

10 Day | Melbourne International Flower & Garden Show



The show is once again set to **amaze, delight and inspire!**

19 > 28 March 2020

Discover the floral spectacular and witness the unique balance between living art and the Australian lifestyle...



Come with us and discover the natural beauty of charming coastal towns while making your way to witness the **Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show**. Hosted in the exquisite heritage listed Royal Exhibition Building celebrate the blend of lifestyle and the great outdoors as you uncover the best landscape and floral talent from Australia and around the world!

Twin/Double	\$3,435.00 pp
Single	\$3,997.00 pp
	Deposit \$550.00

Your Tour Highlights... Lakes Entrance, Phillip Island, Melbourne's International Flower Show and so much more!

DAY 1: (LD) BRISBANE TO COFFS HARBOUR

Thursday 19 March 2020

Setting off eager to experience this wonderful holiday dotted with coastal charms and the spectacular Melbourne International Flower & Garden Show, we head to **Ballina** and discover the **Australian Seabird Rescue**. Originally focusing on injured pelicans, the centre is also now dedicated to rescuing sick and injured sea turtles. Although the bird hospital is closed to the public, we enjoy lunch before a presentation on the volunteer's great work with the possibility to visit the turtle hospital. Continuing our journey, we arrive into **Coffs Harbour** and settle in for the evening.

1 night | Opal Cove Resort, Coffs Harbour | 02 6651 0517
lunch at Australian Seabird Rescue | dinner at hotel

DAY 2: (BLD) COFFS HARBOUR TO SYDNEY**Friday 20 March 2020**

This morning we hit the road running! Making great time, we arrive at the **Hunter Region Botanic Gardens** in **Newcastle** to enjoy a slightly later lunch set amidst the serene gardens followed by a gentle stroll. After our pleasant break, we continue on to **Sydney** arriving at our hotel in time for dinner.

1 night | **Country Comfort Hunts Liverpool** | 02 9601 5088
Breakfast and dinner at hotel | lunch at Hunter Region Botanic Gardens

DAY 3: (BD) SYDNEY TO EDEN**Saturday 21 March 2020**

Discover Wollongong's most popular coastal tourist drive, **Sea Cliff Bridge**. Enjoy an amazing driving experience, witnessing the stunning views of the Illawarra Escarpment plunging into the South Pacific Ocean. Continuing to enjoy the sights of this region we arrive to our overnight stay in **Eden**.

1 night | **Coachman's Eden** | 02 6496 1900
Breakfast and dinner at hotel | lunch at own arrangements and cost

DAY 4: (BLD) EDEN TO LAKES ENTRANCE**Sunday 22 March 2020**

Just across the Victorian border, **Mallacoota** beckons. The pretty coastal town sits on the Mallacoota inlet surrounded by the magnificent wilderness of the Croajingolong National Park. Visit the interesting **Bunker Museum** - a World War II RAAF operations bunker fully restored by Mallacoota RSL and of considerable significance in Victoria's military history. Lunch follows in town prior to departing for **Lakes Entrance**. The drive takes us via Cann River and the lovely town of Orbost where we may like to take a wander before arriving into **Lakes Entrance** for the next 2 nights.

2 nights | **The Esplanade Motel, Lakes Entrance** | 03 5155 1933
Breakfast and dinner at hotel | lunch at Mallacoota Hotel

DAY 5: (BLD) EXPLORING LAKES ENTRANCE**Monday 23 March 2020**

With five main lakes, fed by the waters of four major rivers, and fringed by the Ninety Mile Beach, the Gippsland Lakes system is the biggest expanse of inland waterways in the southern hemisphere. This morning our **local expert** will introduce us to the town and the surrounding lakes system before boarding a **cruise** which will be a tour highlight! Travelling along one of the sensational waterways, we'll be listening to informative commentary from our undercover seating as we make our way to the peaceful town of **Metung**, where life assumes a relaxed pace. Enjoying lunch at the Metung Hotel we board the coach and visit the **Nyerimilang Heritage Park**, a homestead used in the late 1800s as a base for fishing holidays. Today, the homestead features the history of Nyerimilang, with the semi-formal garden and lawns, containing an interesting collection of exotic and native species. Our day complete, we return to the hotel.

Breakfast and dinner at hotel | lunch in Metung Hotel

DAY 6: (BLD) LAKE ENTRANCE TO PHILLIP ISLAND**Tuesday 24 March 2020**

Watching the scenery roll by as we chat amongst ourselves this morning, we arrive in **Bairnsdale** and become illuminated by the detailed and beautifully painted murals that adorn the **St. Mary's Catholic Church**. Continuing to **Sale**, we take a stroll down memory lane at the **Museum of Timeless Memories** - from hats to harvesters, pumps to pots there is something for everyone at this eclectic museum. Enjoying lunch here we continue our journey to **Phillip Island** where we settle into our hotel and enjoy dinner. Then, on dusk we watch the **Penguin Parade**. To witness the penguins come out of the surf in small groups and waddle up the beach is a fascinating spectacle!

1 night | **Comfort Resort Kaloha, Phillip Island** | 03 5952 2179
Breakfast and dinner at hotel | lunch at Museum of Timeless Memories

DAY 7: (BLD) PHILLIP ISLAND TO MELBOURNE**Wednesday 25 March 2020**

Are we ready to explore Phillip Island? Famous for being home to the **World Superbike Championship** and the **Australian Motor Cycle Grand Prix**, we take a tour of the **Grand Prix Circuit** including the museum and a short walk to the viewing platform, the perfect spot to visualize the bikes zooming past! Leaving here we head to the **Nobbies Centre** where we have the chance to explore the secrets of the incredible southern marine environment via interactive displays and cameras. This area offers spectacular coastal scenery as well as viewing of the offshore seal colony at Seal Rocks. It is a truly amazing natural experience! Now a unique opportunity to remember, interpret and understand the experience of the veterans at the **National Vietnam Veterans Museum**. Home to a huge collection of artifacts, detailed information, imagery and audio facilities this museum will keep you very much engaged. Enjoy lunch here before we farewell Phillip Island and head for **Melbourne**, arriving at our hotel to settle for the next 3 nights.

