



Melbourne is Victoria's centre for nightlife, live music, theatre and affordable dining. For great value meals, accommodation and entertainment, explore one of the many funky suburbs on the city's fringe, from Brunswick Street in bohemian Fitzroy to Chapel Street in fashionable South Yarra and Victoria Street in Richmond. Melbourne, is Australia's Events Capital, home to the Australian Formula One Grand Prix, Australian Open Tennis, Melbourne Cup and Australian Rules Football, amongst others! Ensure plenty of time to explore regional Victoria, from the famous Great Ocean Road, Grampians National Park to the High Country and mighty Murray River.



Visit [www.backpackmelbourne.com](http://www.backpackmelbourne.com) for further information accommodation, touring routes, work options and activities.

## VICTORIA TOURING ROUTES

### MELBOURNE TO SYDNEY

Touring east from Melbourne travelling through spectacular Gippsland, the Melbourne to Sydney route can take you along the stunning east coast or inland through Victoria's high country ([www.sydney-melbournetouring.com.au](http://www.sydney-melbournetouring.com.au)).

Self drive visitors should take advantage of spectacular drives, such as the Great Alpine Road, a 308 kilometre route stretching from Gippsland into Victoria's high country in the north-east, a mecca for adventure enthusiasts not only during the ski season but in summer when the region comes alive with mountain biking, bushwalking, horse riding and 4WD adventures.

Visit [www.greatalpineroad.info](http://www.greatalpineroad.info), [www.skivic.com.au](http://www.skivic.com.au) and [www.adventurevictoria.com.au](http://www.adventurevictoria.com.au) for more info on Victoria's High Country.

Alternatively, take the inland route to Sydney and explore the Murray region. See dramatic Australian landscapes from parched wilderness to lakes and billabongs. Harvest work is readily available in the Murray region for travellers on working holiday visas, in towns such as Mildura, Shepparton and Rutherglen. Contact the National Harvest Labour Information Service on 1800 062 332 or [www.jobsearch.gov.au/harvesttrail](http://www.jobsearch.gov.au/harvesttrail)

Take in the sights between Melbourne and Sydney with tour operators such as Autopia Tours Tel: +61 3 9419 8878 or [www.autopiatours.com.au](http://www.autopiatours.com.au) Adventure Tours Australia. ([www.adventuretours.com.au](http://www.adventuretours.com.au)) Oz Experience's Matey pass ([www.ozexperience.com](http://www.ozexperience.com))

### GIPPSLAND & PHILLIP ISLAND

Gippsland featured along the Melbourne to Sydney coastal drive, offers a variety of exciting activities, from surfing, swimming, rafting to bushwalking and horse riding. Visit [inspiredbygippsland.com.au](http://inspiredbygippsland.com.au) for more info.

Lakes Entrance is regarded as the gateway to the Gippsland Lakes - Australia's largest inland network of waterways. Backpackers will find good quality hostel accommodation in Lakes Entrance. Visit [www.yha.com.au](http://www.yha.com.au). Ninety-Mile Beach is as long as its name suggests and ideal for boating, waterskiing, beachcombing and bushwalking. Harvest work opportunities are available in the small town of Maffra. No stay in Gippsland is complete without staying at the Cambrai Hostel, ([www.maffra.net.au/hostel](http://www.maffra.net.au/hostel))

Visit the world famous Phillip Island for the nightly Little Penguin Parade and some close encounters with native Australian animals ([www.penguins.org.au](http://www.penguins.org.au)) Phillip Island offers plenty of exciting opportunities for water sports enthusiasts. Take a Seal Rocks Adventure Cruise, a fast and exciting ride to experience seals up close. ([www.wildlifecoastcruises.com.au](http://www.wildlifecoastcruises.com.au))

National Parks abound in Gippsland, from much loved Wilsons Promontory - the southern most point of mainland Australia, to the UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve, Croajingolong National Park, and the spectacular limestone formations of Buchan Caves. For more info on Victoria's National Parks, visit [www.parkweb.vic.gov.au](http://www.parkweb.vic.gov.au)

Many tour operators explore Phillip Island specifically for youth/backpacker travellers, as a one day or extended tours

