

Adelaide - Melbourne Wild about Wildlife

9 Days/8 Nights

Take a journey into the wildlife hotspots of Australia.

This self-drive has been crafted to showcase the very best of Australia's wildlife in their natural environment.

You will also travel through some of Australia's best wine regions, experience the remote outback, walk golden sand beaches and drive the world famous Great Ocean Road.













Spoilt for choice in Adelaide

'Suburban flair', 'Beach Babe', 'family-friendly' and 'Festival City' are just a few terms to describe South Australia's capital city Adelaide. The '20 minute city' combines food and wine, art, shopping and worldclass events in an exceptionally compact manner. One minute you are in a bustling city, next you can be relaxing in the sun on some of the world's most beautiful beaches.

Fancy a trip into the country? Australia's most famous wine region is just over an hour's drive from the city.



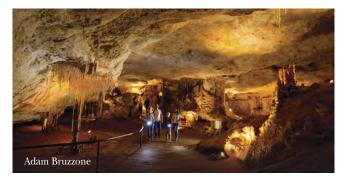
Island escape: Kangaroo Island

Minutes from the mainland but a million miles away: Kangaroo Island is a sanctuary for wildlife and natural, rugged beauty. While you traverse its 155 kilometer length, you will find soaring cliffs, native 'old growth' bushland, towering sandy dunes, wetlands and untouched white sand beaches. Kangaroo Island appears to have an endless amount of space – so you will always find somewhere to enjoy a little quiet time to let nature soothe your soul.



Take a different route along Limestone Coast

Gorgeous scenery that changes with every season is your constant companion on the Limestone Coast – a stunning, coastal alternative to the major inland route. Explore World Heritage-listed caves, significant wetlands and a unique ecosystem. You will also find Australia's biggest volcanic region and the nation's only geo-park here.



Great Ocean Road

See the towering 12 Apostles on one of the world's most loved coastal drives. Take in iconic surf breaks, pristine rainforest and misty waterfalls as you go. Venture through the Great Otway National Park to Cape Otway, the southernmost point of the region and home of Australia's oldest lighthouse. The local Centre for Conservation gives you the opportunity to observe wildlife such as koalas, kangaroos, wallabies, cockatoos and kookaburras in their natural habitat.



Diverse Mornington Peninsula

Breathe in the fresh sea air, sample innovative local cuisine, and soak up the relaxed alfresco lifestyle of the Mornington Peninsula, just an hour from Melbourne. Explore the galleries, spas and cafes in breezy seaside villages, cool off with a day on the beach, or escape to the hinterland for gourmet delights at boutique wineries.



THE REST AUSTRALIA PROMISE

- Comprehensive travel manual to guide you step by step through the country
- Daily tips from our experienced team
- Discover the real Australia that others don't get to see



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Day 1: Adelaide

REST AUSTRALIA TOURS will meet you on arrival at the airport and answer any questions you have. You will be transferred to your accommodation with the remainder of the day at your leisure. Your travel documentation will be waiting for you at the hotel reception.

Adelaide is recognised as one of the Great Food and Wine Capitals of the World. The city centre is surrounded by parklands and is a blend of historic buildings, wide streets, parklands, cafes and restaurants. The Barossa Valley is a short one hour away and closer you have beautiful white sandy beaches of Glenelg, vineyards of the Adelaide Hills and the Wildlife Sanctuary at Cleland. What's not to love about Adelaide!

Day 2: Adelaide - McLaren Vale - Kingscote (Kangaroo Island)

Approximate driving time 3.5 hours, 187 km

If you missed out on a visit to the vineyards yesterday, today is your chance. Pick up your rental vehicle from downtown Adelaide, travel south through the suburban landscape and you will shortly arrive at McLaren Vale. Located only 40 km south of the city centre this wine growing region is a wine lover's paradise. Known for its strong Shiraz, rich Cabernet Sauvignon and fresh Grenache. Visit the cellar doors and purchase some local produce for later in your trip.

Continue south and arrive at Cape Jervis for the short ferry to Kangaroo Island. Rich in native Australian wildlife this magical Island justly advocates the true identity of the great Aussie landscape. You will spend the next two days exploring and discovering what makes this Island so unique.

