

WOW WINE TOUR OF AUSTRALIA

MARCH 8 – 27, 2012

Wine, Ocean and Wildlife

Join Maureen Moore, Wine Consultant, Functions, ETC on this wine lover's journey to vineyards, includes the rich heritage and spectacular natural attractions and adventures of Down Under. Explore and experience Australia's renowned wine regions in the Hunter Valley, New South Wales, Barossa Valley, South Australia and Tasmania, see native wildlife on Kangaroo Island - the Galapagos of Australia. Escorted by Dorothy Sloan, Aotearoa Adventures Inc. Toronto. Travel Arrangements by The Travel Network, Toronto



2012
10 March
Saturday
(D)

Arrive Sydney – Afternoon City Sights Tour

Welcome to Australia! Upon arrival in Sydney, you will be met by a local representative and assisted to board a private transfer to your accommodation.



Radiating from the sparkling waters of Sydney Harbour, Australia's largest city stretches from the shores of the Pacific Ocean to the foot of the Blue Mountains. Along with outstanding natural assets – stunning beaches, extensive parklands and the vast expanse of the harbour – Sydney boasts an impressive list of urban attractions, including world class shopping venues and a host of superb restaurants and nightclubs. Its cityscape ranges from sandstone buildings of Georgian elegance to skyscrapers of futuristic design.

This afternoon board your private coach for a city sights tour visiting the historical Rocks area, where the First Fleet landed in 1788 to establish Australia's first European settlement. Observe examples of early architecture and the beautiful sandstone buildings, made out of the same rocks, which gave this area its name. See the Sydney Opera House, described as the Eighth Wonder of the World. See St Mary's Cathedral, Parliament House, Darling Harbour, Chinatown and Mrs Macquarie's Chair for splendid views over this magnificent harbour. Continue on your coach tour through cosmopolitan Kings Cross, Rushcutters Bay, Double Bay and Watson's Bay before stopping at the world famous Bondi Beach.



A 3 course dinner will be served in the hotel restaurant this evening.

The Grace Hotel is an elegantly restored 11-storey heritage listed art deco hotel built in 1930. Situated in the heart of Sydney's CBD, The Grace Hotel fronts three of Sydney's most prominent streets - York, King & Clarence. We have 382 spacious Guest Rooms all designed with the frequent traveller in mind with the latest in modern telecommunications such as voice mail and data points for every room. The Interactive television features in-room movies in every room and also allows guests to set wake-up calls, order room service, view their account at any time during their stay and use Express Checkout. Individual comfort is also enhanced with feather comforters and pillows. Each room is conveniently equipped with an iron and ironing board, climate control, in-room safe and refreshment centre.

Accommodation: **The Grace Hotel** (Superior Rooms)

**11 March
Sunday**
(B)

Sydney Opera House Tour – Afternoon at Leisure

Breakfast will be served in the hotel restaurant this morning.

This morning board a private coach for transfer to the Sydney Opera House for a guided tour. Our knowledgeable guides will take you on a fascinating journey through the extraordinary history, breathtaking architecture and the unseen workings of its daily life. The Front Of House tour is a fascinating insider's view - touring the theatres and foyers, giving you a remarkable opportunity to experience Sydney Opera House in its daily operation. This tour takes approximately 1 hour.



NB: There are approximately 200 steps on this tour.

After your tour you are at leisure. You may wish to spend some time at Darling Harbour (own arrangements to Darling Harbour). The Sydney Aquarium is located at Darling Harbour.

The Aquarium is in the shape of a large wave, thereby complementing the underwater theme of the Aquarium itself and also the maritime theme of Darling Harbour. The Sydney Aquarium can immediately be recognised as Australian in terms of its clear themes and displays, which take visitors on a journey through the continent's rich and diverse waterways and marine ecosystems. Visitors travel through the rivers of Australia, exploring the Southern and Northern River habitats, as well as the oceans of Australia, through the Southern and Northern Ocean habitats.

Accommodation: **The Grace Hotel** (Superior Rooms)

**12 March
Monday**
(B)

SYDNEY WINE FESTIVAL Hyde Park

Breakfast will be served in the hotel restaurant.

Today you are free at leisure to visit the NSW Wine Festival, Sydney Cellar Door which is on all day in Hyde Park close to the hotel.

Accommodation: **The Grace Hotel** (Superior Rooms)

**13 March
Tuesday**
(B, D)

Sydney to Hunter Valley (coach)

Breakfast will be served in the hotel restaurant.

