel along the South Eastern Freeway through the Adelaide Hills to Tailem Bend, following the Princes Highway to Meningie, situated on the northern end of the Coorong, and the shores of Lake Albert. The Coorong National Park was declared in 1966 to conserve the distinctive landscape, coastal dune system, lagoons, wetlands and coastal vegetation and the great variety of birds, animals and fish that live in or visit the area.

The Park extends to Keith SE, and we continue to Millicent and Mt Gambier. Punt Road takes us over the Victorian Border to Nelson, and we follow the Discovery Bay Coastal Park to Portland.

**Overnight: Melaleuca Motel—Portland**

**Day 2**

We journey along the Ship Wreck Coast, to the picturesque fishing village of Port Fairy and a little further is the home of many shipwrecks—Warrnambool. Port Campbell is a popular tourist destination primarily because it is so closely surrounded by some of the Great Ocean Road's most famous and scenic coastal attractions. These include the rocky (but broken) platform of London Bridge, The Loch Ard Gorge, and the most celebrated of all Great Ocean Road attractions, the Twelve Apostles.

As we ascend into the Otway Ranges- another



awe inspiring experience!

The Otway Tree Top Walk offers a bird's eye view of the majestic Otways Rain forest.

At 25 metres high you experience a unique, close view of the flora and fauna of the rainforest.

**Overnight: A Great Ocean View Motel  
Apollo Bay**

**Day 3**

We continue along the Great Ocean Road through Lorne, Anglesea and Torquay,

to Queenscliff. And now it is time for a cruise ! - as we embark on the ferry for a 40 minute voyage across Southern Port Phillip to Sorrento, on the Mornington Peninsula. Leaving the Peninsula at Baxter, we pass through the towns of Tooradin, Lang Lang, Warragul and Morwell to Lakes Entrance.

A short detour is made to Metung, a tiny village set in the heart of the Gippsland Lakes, with its history steeped in boats, fishing and gentle lifestyles.

**Overnight: Coastal Waters Motel Lakes Entrance**



**Day 4**

Following the Princes Highway, we see the Snowy River at Orbost, and make a couple of detours- Bemm River on the Sydenham Inlet, and the Mallacoota Inlet with its shimmering lakes, rivers, pristine forests and turquoise sea lapping quiet beaches.



Eden, situated on the deep harbour of Twofold Bay, is rich in fishing and whaling history, and we take a look at some of the local attractions including Boydtown Port, the Sea Horse Inn, and Kiah Inlet at Davidsons Whaling Station. Lookout Point, Rotary Park and Seamens Memorial Wall are up the hill from Eden Wharf. They offer panoramic views over beautiful Twofold Bay to Mt Imlay.

**Overnight: Pelican Motor Inn Merimbula****Day 5**

A leisurely look around Eden before we board the Cat Balou cruise boat at 10am for a 2 hour cruise around Twofold Bay. The cruise highlights the history of this whaling port including Boyd's Tower, Seahorse Inn at Boydtown, Edrom Lodge and whaling station sites. The naval/multi purpose wharf which is also used by visiting cruise ships, woodchip mill, mussel farms and large fishing fleet are also viewed.

After lunch in Eden, we take a trip up the Coast to Pambula and Merimbula, then on to Tura Beach, Thathra and Bega.

Taste the varieties of Bega Cheese at the Heritage Centre, or enjoy one of their renowned milkshakes!

We return to Eden via Black Range, Kingswood, Candelo and Wolumia.

**Overnight: Pelican Motor Inn Merimbula**



### Day 6

Leaving Eden, we head to Bairnsdale and Sale, and then on to the Victorian coastal towns fronting Bass Strait, including Port Albert, Welshpool, Toora and Foster to the picturesque town of Meeniyan on the South Gippsland Highway

**Overnight: Meenivan Motel, Meenivan**

### Day 7

Leaving Meeniyan we take the South Gippsland Highway through Leongatha, Korumburra, and Loch, to the Mornington Peninsula, and the ferry at Sorrento.

Joining the Princes Highway near Geelong, we enter the rich volcanic plains with unique stony rises and dry stone walling.

The quarry at Mt Shadwell near Mortlake is one of the richest sources of olivine, a mineral known in its gem form as peridot, the birth stone for August.



**Overnight: Manifold Motor Inn –Camperdown**

### Day 8

Our return home today is through Penhurst and Dunkeld, to Naracoorte and the south eastern South Australian wine growing district of Padthaway, to Keith and Taillem Bend.

We arrive in Adelaide approximately 7pm.

**DEPARTURE DATE - Monday 30th March 2020**