Day 3: Kingscote - Flinders Chase National Park (Kangaroo Island)

Approximate driving time 3.5 hours, 166 km

Kangaroo Island is one of the best places to see

Australian wildlife in its natural environment with more than a third of the island dedicated to national parks. You will find many other native animals here including the sea lion, fur seals, koala, echidna, tammar wallaby, brush tail possum and the bandicoot. The amazing wildlife continues underwater with unique marine life, dolphins, fish and leafy sea dragons.

No visit to Kangaroo Island is complete without a visit to Flinders Chase National Park. Today you will see the Remarkable Rocks, Admirals Arch and stay just outside of the park boundary with the opportunity to see the wildlife on your doorstep.

Day 4: Flinders Chase National Park -Hahndorf

Approximate driving time 5 hours, 320 km

Today you depart the Island but not before a couple of last surprises. On the drive to the ferry stop off at Vivonne Bay, once rated Australia's best beach, and spend time on the beach with the seals at Seal Bay. A uniquely rare and magical experience.

Back on mainland Australia and tonight's destination is amongst the vineyards of Hahndorf. Australia's oldest German settlement, Hahndorf still retains its charm and character. Learn about the colourful past of this historic town whilst enjoying the wonderful local food and wine.

Day 5: Hahndorf - Halls Gap

Approximate driving time 5.5 hours, 474 km

Travel east through the rolling hills you soon arrive at Murray Bridge. Take a quick stop in this picturesque town and see the old paddle steamers and houseboats ply the calm waters. The Murray River is Australia's longest and most iconic river running over 2500 km from the Australia Alps in the east and enters the ocean here at Murray Bridge.

Continue through the remote outback of the Limestone Coast, known for its rich fertile soils excellent for viticulture. Crossing into Victoria, Halls Gap is situated in the heart of the Grampians National Park, steeped in Aboriginal history, ancient mountain ranges, natural flora and fauna, waterfalls and stunning views. Before reaching your final destination stop enroute at McKenzie Falls voted one of the most scenic waterfalls in all of Victoria and worth the short detour.

Day 6: Halls Gap - Port Fairy - Port Campbell

Approximate driving time 4 hours, 281 km

This morning travel south through the Grampians, past Dunkeld and onto the charming fishing village of Port Fairy. One of Victoria's busiest fishing ports and home to a variety of boutiques, antique stores, and art and craft shops. The final leg of today will see you travelling part of the famed Great Ocean Road. Stop and enjoy the wonderful views of London Bridge before arriving in Port Campbell. A colorful seaside village with dramatic cliff tops scenery and plenty of regional produce to sample.

Day 7: Port Campbell - Twelve Apostles -Otway National Park - Torquay

Approximate driving time 3 hours, 191 km

Today you will continue driving and exploring one of the world's most scenic roads. The Great Ocean Road. There will plenty of time to stop, take pictures and walk along the golden white sands. Truly an experience to remember.

Spend time discovering the "Otways." Great Otway National Park is home to Australia's oldest lighthouse as well as the incredibly beautiful Blanket Bay. Visit the wildlife haven at the Centre for Conservation and see a huge array of native Australia wildlife.

Complete this perfect day with relaxing drive along the coastal road to Torquay and dinner at one of the beachside restaurants.

Day 8: Torquay - Mornington Peninsula

Approximate driving time 2.5 hours, 96 km

Mornington Peninsula is renowned for its innovative local cuisine, relaxed alfresco settings and is a playground for Melbourne's city dwellers. Drive to Queenscliffe and join the ferry to Sorrento. Keep an eye out for the resident dolphins and seals colonies on this short cruise across the bay.

Arriving in Sorrento your choice of activities in the peninsula are endless. Whether it be visiting award winning wineries and sculpture parks. Sampling the fresh local produce, bathing in hot springs, horse riding, playing a round of golf or just relaxing on the beach. Mornington Peninsula has something for everyone.

Day 9: Mornington Peninsula - Melbourne

Approximate driving time 1 hour, 71 km

No need to wake early today. Mornington Peninsula has so much more to offer! Board the state-of-the-art gondola at the Arthurs Seat Eagle and fly over the State forest to the highest point of the beautiful Mornington Peninsula for breathtaking views across the bay and to the city - the best in Victoria. Then make your way to vibrant Melbourne, only an hour's drive away.