Check out of your rooms this morning and board your private coach for an overnight stay in the magnificent Hunter Valley.

Cross the Sydney Harbour Bridge and travel through the Sydney's North Shore, then over the Hawkesbury River to Wollombi, first settled in 1820. The Hunter Valley is Australia's oldest wine producing area with a colourful history dating back over 150 years.



Head into the valley and enjoy delightful views overlooking Cessnock, Pokolbin and surrounding vineyards from Mt View. The Hunter Valley grows many varieties of grapes including Chardonnay, Semillon, Cabernet, Sauvignon, Pinot Noir and Shiraz. And we will have a tasting at **McGuigan Bros** and at **Lindemanns Hunter River Winery**.

There will be a tour and tasting at **Tyrrells Winery** followed by a tasting and BBQ Alfresco dinner with wines at **McWilliams Mt Pleasant Winery**.

Check into your accommodation for overnight.

The Hunter Resort is nestled among its own 40 year old Shiraz vineyards, and incorporates 35 four star rooms + cottages, wine tasting cellars and the Hunter Valley's largest winery. There is also the

Bluetongue Brewery Café and all day restaurant facilities onsite. Hunter Rooms feature timber cathedral ceilings, are on one level, and all have big double glass doors with uninterrupted views of the Australian countryside. The Hunter rooms also have a full size bath & shower, a queen bed, plus either another double sofa bed, OR, two single beds.

Accommodation: **The Hunter Resort** (Hunter Rooms)

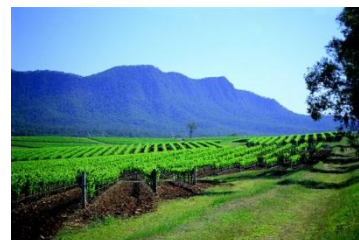
14 March
Wednesday
(B,L)

Hunter Valley Touring – Hunter Valley to Mudgee – Mudgee to Sydney (coach)

Breakfast will be served in the hotel restaurant.

Reboard your coach this morning and travel to Mudgee.

There will be a Tour and Tasting with **Lunch** at **Craigmoor Winery** in **Mudgee** after which we will return to Sydney and re-check into your accommodation.



Accommodation: **The Grace Hotel** (Superior Rooms)

15 March
Thursday
(B,L)

Sydney to Launceston (Air) – Launceston Sights / Winery Visits (4 hour coach)

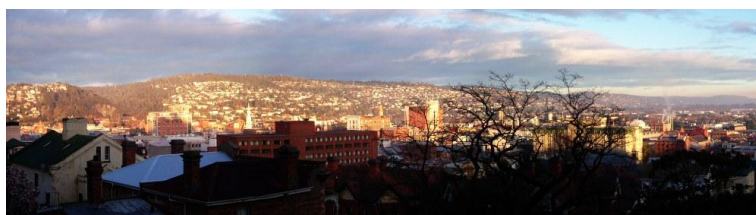
Breakfast will be served in the hotel restaurant.

Check out of your accommodation this morning and transfer by private coach to the airport for your flight to Launceston. On arrival, transfer to your accommodation and check in.

This afternoon we will visit **Tamar Ridge Estates** followed by a Tour and **lunch at Pipers Brook Vineyard**

Your evening is at leisure.

Mercure Launceston is conveniently located in the city centre, just a 15 minute drive from the airport and a short walk from the main shopping area.



Accommodation: **Mercure Launceston** (Standard Rooms)

16 March
Friday
(B,D)

Launceston to Hobart (Coach)

Breakfast will be served in the hotel restaurant.

Check out of your hotel rooms this morning and board your private coach for journey through to Hobart today. Hobart is nestled on the western shore of the Derwent River and at the foot of Mount Wellington, which is often snowcapped in the winter months. There are panoramic vistas of the city available from the mountain's superb lookouts. Like most Australian capitals, Hobart's lifestyle is defined by water; it is a riverside city with a bustling harbour, surrounded by picturesque harbourside warehouses.



This afternoon we will visit **Panorama Vineyard** and In the afternoon, check into your accommodation.

This evening we will have a tasting and dinner at **Home Hill Winery**

The Mercure Hotel is only a short walk to Salamanca Place on Hobart's historic waterfront, an area well known for the many restaurants, cafes, bars and the famous Saturday market.