3 nights | Mercure Melbourne Albert Park | 03 8554 2517

Breakfast and dinner at hotel | morning tea Grand Prix Circuit | lunch Rhyll Trout & Bush Tucker Farm

DAY 8: (BLD) EXPLORING MELBOURNE**Thursday 26 March 2020**

This morning we set off to explore the marvellous Melbourne! Meeting our **guide**, we are taken on a tour of this beautiful city discovering that within the parks and gardens are many gracious buildings. Afterwards we head to the famous **Melbourne Cricket Ground**, known colloquially as the "G". Relive great sporting memories through a comprehensive tour of this marvellous stadium before enjoying lunch. You'll now head to the Docklands District for an interesting visit at the **Artvo 3D Gallery**, Australia's first interactive art gallery. Unlike normal art museums, here we are encouraged to touch, photograph and interact with the art. We may like to stay at the Docklands to enjoy some shopping before returning to the hotel. After enjoying dinner at the hotel, we are in for a treat! At the **Eureka Skydeck**, we feel a thrill as two dedicated lifts propel us up to awe-inspiring views of Melbourne's illuminated cityscape at night. With camera's ready, we capture the captivating twinkling lights before touching down on solid ground after a truly unique experience.

Breakfast and dinner at hotel | lunch Melbourne Cricket Ground

DAY 9: (BD) MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL FLOWER SHOW!**Friday 27 March 2020**

And now the moment has come, the fabulous **Melbourne International Flower Show!** This is a hallmark event for Victoria and is the most prestigious of its kind in Australia. Hundreds of exhibits are "on show" representing landscaping, floristry and much more, together with their associated products and services. The show will simply take your breath away! Spend time meandering through the Flower Show and enjoy lunch at one of the many eating venues before returning to our hotel to refresh for our final night on tour aboard **Tramboat Cruises**. Enjoy a leisurely cruise and commentary through the Port to collect our hot gourmet Fish'N'Chips. As the sun goes down it is a wonderful opportunity to experience the beauty of the Yarra and majestic Melbourne as she comes to life at night. With a supper of tea, coffee and assorted slices, it makes for the perfect way to finish this amazing holiday!

Breakfast and dinner at hotel | lunch own at own cost

DAY 10: (B) MELBOURNE TO BRISBANE**Saturday 28 March 2020**

Making our way to the Melbourne Airport to board our flight, we find ourselves reminiscing on the amazing time shared, discovering unique coastal towns while making your way to the vibrant city of Melbourne. From wonderful scenery and intriguing history to stunning artistic floral displays - you have experienced it all! You'll now arrive home eager to share all these wonderful memories for friends and family.

Breakfast at hotel

Tour Inclusions

- 9 night's motel accommodation
 - 9 cooked motel breakfasts
 - 8 motel dinners and 1 included dinner – see below
 - 7 included lunches
 - Return airfare Melbourne > Brisbane
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- Ballina | Australian Seabird Rescue tour and light lunch incl. tea and coffee
 - Newcastle | Hunter Region Botanic Gardens entry and light lunch incl. tea and coffee
 - Mallacoota | Operation Bunker entry
 - Mallacoota | Mallacoota Hotel Motel lunch incl. tea and coffee
 - Lakes Entrance | Guide - guided tour of Lakes Entrance
 - Lakes Entrance | Thunderbird & Stormbird luncheon cruise
 - Lakes Entrance | Nyerimilang Park entry
 - Bairnsdale | St Mary's Church entry
 - Sale | Museum of Timeless Memories entry and smorgasbord lunch incl. tea and coffee Phillip Island | Phillip Island Nature Park Penguin Plus
 - Phillip Island | Phillip Island Grand Prix Circuit tour – HOMS display and circuit viewing
 - Phillip Island | Phillip Island Grand Prix Circuit morning tea
 - Phillip Island | Phillip Island Nature Park entry to Nobbies Antarctic Journey.
 - Phillip Island | National Vietnam Veterans Museum entry, guided tour, light & sound show and light lunch incl. tea and coffee
 - Melbourne | Tourminders Melbourne guided touring
 - Melbourne | National Sports Museum – MCG lunch incl. tea and coffee at Hugh Trumble Cafe followed by National Sports Museum, MCG Tour.
 - Melbourne | Artvo 3D Gallery entry
 - Melbourne | Eureka Skydeck entry to Skydeck 88
 - Melbourne | Melbourne International Flower Show entry
 - Melbourne | Melbourne Tramboat Cruises "Sunset Fish 'n' Chip Dinner Cruise" incl. Fish & Chips, tea, coffee and slices

Accommodation

- Coffs Harbour | Opal Cove Resort
- Sydney | Country Comfort Hunts Liverpool
- Eden | Coachman's Eden
- Lakes Entrance | The Esplanade Motel
- Phillip Island | Comfort Resort Kaloha
- Melbourne | Mercure Melbourne Albert Park

Flights / Coach transfer

- Melbourne to Brisbane flight is included
- Coach transfer to Sunshine Coast on return

Travel Insurance

- *Please note that insurance is not included, however it is highly recommended.*

PO Box 629
Coolum Beach
QLD 4573
ABN 31871210455



www.cttravel.com.au
tours@cttravel.com.au
07 53911648
0409 278 971