**Autopia Tours** Tel: +61 3 9419 8878 or [www.autopiatours.com.au](http://www.autopiatours.com.au)

**Bunyip Tours** Tel: +61 3 9650 9680 or [www.bunyiptours.com](http://www.bunyiptours.com)

**Eco Platypus Tours** Tel: +61 3 5570 8331 or [www.ecoplatypustours.com](http://www.ecoplatypustours.com)

**Go West** Tel: +61 3 9877 4264 or [www.gowest.com.au](http://www.gowest.com.au).

### THE GREAT OCEAN ROAD

Unquestionably, one of the world's most spectacular scenic drives is west of Melbourne. This 300km Great Ocean Road snakes past limestone cliffs and awe-inspiring rock formations, wild surf beaches and lush rainforest. The Great Ocean Walk is a long distance coastal walking track linking Apollo Bay to the Twelve Apostles, passing through the Great Otway National Park. Stretching 104km and taking walkers approximately 7 nights to complete, accommodation (in cabins or camping) can be arranged at various locations en-route. [www.greatoceanwalk.com.au](http://www.greatoceanwalk.com.au)

Discover the region's world famous surf culture in the coastal village Torquay, the home of Rip Curl and Quiksilver surf brands. Surfworld Museum highlights Australia's surfing heritage. (Tel: +61 3 5261 4606, [www.surfworld.org.au](http://www.surfworld.org.au)) Why not learn to surf with the help of real pros? Contact Great Ocean Road Surf Tours (Tel +61 3 180 078 7353, [www.offshoresurftours.com](http://www.offshoresurftours.com))

At Apollo Bay the Great Ocean Road takes an inland route through the Otway National Park. Don't miss the 35metre high tree top walk at the Otway Fly [www.otwayfly.com](http://www.otwayfly.com) Abseiling and Zip lining off/along the Fly is also available. If you prefer more relaxed adventures, take a guided canoe tour to discover Australia's most elusive animal on a Paddle with the Platypus tour ([www.platypustours.net.au](http://www.platypustours.net.au)) or take a tour of the oldest, surviving lighthouse in mainland Australia, Cape Otway Lightstation (<http://lightstation.com>)

Spectacular limestone formations carved from the mainland over thousands of years form a stunning panoramic view along the Great Ocean Road. 12 Apostles Helicopters provide the opportunity to view the Twelve Apostles, Loch Ard Gorge, London Bridge and The Bay of Islands from a spectacularly different perspective ([www.12ah.com](http://www.12ah.com)) Learn about the rich Aboriginal history of the region at Narana Creations in Geelong (Tel: +61 3 5241 5700, [www.narana.com.au](http://www.narana.com.au)) and at Worn Gundidj at Tower Hill (Tel: +61 3 5561 5315, [www.worn Gundidj.org.au](http://www.worn Gundidj.org.au))

Many tour operators traverse the Great Ocean Road as one day or extended tours, specifically for youth/backpacker travellers.

**Autopia Tours** Tel: +61 3 9419 8878 or [www.autopiatours.com.au](http://www.autopiatours.com.au)  
**Bunyip Tours** Tel: +61 3 9650 9680 or [www.bunyiptours.com](http://www.bunyiptours.com)  
**Chillax Tours** [www.chillaxtours.com](http://www.chillaxtours.com)  
**Eco Platypus Tours** Tel: +61 3 5570 8331 or [www.ecoplatypustours.com](http://www.ecoplatypustours.com)  
**Go West Tours** Tel: +61 3 9877 4264 or [www.gowest.com.au](http://www.gowest.com.au)  
**Wildlife Tours Australia** : +61 1300 661 730 [www.wildlifetours.com.au](http://www.wildlifetours.com.au)

Excellent backpacker hostels can be found in Torquay, Anglesea, Lorne, Apollo Bay, Warrambool, Port Campbell & Port Fairy.

### GRAMPIANS NATIONAL PARK

Inland of the Great Ocean Road, explore the Grampians National Park. See Aboriginal rock art, waterfalls and native animals. Learn more about the Aboriginal heritage of the region at the Brambuk Aboriginal Cultural Centre in Halls Gap. (Tel: +61 3 5356 4452, [www.brambuk.com.au](http://www.brambuk.com.au))

Halls Gap has some truly unique backpacker experiences. Stay at Brambuk Backpackers, or the environmentally sensitive, YHA Eco Hostel ([www.yha.com.au/hostels/vic](http://www.yha.com.au/hostels/vic)) or friendly Tim's Place ([www.timsplace.com.au](http://www.timsplace.com.au))