Accommodation: **Mercure Hobart** (Standard Rooms)

**17 March
Saturday**
(B,D)

Hobart to Melbourne (Air) – Afternoon City Highlights – Colonial Tramcar Restaurant Dinner

Breakfast will be served in the hotel restaurant.

Check out of your hotel rooms this morning and transfer by private coach to the airport for your flight to Melbourne. Upon arrival, you are met by a local representative and assisted to board a private coach to your accommodation.

Melbourne is a multicultural city with a vibrant artistic life and is regarded as one of the culinary, sporting and shopping capitals of Australia. This afternoon enjoy a city highlights tour visiting the many parks and gardens of this gracious city. See the tranquil Fitzroy Gardens and Captain Cook's cottage. Pass the magnificent Royal Botanical Gardens and make a visit to the Shrine of Remembrance. See the Arts and Cultural Centre, Albert Park Lake and the gracious tree lined St. Kilda Road.



This evening transfer by private coach to dine aboard the **Colonial Tramcar Restaurant**.

Dining in Melbourne can be a fabulous experience, especially aboard the fleet of historical trams that have become The Colonial Tramcar Restaurant. These glossy, burgundy restaurants on wheels are the first travelling tramcar restaurants in the world and ensure a delightful innovative approach to dining. As they cruise the scenic streets of Melbourne, diners can enjoy fine cuisine and drink the very best of Australian wines or make a selection from our fully stocked bar. The atmosphere is cosy, the service friendly and the decor as inviting as the colonial period these trams reflect.



After dinner, return by private coach to your accommodation.

Located in the heart of Melbourne, the contemporary Novotel Melbourne on Collins is perfectly positioned on stylish Collins Street, right in the centre of the city.

Accommodation: **Novotel Melbourne on Collins** (Standard Rooms)

**18 March
Sunday**
(B)

Full Day Yarra Valley Tour

Breakfast will be served in the hotel restaurant.

Today board your private coach for a full day of touring in the Yarra Valley. Travel through the richness of the Yarra Valley - a pastoral experience of farms and vineyards, haystacks and wine grapes.

En route we will visit among other wineries **Brown Brothers Milawa Vineyard** for a tour, tasting and nibbles.

Accommodation: **Novotel Melbourne on Collins** (Standard Rooms)



**19 March
Monday**
(B,L)

Full Day Touring with Winery Visits

Breakfast will be served in the hotel restaurant.

Today board your private coach for a full day of touring including a visit to **Tahbilk Winery** for a tasting and tour of the underground cellars. We will have an Eco-Cruise of the Tahbilk Wetlands. There is an optional Lunch Cafe.



Accommodation: **Novotel Melbourne on Collins** (Standard Rooms)

**20 March
Tuesday**
(B)

Melbourne to Adelaide (Air)

Breakfast will be served in the hotel restaurant.

Check out of your hotel rooms this morning.

Transfer by private coach to the Melbourne Airport for your flight to Adelaide. Upon arrival in Adelaide, you will be met by a local representative and assisted with a private coach transfer to your accommodation.

With a population of more than one million residents, this planned city is easy to navigate due to its grid design. The city is positioned on the banks of the picturesque River Torrens, among superb gardens, with the blue haze of the Adelaide Hills as a backdrop, giving it a relaxed atmosphere. Adelaide experiences 4 distinct seasons, adding to its charm.

Gouger Street in the downtown area offers an amazing choice of restaurants of varied ethnic restaurants.

Accommodation: **Crowne Plaza Adelaide** (Standard Rooms)

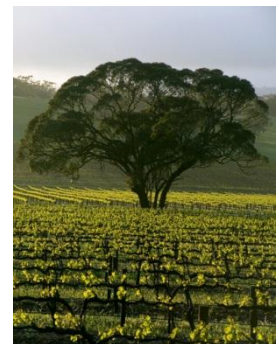
**21 March
Wednesday**
(B)

Full Day Barossa Valley Tour

Breakfast will be served in the hotel restaurant.

Today we will visit McLaren Vale stopping at **d'Arenberg Wines**. Later in the day we will drive to the Barossa Valley to stop at **Penfolds Magill Estates** for a tutored tasting of 6 of its Premium Wines. En route back to Adelaide we will visit **Henschke** for a tasting.

Accommodation: **Crowne Plaza Adelaide** (Standard Rooms)



**22 March
Thursday**
(B,L)

Adelaide to Kangaroo Island (ferry) – Kangaroo Island Touring

Breakfast will be served in the hotel restaurant.

