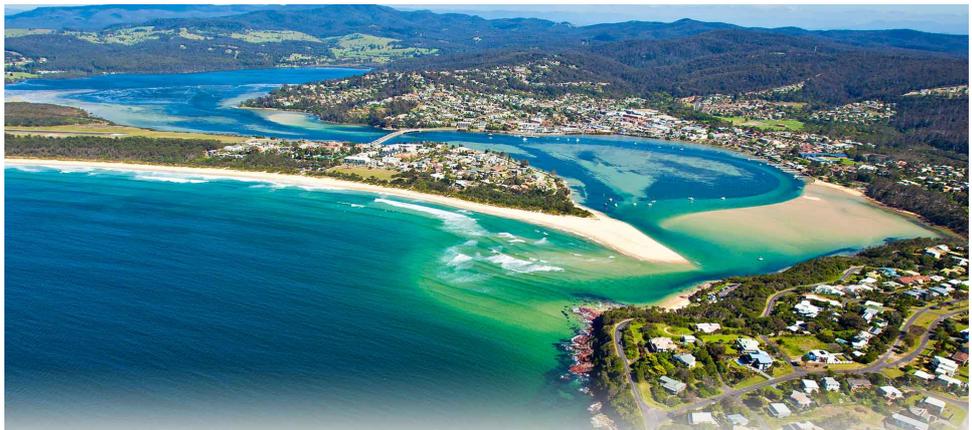




7 Day Sapphire Coast

Monday 14th - Sunday 20th February 2022



Day 1: Monday 14th February 2022

We board our coach early this morning to start our 7 Day tour to the beautiful **Sapphire Coast**.

Stopping for **Morning Tea** and a toilet break along the way, we should reach **Metung** in time for lunch at the **Metung Hotel**. Sit back, relax and eat lunch, whilst enjoying views of **Bancroft Bay** in the Gippsland Lakes.

Metung, (formally known as "Rosherville"), comes from the language of the native Kurnai tribe meaning "bend in the lake".

The first premises' constructed on the current site was the "Rosherville Hotel", built in 1870 by Mr G Wood. In 1875 Carl Krecklow, from Berlin, Germany acquired the Hotel and changed its name to "Krecklow's" Scarborough Hotel. The Krecklow family were Hoteliers on the "Continent" known as Europe today. The Rosherville and Scarborough Hotel had a covered veranda running around the establishment, which was located only a few feet from the lake.

Prominent "City Men" who were charmed by Metung's beauty and beautiful boating grounds came to Metung to spend their holiday time. They travelled by train to Sale and then Steamer to Metung. The Lakes Navigation Company ran steamers from Sale to Metung daily. Cricket, shooting, fishing, riding and diving were the activities of the day. For the Ladies it was bridge, lawn tennis, croquet, sailing and rowing.

Continuing on, we reach **Lakes Entrance** and our accommodation for our first night, **Bellevue on the Lakes**.

Overnight: Bellevue on the Lakes, Lakes Entrance

Some of the areas being visited on this tour, were affected by fire damage during the 2019/20 bushfires. We will get to see first hand, the extent of the damage and the strength of the people in these communities as they rebuild their lives.



Day 2: Tuesday 15th February 2022

After we enjoy our cooked breakfast in the Motel dining room, we board our coach for a quick trip to the Post Office Jetty, where we board our boat for a **2-hour sightseeing cruise**.

Your cruise will take you past the Entrance, then into Reeves Channel, Bancroft Bay, around the shores of Metung, Lake King and into the housing canals of Paynesville. We then briefly visit Lake Victoria before returning to Lakes Entrance.

The Gippsland Lakes are abundant in wildlife, sealife and birdlife. The Lakes have their own colonies of Seals and the rare species of Burrunan Dolphin. Sightings are not always possible, but your Skipper will do their best to find where they're "hanging out" today.



Cruising past many of the islands in the Gippsland Lakes gives you a close-up view of Kangaroos and other wildlife in their natural habitat. Your Skipper will give a full commentary on the history and nature of the Gippsland Lakes.

Lunch today is a 1-course meal at the **Lakes Sports & Community Club**.



Afterwards, go for a walk along the shores of **Lake Cunningham** to the actual **Entrance** to the **Gippsland Lakes**. This is a short and easy walk and you will most likely see seals and or dolphins frolicking in the tidal pulls at the Entrance.

Your Coach Captain will advise where he will meet you with the coach. For those not wanting to go for the walk, maybe a stroll out on the pier might suit.

We board our coach for the last time today, as we continue on to **Merimbula**. After checking into our accommodation for the next 5-nights, the **Comfort Inn Merimbula**, we have time to freshen up before dinner.

Dinner tonight will be a 2-course meal in the Motel dining room.

Overnight: Comfort Inn, Merimbula

Day 3: Wednesday 16th February 2022

A slower start to our day, as we enjoy breakfast at the Motel before departing for **Potoroo Palace**.

About ten minutes from Merimbula in the beautiful Bega Valley, we savour the rare opportunity to see a koala, wander among the kangaroos, touch a snake, stroll through the cooling mist of the walk-through aviary, go for a ride on the mini train.

You can get up close to their kangaroos, emus, peacocks and ducks who roam the park freely and hand feed them with an animal feed bag.

You also have the option (at own expense), of a 'one on one' encounter, with the animal of your choice. The encounter options are:- wombats, koalas, echidna, dingoes, snakes, kookaburras and a variety of possums. Please note, there are no guarantees that all animals will be available on day of our visit for an encounter experience. Please speak to one of our Consultants for more details or if you would like us to pre-organise an experience for you.