Near Halls Gap is world famous rock climbing destination, Mount Arapiles, which attracts rock climbers from around the globe. For all things adventure, call Absolute Outdoors (Tel: +61 3 5356 4556, [www.absoluteoutdoors.com.au](http://www.absoluteoutdoors.com.au))

### GREAT OCEAN ROAD AND GRAMPIANS

Join a combined Great Ocean Road and Grampians trip with one of the following tour operators:

**Adventure Tours Australia** - [www.adventuretours.com.au](http://www.adventuretours.com.au)  
**Autopia Tours** - [www.autopiatours.com.au](http://www.autopiatours.com.au)  
**Bunyip Tours**, [www.bunyiptours.com.au](http://www.bunyiptours.com.au)  
**Chillax Tours** - [www.chillaxtours.com](http://www.chillaxtours.com)  
**Oz Experience's Victa pass** - [www.ozexperience.com](http://www.ozexperience.com)  
**Wildlife Tours Australia** [www.wildlifetours.com.au](http://www.wildlifetours.com.au)

### MELBOURNE TO ADELAIDE

Join a combined Melbourne to Adelaide encompassing the Great Ocean Road and Grampians, with one of the following operators:

**Adventure Tours Australia** - [www.adventuretours.com.au](http://www.adventuretours.com.au)  
**Autopia Tours** - [www.autopiatours.com.au](http://www.autopiatours.com.au)  
**Chillax Tours** - [www.chillaxtours.com](http://www.chillaxtours.com)  
**Goin South** - [www.goinsouth.com.au](http://www.goinsouth.com.au)  
**Groovy Grape Getaways** - [www.groovygrape.com.au](http://www.groovygrape.com.au)  
**Oz Experience's Victa pass** - [www.ozexperience.com](http://www.ozexperience.com)  
**Wildlife Tours Australia** [www.wildlifetours.com.au](http://www.wildlifetours.com.au)

### SOUTH EAST TOURING ROUTES

Some of Victoria's most popular touring routes are less than 1-2 hours drive from Melbourne, principally the Yarra Valley and Mornington Peninsula. All regions are heaven for lovers of food and drink, laid-back lifestyle, beaches and wildlife and serviced by a variety of day tour operators including:

Autopia Tours - [www.autopiatours.com.au](http://www.autopiatours.com.au)  
Bunyip Tours, [www.bunyiptours.com.au](http://www.bunyiptours.com.au)

## MELBOURNE TOURS

### Aboriginal Heritage Walk

Follow in the footsteps of the Indigenous people who once lived in the Royal Botanic Gardens. Tours depart every Thursday and second Sunday.

Tel: +61 3 9252 2429

[www.rbg.vic.gov.au](http://www.rbg.vic.gov.au)

### Brewery Tours

Carlton Brewhouse & Brewery Tour (Tel: +61 3 9420 6802.) showcase the home of Foster's and VB, or visit boutique brewer Mountain Goat (Tel: +61 3 9428 1180, [www.goatbeer.com.au](http://www.goatbeer.com.au)) who conduct brewery tours on Wednesday nights and open nights on Fridays

### Neighbours tour

If you're a TV soap fan (aren't we all?) get on this tour to see the real Ramsay Street, and visit the studios where most scenes are shot, then meet the stars at a trivia night at the Elephant & Wheelbarrow Pub in St Kilda.

Tel: +61 3 9629 5866

[www.neighbourstour.com.au/](http://www.neighbourstour.com.au/)

### Melbourne Sports Tours

Visit the venues that play host to some of Australia's favourite sporting events such as the Melbourne Cricket Ground and National Sports Museum.

Tel: +61 3 8802 4547

[www.melbournesportstours.com.au](http://www.melbournesportstours.com.au)

## MELBOURNE YOUTH PRODUCT

### Melbourne Aquarium

A unique journey over four levels, displaying coral atolls, billabongs and a rock pool which leads to a spectacular 2.2 million litre, 360 degree Oceanarium housing giant sharks and stingrays – witness the incredible live feedings daily!

### Melbourne Aquarium

Cnr. Kings Way & Queens Wharf Road

Melbourne VIC 3000

Tel: (03) 9923 5999

[www.melbourneaquarium.com.au](http://www.melbourneaquarium.com.au)

### Melbourne Zoo

Situated amongst parkland close to the city centre, the 22 hectare Melbourne Zoological Gardens are clearly one of the world's great zoos. This innovative zoo displays samples of the world's fauna and flora in a series of habitats with highlights including the interactive daily 'meet the keeper' presentations and feedings.