Early this morning you are collected from your hotel by private coach for a scenic coach trip to Cape Jervis to connect with SeaLink's ferry for the 45 minute crossing to Kangaroo Island. Upon arrival, begin your private Kangaroo Island touring.



First stop on your Tour is Emu Ridge Eucalyptus Distillery, an interesting bush engineered eucalyptus distillery that makes the most of its environmental resources. After a two course lunch at the Vivonne Bay Bistro we head to the fascinating Birds of Prey free-flight demonstration. At Seal Bay walk along the beach with a National Parks Ranger amongst a breeding colony of wild and rare Australian Sea Lions. From Seal Bay we travel back to the Parndana Wildlife Park where you can feed Kangaroo Island kangaroos, have your photograph taken with a koala, and take a guided tour of this wildlife and bird park.

Last attraction for the day is something a little different, Island Pure Sheep Dairy, a unique and enterprising farm. Here you will have an opportunity to observe sheep being milked and sample delicious yoghurts and various sheep cheeses.

Check into your Kangaroo Island accommodation for overnight.

The Aurora Ozone Hotel is located on the beautiful foreshore at Kingscote. The original section of the hotel has a Victorian façade and has amenities that blend with the refined atmosphere of old world charm. Enjoy the extensive menu made up of local produce and seafood as well as the panoramic views over Nepean Bay while dining at the bistro restaurant. Dolphins can often be spotted in the calm waters over breakfast. Sample some of the Islands' finest wines from either the bistro or Ozone Cellars.

Accommodation: **Aurora Ozone Hotel** (Executive Rooms)

**23 March
Friday**
(B,L)

Kangaroo Island Touring - Kangaroo Island to Adelaide (ferry)

Breakfast will be served in the hotel restaurant.

Commence your second days touring with a visit to Clifford's Honey Farm to enjoy an informative talk by the beekeeper followed by tastings and an opportunity to sample to homemade honey ice-cream. At Kelly Hill Caves enjoy a guided tour that will take you deep into the cave to view the unique limestone formations, created over thousands of years.

After a two-course lunch we head on to Hanson Bay Koala Walk before visiting the Flinders Chase National Park. Flinders Chase is renowned as a sanctuary for native Australian animals including kangaroos, wallabies, koalas and echidnas. The tour of the park will take you to the rugged southern coastline for a walk on Remarkable Rocks and Admiral's Arch. Remarkable Rocks provide great photographic opportunities and stunning sea views. Admiral's Arch boardwalk takes you down a rugged cliff face to reveal this spectacular arch, a natural nursery and safe haven for playful fur seals that can be seen swimming and playing in the waves, or resting on the rocks.



After a short stop at the Flinders Chase Visitor Centre we travel back to Kingscote to watch the pelican feeding and learn a little about these fascinating and ancient birds. Return to Penneshaw for the return ferry journey to Adelaide.

Arrive late (approx 10pm) back to your accommodation in Adelaide.

Accommodation: **Crowne Plaza Adelaide** (Standard Rooms)

**24 March
Saturday**
(B)

Adelaide to Sydney (Air)

Breakfast will be served in the hotel restaurant.

This morning transfer by private coach to the Adelaide Airport for your flight to Sydney. On arrival to Sydney, you are met by a local representative and assisted with a private coach transfer to your accommodation.

Remainder of the day is at leisure.

Accommodation: **The Grace Hotel** (Superior Rooms)

**25 March
Sunday**
(B,D)

Sydney Harbour Explorer Ferry - Taronga Zoo - Dinner Cruise on Sydney Harbour

Breakfast will be served in the hotel restaurant.

This morning transfer by private coach to Circular Quay to board a ferry to Taronga Zoo. Your ferry ticket today is a "Hop On Hop Off" Harbour Explorer 24 Hour pass, which is a fun & easy way to explore Sydney Harbour aboard Rocket Ferries. Hop On Hop Off makes it easy to visit up to eight harbourside attractions - Darling Harbour, Taronga Zoo, Watsons Bay, Luna Park, Fort Denison, Shark Island, Manly and Circular Quay.



Included for your day today is entry to Taronga Zoo. Visit "The Zoo with a View" and meet some of Australia's interesting animals. koalas, kangaroos and many more!

Make your own way back to your accommodation at the end of your day.

