

Exploring The Sapphire Coast

With Trade Travel

8 Days / 7 Nights - Fully Escorted

Tour Departs: Saturday 7 September - Saturday 14 September, 2024.



TRADE TRAVEL
Effortless Journeys, Endless Memories



Credit: Sapphire Coast Tourism



Day 1. Sat 7 Sept: Home - Melbourne

Dinner

Flight Details: Brisbane - Melbourne (flight times to be advised)

Flight Details: Sydney - Melbourne (flight times to be advised)

We arrive into Melbourne after our afternoon flights and transfer to our accommodation for a rest before dinner.

Overnight Melbourne: Best Western Airport Motel

Day 2. Sun 8 Sept: Melbourne - Lakes Entrance

Breakfast & Dinner

This morning after boarding our coach we make our way across towards the beautiful Gippsland Lakes Region. In Morwell we enjoy morning tea from the coach in the grounds of the **Gippsland Immigration Park** which celebrates the contribution of immigrants to the development of Gippsland. Leaving Morwell continue across to **Sale** via Fulham stopping by the **John Brady Wood Sculpture Gallery**. Our next stop is over in Sale where we will have time to purchase lunch before joining our **historic cruise**. Drift back into a different time, when waterways were our highways, and journey from the Port of Sale to the landmark Swing Bridge. The scene is set as we board **The Rubeena**, an electric driven wooden boat first launched at Lakes Entrance in 1912. After our cruise we continue our drive down into the beautiful seaside township of Lakes Entrance where we check into our motel with time to freshen up before dinner in Albert & Co.

Overnight Lakes Entrance: Bellevue on the Lakes

Day 3. Mon 9 Sept: Lakes Entrance - Boydtown - Eden

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

After checkout we begin our drive across to the magical Sapphire Coast enjoying a couple of interesting stops along the way including the **Stony Creek Trestle Bridge** and the elegant **Seahorse Inn** in Boydtown. This boutique hotel situated on the shores of **Twofold Bay** provides stunning views across the bay to Eden. As we enter the Seahorse Inn we are greeted with an ambience of old world charm, complimented by an aesthetically luxurious appeal. **The Cocktail Lounge** provides the perfect place to enjoy a pre-lunch beverage before taking our place at the table in **Bettina's a la carte restaurant** for our dining experience. We then have time to can take a stroll around the expansive lawns and garden before heading up to Eden for our 3 night stay. After a rest and freshen up we gather for dinner.

Overnight Eden: Coachman's Eden

Day 4. Tues 10 Sept: Oysters, Whales, Highlights

Breakfast & Dinner

Captain Sponges Oyster Tours are the perfect way to begin our day! This experience takes us on a journey through Pambula Lakes where we are given an insight into the farming of Sydney Rock Oysters, witness an oyster shucking demo and of course get to sample a few for ourselves. After a break for lunch we arrive at the **Eden Visitor Information Centre** to meet our **local tour guide** who'll show us the **sights, lookouts and highlights in and around Eden** including a stop at the **Eden Killer Whale Museum** to learn about pod leaders - Stranger, Hooky and Cooper. After leaving the museum we head back to our motel for a bit of leisure time before catching up this evening for dinner.

Overnight Eden: Coachman's Eden

Day 5. Wed 11 Sept: Whale Watching Cruise - Merimbula

Breakfast & Dinner

Today we head to **Eden's Main Wharf** to board our **Twofold Bay Whale Watching Cruise** which takes in the breathtaking scenery, pristine bays and beaches as we learn the history of this whaling port. At this time of year, majestic Humpback whales frequent the waters just off the coast of Eden, at times entering Twofold Bay on their southern migration. Following our cruise we take a drive up to **Merimbula** and check out the sites with our local guide before taking a look through the **Merimbula Visitors Centre** and enjoying some free time to purchase lunch. This afternoon we travel up to the **stunning beach-side township of Tathra**, home of the **historic Steamer Wharf**.

Day 5. Continued

Across in Bega we call into the **Bega Cheese Heritage Centre** to explore the world of cheese, and learn about the history of dairying in the Bega Valley. From Bega it's back down to Eden for dinner and our last night on the Sapphire Coast.

Overnight Eden: Coachman's Eden Motel

Day 6. Thurs 12 Sept: Cabbage Tree Creek - Lakes Entrance

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Today we depart Eden and begin our drive back across to Lakes Entrance enjoying a refreshment stop at the unique Cabbage Tree Creek Cafe and Gift Shop. On arrival back at Lake Entrance we enjoy **wine tastings** before **lunch** at the **Wyanga Park Winery**. We then head into Lakes Entrance to check in to our motel before enjoying some leisure time to take a stroll along the promenade to view the **Avenue of Honour Memorial Tree Statues**, maybe pop into the **Sea Shell Museum** or just enjoy a look around the shops. Early evening we gather back at Albert & Co for our tour farewell dinner.

Overnight Lakes Entrance: Bellevue on the Lakes

Day 7. Fri 13 Sept: Bairnsdale - Rosedale - Yarragon - Melbourne

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

After checkout we begin our drive back home with our first stop across in Bairnsdale to view the **stunning St Mary's Church murals** painted by Italian artist Francesco Floreani during the Great Depression. After leaving St Mary's we head across to Rosedale for our **lunch stop** at the **delightful Victoria Rose Tea Rooms and Gardens**. Then travel across through Traralgon and down to the **Loy Yang Power Station Miners Lookout**. Leaving the lookout we continue our drive back home with one last stop in the **village of Yarragon** for free time to roam the specialist shops, cafés and eateries to sample some of Gippsland's finest produce. Our journey concludes as we arrive back in Melbourne and check in for our overnight stay. Dinner tonight is in the hotel restaurant.

Overnight Melbourne: Best Western Airport Motel

Day 8. Sat 14 Sept: Melbourne - Home

Breakfast

This morning after breakfast we are transferred to Melbourne Airport for our return flight home after a **delightful few days away on the Sapphire Coast area with Trade Travel**.

Flight Details: Melbourne - Brisbane (flight times to be advised)

Flight Details: Melbourne - Sydney (flight times to be advised)

Tour Highlights: Gippsland Immigration Park; John Brady Wood Sculpture Gallery; Rubeena Port of Sale Canal & Thomson River Cruise; Stony Creek Trestle Bridge, The Seahorse Inn; Captain Sponges Oyster Tour; Eden Highlights Tour; Eden Killer Whale Museum; Twofold Bay Whale Watching Cruise; Merimbula & Tathra; Bega Cheese; Wyanga Park Winery Lunch & Tastings; St Mary's Church Murals; Lunch Victoria Rose Tea Room & Gardens; Loy Yang Power Station Miners Lookout; Yarragon Village & much more!

Tour Price Includes:

- Trade Travel Tour Host
- Return flights to Melbourne ex Brisbane or Sydney
- Quality coach travel
- 7 Nights quality accommodation
- Breakfast, lunch & dinner as per itinerary (17 Meals)
- All entry fees, cruise & guides as per itinerary

Tour Cost EX BNE: \$3098.00 per person Twin Share (Single Supplement \$616.00)

Tour Cost EX SYD: \$2998.00 per person Twin Share (Single Supplement \$616.00)

A minimum of 20 passengers is required for this tour to proceed.

The tour prices valid for travel in 2024. Please note that the itinerary is subject to change without notice.

Deposit: A deposit of **\$200.00** per person is due on booking to secure your place on this tour, along with completed & signed booking form!

Final Payment: Due no later than **Friday 12 July, 2024**.

For information, bookings & travel insurance contact:

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