### Melbourne Zoo

Elliott Avenue

Parkville VIC 3052

Tel: (03) 9285 9300

[www.zoo.org.au](http://www.zoo.org.au)

### Melbourne Museum – Children's Gallery & IMAX Theatre

Melbourne Museum is an exciting and innovative attraction. Enjoy watching a 3D movie in the amazing IMAX Theatre - one of the world's largest cinemas!

#### Melbourne Museum & IMAX Theatre

Carlton Gardens  
Rathdowne Street  
Carlton VIC 3053  
Tel: (03) 8341 7753  
[www.melbourne.museum.vic.gov.au](http://www.melbourne.museum.vic.gov.au)

#### Eureka Skydeck

Home to a state of the art Observation Deck, the highest public vantage point in Australia and the Southern Hemisphere. Visitors can take in unparalleled 360 degree views of Melbourne to the Dandenong Ranges. Test your nerve in "The Edge", a switchable glass cube that slides out from the building, with you inside!

#### Eureka Skydeck 88

Riverside Quay  
Southbank VIC 3006  
Tel: (03) 9693 8800  
[www.eurekaskydeck.com.au](http://www.eurekaskydeck.com.au)

#### See Melbourne & Beyond Smartvisit Card

Offers free entry to over 50 of the best attractions in Melbourne and the surrounding regions. Two, three and seven-day duration Smartvisit Cards are available, for adults and children.

#### See Melbourne & Beyond Smartvisit Card

Suite 303, 272 Pacific Highway  
Crow's Nest NSW 2065  
Tel: (02) 9906 2711  
[www.seemelbournecard.com](http://www.seemelbournecard.com)

#### National Sports Museum (NSM)

Located at the Melbourne Cricket Ground, the NSM celebrates the contribution sport has made within Australian culture, showcasing Australian Football, cricket, soccer and many other sports.

#### National Sports Museum (at Melbourne Cricket Ground)

Brunton Avenue  
East Melbourne VIC 3002  
Tel: (03) 9657 8879  
[www.nsm.org.au](http://www.nsm.org.au)

#### Old Melbourne Gaol

Scene of 135 hangings including that of the infamous Ned Kelly whose armour and death mask are displayed in the Gaol. Explore the imposing interior at night when the Gaol would normally be locked and left to the restless souls within. Night tours run 4 nights a week.

#### Old Melbourne Gaol

Russell Street  
Melbourne VIC 3000  
Tel: (03) 9663 7228  
[www.oldmelbournegaol.com.au](http://www.oldmelbournegaol.com.au)

## REGIONAL ADVENTURE/ NATURE PRODUCT

### GOLDFIELDS

#### Ballarat Wildlife Park

Cnr Fussell & York Streets, Ballarat VIC 3350  
Tel: +61 3 5333 5933  
[www.wildlifepark.com.au](http://www.wildlifepark.com.au)

116 hectares of beautiful woodland dedicated to the appreciation of Australian wildlife in natural surroundings including wombats, Tasmanian devils, goannas, crocodiles, birds and koalas.

### GRAMPIANS

#### Absolute Outdoors Australia Grampians

Shop 4, Stoney Creek Stores, Halls Gap VIC 3381  
Tel: +61 3 5356 4556 Fax: +61 3 5356 4339  
[info@absoluteoutdoors.com.au](mailto:info@absoluteoutdoors.com.au)  
[www.absoluteoutdoors.com.au](http://www.absoluteoutdoors.com.au)

Operate a host of activities in and around the Grampians National Park, including rock climbing, abseiling, canoeing, mountain bike riding and eco-walks.

#### Asses Ears Wilderness Lodge & Quad Bike Adventures

130 Schmidt Rd, Brimpaen VIC 3401  
Tel: +61 3 5383 9215 Fax: 61 3 5383 9216  
[www.assesearsllodge.com.au](http://www.assesearsllodge.com.au)

Set on 400 acres with swimming pool and a nature trail, Asses Ears Wilderness Lodge is situated in the Grampians surrounded by kangaroos. Explore the Grampians in a new, fun and exciting way on a guided quad bike tours on a 140 acre property at the foothills of the majestic Grampians Ranges. Half-day or full day 4WD tours are also available.