This evening transfer to Circular Quay to board a magnificent dinner cruise on Sydney Harbour. Cruise, dine and dance aboard Sydney's flagship MV Sydney 2000. A most popular Dinner Cruise and a must for special occasions or visitors to Sydney or for those who just love a great night out.

After your cruise, return by private coach to your hotel.

Accommodation: **The Grace Hotel** (Superior Rooms)

**26 March
Monday**
(B)

At Leisure in Sydney

Breakfast will be served in the hotel restaurant.

Today is at leisure for final sightseeing and shopping in Sydney.

Whether it's a new dining experience, cool cocktail, fabulous coffee or piece of artwork you're after, it's all here... Eating by the harbour or beach is an essential part of Sydney life. Shopping is another specialty. The Rocks, Double Bay and Oxford Street and the Queen Victoria Building boasts the best in fashion, opals, Aboriginal Art and other distinctive souvenirs.



Accommodation: The Grace Hotel (Superior Rooms)

**27 March
Tuesday**
(B)

Depart Sydney

Breakfast will be served in the hotel restaurant.

Check out of your accommodation this morning and transfer by private coach to the airport for your departure flight.

End of arrangements

COST CAD \$7,083 air not included

Single supplement CAD \$1,728

Costs Include

- Accommodation based in 3 ½ - 4 star properties with private facilities as indicated
- Meals as indicated by (B) Breakfast, (BB) Box Breakfast, (L) Lunch and (D) Dinner
- All coach transfers and coach touring on an exclusive basis in luxury air conditioned vehicles with English speaking driving providing touring commentary
- Airport arrival and departure assistance
- Touring as indicated in the itinerary
- Sydney City Sights Tour
- Sydney Opera House Guided Tour
- Hop On / Hop Off Harbour Explorer Ferry ticket (valid for 24 Hours)
- Overnight Hunter Valley Tour coach (including via Mudgee on return – max 12 hours coach)
- Launceston Half Day tour coach
- Launceston to Hobart with touring coach
- Melbourne City Sights Tour
- Entry to Cooks Cottage
- Colonial Tramcar Restaurant Dinner
- Full Day Yarra Valley Tour coach
- Full Day Coach charter in Melbourne on 19 March (8 hours)
- Full Day Barossa Valley Tour coach
- 2 day / 1 night Kangaroo Island Touring (includes coach from Adelaide to Kingscote and return, 1 night accommodation including breakfast, 2 x lunches, return ferry transfers from Kingscote to Penneshaw)
- Dinner Cruise on Sydney Harbour
- Hotel portorage
- 1 free place for your overseas tour escort, as indicated by +1 as above
- Australian Goods & Services Tax (GST) @ 10 %

Costs Do Not Include

- International and Domestic Airfares
- Meals other than those indicated by (B) Breakfast, (BB) Box Breakfast, (L) Lunch and (D) Dinner
- Items of a personal nature i.e. phone calls, liquor, and laundry
- Use of hotel rooms before/after normal check in/out times or pre-registration
- Agents commission or credit card charges
- Costs of optional touring
- Winery visit arrangements or purchases
- Any services not mentioned in the itinerary
- Airport Porterage
- Personal travel insurance (baggage/medical/tour cancellations)
- Tips or gratuity
- Unforeseen expenses due to last minute airline rescheduling or delays (inclusive of baggage delay, missed departure and loss of passport)
- Medical or hospital expenses

Please Note

- Costs quoted are subject to availability and confirmation of accommodation and touring as specified
- Costs are not applicable during holiday seasons or special events unless specified.
- Surcharges may be applicable for official Australian Public Holidays.
- Full payment is required prior to passengers' arrival. If payment is not received we have the right to cancel all the arrangements and pass on any cancellation charges we receive from our suppliers.
- We strongly suggest that you purchase a comprehensive travel insurance policy to cover all aspects of your holiday including loss of deposit through cancellations, loss of baggage and personal items, personal injury and death, inclement weather clause, pre-existing medical condition waiver (includes travelling parties and immediate family).
- Check in time at most hotels is 2pm or 3pm. If you are arriving early into a city, the hotel will store your luggage until your room is ready. Alternatively, you may wish to pre register your hotel room for immediate check in – an extra nights' charge will apply.
- Upon check in, most hotels will request an imprint of your credit card to cover any personal extras. If you do not have a credit card they will ask for a cash deposit

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION and BOOKINGS CONTACT

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