#### Grampians Mountain Adventure Company

Grampians National Park & Mount Arapiles  
618 Brimpaen-Laharum Rd, Wartook VIC 3401  
Tel: +61 3 5383 9218 / 0427747047  
[www.grampiansadventure.com.au](http://www.grampiansadventure.com.au)

GMAC is a friendly and professional climbing company offering everything from introductory climbs to 100+metre multi-pitch extravaganzas.

#### Grampians Personalised Tours and Adventures

PO Box 68, Halls Gap, VIC 3381  
Tel: +61 3 5356 4654 / +61 3 0429 954 686  
[noel@grampiantours.com](mailto:noel@grampiantours.com)  
[www.grampiantours.com](http://www.grampiantours.com)

Provide Eco tours and adventures including bushwalking, mountain bike riding and abseiling and rock climbing at the Grampians National Park.

# TOURISM VICTORIA • FAST FACTS

## BACKPACK VICTORIA



### GREAT OCEAN ROAD

#### Australian Skydive

325 Blackgate Rd, Torquay VIC 3228  
Tel: 1800 557 101 (free call within Australia)  
[info@australianskydive.com.au](mailto:info@australianskydive.com.au)  
[www.australianskydive.com.au](http://www.australianskydive.com.au)

Australian Skydive is a leading skydive operator. Tandem skydive at Torquay over Bells Beach from 10,000 feet, with a 35 second freefall and 5 minute canopy ride.

#### The Otway Fly Tree Top Walk & Ziplining Adventure

Phillips Track (15 min drive from Lavers Hill)  
Tel: +61 3 5235 9200 Fax: +61 3 5237 9388  
[www.otwayfly.com](http://www.otwayfly.com)

A 600 metre long 25 metre high elevated tree top walk, accessible to all: both young and old and all levels of mobility. For adrenalin junkies, abseiling and ziplining is possible off the Fly, from 35metres above ground is now available.

#### Great Ocean Road Surf Tours

55b Surf Coast Highway, Torquay VIC 3228  
Free call: 1800 787 353 (in Victoria) / +61 3 5261 3730  
[info@gosurftours.com.au](mailto:info@gosurftours.com.au)  
[www.offshoresurftours.com](http://www.offshoresurftours.com)

Provide learn to surf tours and lessons from Melbourne to Torquay at beaches along the Great Ocean Road

#### Otway Eco Tours

10 Blundy Street, Forrest, VIC 3236  
Tel: +61 3 5236 6345  
[info@platypustours.net.au](mailto:info@platypustours.net.au)  
[www.platypustours.net.au](http://www.platypustours.net.au)

Offer fully guided tours in the Great Otway National Park and along the Great Ocean Road. Tours involve canoeing, bush walking or mountain bike riding and are catered towards helping people learn about the unique environment.

#### Sea All Dolphin Swims

26 Santa Monica Blv, Point Lonsdale. VIC 3225  
Tel: +61 3 5258 3889  
[www.dolphinswims.com.au](http://www.dolphinswims.com.au)

Promote environmental awareness through controlled interaction with wild dolphins and seals. Cruises suitable for all ages and abilities. Depart in summer.

#### 12 Apostles Helicopters

9400 Great Ocean Road, Port Campbell VIC 3269  
Tel: +61 3 5598 8283  
[www.12ah.com](http://www.12ah.com)

Enjoy an awe-inspiring flight over the Twelve Apostles, Loch Ard Gorge, London Bridge and as far as the Bay of Islands. With affordable prices and a convenient location, take this opportunity to see the Great Ocean Road from a spectacularly different perspective.

#### Walk 91 - Explore the Great Ocean Road

Shop 8, 157-159 Great Ocean Rd, Apollo Bay, Vic, 3233  
Tel: +61 3 5237 1189 Fax: +61 3 5237 7334  
[info@walk91.com.au](mailto:info@walk91.com.au)  
[www.walk91.com.au](http://www.walk91.com.au)

Walk 91 can arrange transport to and from different locations on the Great Ocean Walk. Multi overnight packages provide camping, B&B accommodation or both. Experienced tour guides can arrange all transport and gear transfers.

### HIGH COUNTRY

#### Adventure Victoria

PO Box 207, Mansfield VIC 3724  
Tel: +61 3 407 841 736  
[sales@adventurevictoria.com.au](mailto:sales@adventurevictoria.com.au)  
[www.adventurevictoria.com.au](http://www.adventurevictoria.com.au)

With more than 80 years of combined experience and a great passion for nature, Adventure Victoria are dedicated to taking small groups of visitors to the best of the High Country, Alps and wilderness. Activities include horse riding, white water rafting, abseiling, 4WD and RV, and Ride N Rafting.

#### Watson's Mountain Country Trail Rides

296 Three Chain Rd, Boorolite VIC 3723  
Tel: +61 3 5777 3552  
[www.watsonstrailrides.com.au](http://www.watsonstrailrides.com.au)

Watson Mountain Country Trail Rides cater for the first time beginner to the most experienced rider and also provide winery tour rides.

### MORNINGTON PENINSULA

#### Bayplay & Lodge Adventure Centre

PO Box 6, Blairgowrie VIC 3942  
Tel: +61 3 5984 0888  
[bookings@bayplay.com.au](mailto:bookings@bayplay.com.au)  
[www.bayplay.com.au](http://www.bayplay.com.au)

Organise beach horse rides, scuba diving, surfing and dolphin swims all within an hour of Melbourne on the Mornington Peninsula. Lodge accommodation onsite. Located only 500m from the beach on the Mornington Peninsula and comprising 8 rooms that can sleep up to 34 people with doubles/twins, family rooms and shared rooms available.

#### Dive Victoria

9 Little Bridge Street  
Ballarat VIC 3350  
Tel: +61 3 53317277  
[www.divevictoriagroup.com.au](http://www.divevictoriagroup.com.au)

Offer a range of activities so everyone young and old can enjoy all that the underwater world has to offer. From pool scuba diving through to a friendly swim with playful seals, a majestic bay cruise or diver training courses. Dive Centres in Portsea and Queenscliff. Daily departures in Summer.

# TOURISM VICTORIA • FAST FACTS

## BACKPACK VICTORIA



### Moonlit Sanctuary

555 Tyabb - Tooradin Road, Pearcedale VIC 3912

Tel: +61 3 5978 7935 Fax: +61 3 5978 7934

[www.moonlit-sanctuary.com](http://www.moonlit-sanctuary.com)

An environmental immersion experience which will give you a unique introduction to Australia's nocturnal fauna. At dusk be taken on a tour in which you will encounter a variety of Australian animals usually not seen in zoos and wildlife parks, and which have become extinct on mainland Australia.

### Moonraker Dolphins Swims

Car Ferry Terminal - Sorrento Pier

Esplanade Rd

Sorrento VIC 3943

Tel: +61 3 5984 4211

[www.moonrakercharters.com](http://www.moonrakercharters.com)

Swim or sightsee with the dolphins and seals in beautiful Port Phillip Bay. Experience available from October -June

## PHILLIP ISLAND

### Koala Conservation Centre

Phillip Island VIC 3922

Tel: +61 3 5952 1610

[www.penguins.org.au](http://www.penguins.org.au)

Created to establish a protected koala population on Phillip Island away from human dangers, learn about koalas at the visitor centre and experience close koala encounters among the tree tops on the elevated boardwalk.

### Phillip Island Nature Park

Phillip Island Tourist Road, Cowes, VIC 3922

Tel: +61 3 5951 2883 Fax: +61 3 5956 8394

[www.penguins.org.au](http://www.penguins.org.au)

Renowned as home to one of Australia's most popular wildlife attractions, the Penguin Parade. Over 500,000 visitors make the Penguin Parade, the third largest visited natural attraction in Australia.

### Wildlife Coast Cruises

PO Box 65, Cowes VIC 3922

Tel: 1300 763 739 (free call within Australia)

[www.wildlifecoastcruises.com.au](http://www.wildlifecoastcruises.com.au)

Enjoy the playful Fur Seals and other wildlife species in their natural environment on a seal watching cruise. If you prefer livelier wildlife viewing experiences, Wildlife Coast Cruises also offer ocean rafting adventures around Phillip Island on an 8.5 metre high speed boat.

## YARRA VALLEY

### Healesville Sanctuary

Badger Creek Road, Healesville, VIC 3777

Tel: +61 3 5957 2800 Fax: +61 3 5957 2870

[www.zoo.org.au](http://www.zoo.org.au)

Australia's premier wildlife park, nestled in the foothills of the Yarra Valley, just one hour from Melbourne. Koalas, dingoes, kangaroos and the unique platypus are just a few of the 200 species of Australian wildlife on display.

### Melbourne Sky Dive Centre

13 MacIntyre Lane, Yering, VIC 3770

Tel: 1300 482 462 (free call within Australia)

[sales@melbourneskydivecentre.com.au](mailto:sales@melbourneskydivecentre.com.au)

[www.MelbourneSkydiveCentre.com.au](http://www.MelbourneSkydiveCentre.com.au)

Grab a friend for one of the best tandem sky diving experiences over the Yarra Valley. Enjoys Melbourne's best views and see the stunning Yarra Valley wine region, Port Phillip Bay & Dandenong Ranges.

## HOSTEL ACCOMMODATION

### MELBOURNE HOSTELS

High standard backpacker hostels can be found throughout Victoria in both Melbourne and regional areas.

### The Bakpak Group

Tel: +61 3 9329 4012 Fax: +61 3 9326 9739

[www.bakpakgroup.com](http://www.bakpakgroup.com)

### Friendly Group

Tel: +61 3 9639 6400 Fax: +61 3 9639 6900

[www.friendlygroup.com.au](http://www.friendlygroup.com.au)

### Nomads Hostels

Tel: +61 2 9232 7788 Fax: +61 2 9221 3746

[www.nomadsworld.com](http://www.nomadsworld.com)

### YHA

Tel: +61 3 9329 8599 Fax: +61 3 9326 8427

[www.yha.com.au](http://www.yha.com.au)

### BASE Backpackers

Tel: +61 3 8598 6200 Fax: +61 3 8598 6222

[www.stayatbase.com/](http://www.stayatbase.com/)

### Habitat HQ (formerly Cooe on St Kilda)

Tel: +61 3 9537 3777 Fax: +61 3 9537 3888

[www.habitathq.com.au/](http://www.habitathq.com.au/)

### Urban Central

Tel: +61 3 9693 3700 Fax: +61 3 9682 7554

[www.urbancentral.com.au](http://www.urbancentral.com.au)

### REGIONAL VICTORIA HOSTELS

YHA have a wide selection of hostels throughout Victoria including in the Grampians, Goldfields, Great Ocean Road, Gippsland, High Country (snowfields) and the Mornington Peninsula.

[www.yha.com.au](http://www.yha.com.au)

## TRANSPORT

### BY CAR/CAMPERVAN

Victoria has some great rental companies specifically targeted at backpackers.

#### Apollo Car & Campervan Hire

Freecall: 1800 777 779 (local call within Australia)

Tel: +61 7 3265 9200

[www.apollocamper.com.au](http://www.apollocamper.com.au)

#### Backpacker Campervans

Freecall: 1800 670 232 (local call within Australia)

Tel: +61 3 8379 8893 Fax: +61 3 9687 4844

[www.backpackercampervans.com](http://www.backpackercampervans.com)

#### Britz Campervans

[www.britz.com.au](http://www.britz.com.au)

#### Travellers Autobarn

Tel: +61 3 9326 3988 Fax: +61 3 9326 9820

[www.travellers-autobarn.com](http://www.travellers-autobarn.com)

#### Spaceships

[www.spaceshipsrentals.com.au](http://www.spaceshipsrentals.com.au)

### BY BICYCLE

The more adventurous traveller may wish to hire a bike and explore Victoria. The state's compact size and wide open spaces make it ideal for short bicycle rides or serious touring.

#### Bonza Bikes

+61 3 9629 1112

[www.bonzabiketours.com](http://www.bonzabiketours.com)

#### Real Melbourne Bike Tours & Rentabike Bike Hire

Tel: +61 417 339 203

[www.rentabike.net.au/biketours](http://www.rentabike.net.au/biketours)

## TOURS OPERATORS

Discover Victoria with like-minded travellers. The following bus companies and tour providers operate day or extended tours and most offer a free pick-up service from major hostels.

#### Adventure Tours Australia

Tel: +61 8 8309 2277 Email: [reservations@adventuretours.com.au](mailto:reservations@adventuretours.com.au)

[www.adventuretours.com.au](http://www.adventuretours.com.au)

ATA is an award winning company specialising in active, small group safaris for the adventurous traveller. Day tours include Grampians, Great Ocean Road and Phillip Island. Longer tours From Melb- Sydney and Melb-Adl also available.

#### Australian Wine Tour Co

Tel: +61 3 9419 4444 Email: [info@austwinetourco.com.au](mailto:info@austwinetourco.com.au)

[www.austwinetourco.com.au](http://www.austwinetourco.com.au)

Daily gourmet winery tours to Victoria's Yarra Valley including tastings, winery lunch, sparkling wine and gourmet platters.

#### Autopia Tours

Tel: +61 3 9419 8878

[www.autopiatours.com.au](http://www.autopiatours.com.au)

Provide small group day tours to Great Ocean Rd, Grampians, Phillip Island and the Yarra Valley as well as 3 day safaris between Melbourne and Adelaide, and Sydney to Melbourne.

#### Bunyip Tours

Tel: +61 3 9650 9680

[www.bunypitours.com](http://www.bunypitours.com)

Operate 1, 2 or 3 day backpacker tours to Victoria's most popular national parks and attractions, including Wilsons Promontory, Mornington Peninsula, Phillip Island and Great Ocean Road. Also operate the famous Neighbours Tour

#### Eco Platypus Tours

Tel: +61 3 5570 8331

[www.ecoplaturstours.com](http://www.ecoplaturstours.com)

Eco Platypus Tours specialise in nature based adventure tours for backpackers. Daily departures from Melbourne take in the Great Ocean Road, Grampians, Phillip Island, Yarra Valley and Mt Buller.

#### Go West

Tel: +61 3 9877 4264

[www.gowest.com.au](http://www.gowest.com.au)

Daily departures from Melbourne to the Great Ocean Road and Phillip Island, iPod translations available in 13 different languages.

#### Groovy Grape Getaways

Tel: +61 8 8440 1640

[www.groovygrape.com.au](http://www.groovygrape.com.au)

Offer 3 Days / 2 Nights packages between Melbourne and Adelaide.

#### Goin South

[www.goinsouth.com.au](http://www.goinsouth.com.au)

Offer 3 Days / 2 Nights packages between Melbourne and Adelaide.

#### Melbourne Best Tours

Tel: +61 3 9397 4911

[www.melboumetours.com.au](http://www.melboumetours.com.au)

Provide a selection of tours in regional Victoria including the Great Ocean Road, Yarra Valley and Dandenong's as well as City highlights Tour of Melbourne.

# TOURISM VICTORIA • FAST FACTS

## BACKPACK VICTORIA



### Wildlife Tours Australia

Tel: + 1300 661 730  
[www.wildlifetours.com.au](http://www.wildlifetours.com.au)

Specialise in multi day nature based adventure tours for backpackers. Including Great Ocean and Grampians and Melbourne to Adelaide tours.

## VOLUNTEERING IN VICTORIA

Get more out of your travels in Australia and Victoria by registering to work voluntarily during your visit and you could find yourself experiencing life on a Victorian farm or getting involved with a local community.

Volunteer organizations include the following:

### Willing Workers on Organic Farms (WWOOF) Australia

2166 Gelantipy Road, Buchan VIC 3885  
Tel: +613 5155-0218 Fax: +61 3 5155-0342  
[wwof.com.au](http://wwof.com.au)

WWOOF offer work on organic farms in exchange for meals and accommodation.

### Conservation Volunteers Australia

162 Adderley St, West Melbourne VIC 3003  
Tel: +613 9326 8250 Fax: +61 3 9326 8239  
[melbourne@conservationvolunteers.com.au](mailto:melbourne@conservationvolunteers.com.au)  
[www.conservationvolunteers.com.au](http://www.conservationvolunteers.com.au)

CVA focuses on involving people in conservation projects, so be prepared to get your hands dirty! Project activities can include trail maintenance in national parks, planting shrubs along sand dunes and weed removal.

## STUDYING IN VICTORIA

Victoria is a major destination for overseas students reflected in Melbourne being home to the world's third largest international student population.

Studying and living in Victoria is great value for money in comparison to other destinations and Victoria is home to many prestigious institutions recognised internationally for their quality of teaching and high academic standards,

For details on educational opportunities in Melbourne and Victoria, links to Victorian institutions and comprehensive information about studying and living in Victoria visit [www.studymelbourne.com.au](http://www.studymelbourne.com.au)

## FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information on youth travel in Victoria, visit [backpackmelbourne.com](http://backpackmelbourne.com)

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