After our time at Potoroo Palace, we visit the **Merimbula Wharf Aquarium**, where we sit down for lunch in their café. Afterwards, you will have time to look through the Aquarium. Their 70,000 litre Oceanarium is a stand-out feature with 28 tanks featuring local and tropical marine life of all kinds.



Next we are off to **Wheeler's Oyster Farm** for a **Guided Tour**. From humble beginnings in 1927, to becoming a national name synonymous with the highest quality oysters, Wheeler's Oyster Farm is a cornerstone in the history of aquaculture on the Sapphire Coast.

Journey through the history of the Wheeler's family and get insider access to their state-of-the-art factory. Meet the farmers and taste prized Sydney Rock Oysters fresh from the pristine waters of Merimbula Lake – before they even hit the table.

We return to our accommodation to freshen up before boarding our coach again, this time for our dinner venue tonight, the **Club Sapphire Merimbula Pacific Bistro**.

Day 4: Thursday 17th February 2022

We have an early start today, as we make our way to **Mogo** for a visit to the **Mogo Zoo** but not before we have breakfast at the Motel.

Mogo Wildlife Park is a privately owned zoo that supports an amazing collection of endangered and exotic animal species. Nestled close to the Princes Hwy and just 10 minutes south of the popular coastal town of Batemans Bay, the park is spread over many acres of beautifully landscaped gardens. Mogo Wildlife Park proudly boasts the largest collection of primates in Australia. Their Zebras and Southern White Rhinos wander the Savannah plains alongside their majestic Giraffes.



Mogo Zoo also offer the option of an **Up Close & Personal Encounter** that can be added to your visit (at own expense). If you are interested in this option, please ask us for more information.

Your Coach Captain will drop you in the Mogo township, to purchase some lunch (at own expense) and have a bit of a look around the shops.

Boarding our coach once more, we begin to make our way back to Merimbula, stopping in the historic village of **Cobargo**, for a break. This once picturesque little town, was devastated in the 2019 bushfires.

Dinner tonight will be a 2-course meal at the **Merimbula RSL**.



Day 5: Friday 18th February 2022

After enjoying our breakfast this morning at the accommodation, we make our way to **Bega Heritage Centre** in **Bega**.

Visitors to the Bega Cheese Heritage Centre can taste from a selection of their award winning cheese. Many of the cheese available are exclusive to the Heritage Centre. Aside from the Bega cheese range we also stock a range of Australian cheese that are a perfect accompaniment to any cheeseboard.



The Bega Valley region produces a great selection of gourmet jams & condiments and these are also sold at the Centre.

The 'History of Dairy' Museum is located on the upper level of their building. The museum showcases the history of dairying in the Bega Valley since the early 1900's. Their collection has been built from donations or purchasing collections from local farms. The display of early pieces of dairy memorabilia give a glimpse into the way the dairy industry not only established itself as a major industry in the area but also a way of life then and now for so many of our residents.

Leaving Bega behind us, we take the Princess Highway towards the village of **Central Tilba**.

Set against the magnificent backdrop of the Gulaga/Mt Dromedary, Central Tilba is a perfectly restored and maintained period village, protected by a National Heritage listing. Central Tilba offers a range of shops and galleries to explore plus a range of cafes to purchase lunch (at own expense).



Boarding our coach once more, we start our journey back to Merimbula, stopping in the coastal town of **Bermagui** and the **Montreal Goldfield** for a **Guided Tour**.

Our tour takes us along 300m of boardwalks and compacted pathways that meander past shafts that have been fenced off or covered so you can look down them in safety. We hear all about the discovery of Alluvial Gold in 1880 by Canadian Henry Williams, which started the goldrush in the area.

Afterwards and time permitting, your Coach Captain will drop you off at the **Bermagui Fishermen's Wharf**. Take a look in the shops, maybe sit outside at one of the cafes that look over the Bermagui River, whilst enjoying a beverage or perhaps go for a walk past some of the local fishing boats and cruises.

After a big day of travel, we return to our accommodation to get ready for dinner at the **Tura Beach Club**.

Day 6: Saturday 19th February 2022

Breakfast will again be enjoyed at the motel, before we depart for **Eden**.

A natural paradise on the sparkling Sapphire Coast of NSW, Eden's extraordinary attractions range from spotting humpback whales in the deep blue waters of Twofold Bay to learning about the region's whaling heritage and bushwalking in Ben Boyd National Park.

Today we are going on a Cat Balou **2-hour Twofold Bay Cruise**.

Relax as Cat Balou cruises the two folds of Twofold Bay which covers an area of 30 square kilometres. Surrounded by the Ben Boyd National Park and state forest, stunning scenery, pristine bays and beaches are viewed as Cat Balou cruises around this deep-water port.



The cruise highlights the history of this whaling port including Boyd's Tower, Seahorse Inn at Boydtown, Edrom Lodge and whaling station sites. The naval/multi-purpose wharf, woodchip mill, mussel farms, Quarantine Bay and the fishing fleet are also viewed. On most trips Cat Balou encounters dolphins or seals.

Afterwards, we meet our **Step-on Guide** who will take us on a **tour of Eden**.

We have a light lunch today at the **Wharfside Café** in Eden before going to the **Eden Killer Whale Museum**.

The Museum was originally built to house the skeleton of the orca "Old Tom" and tell the story of Old Tom and the other killer whales of Eden. The local historical society is based at the museum, where it displays and houses between five and ten thousand items, focusing on the Australian whaling industry, general maritime and fishing artifacts, the timber industry, and local social history.



The Eden Killer Whale Museum has been telling Eden's stories for over 80 years and is home to one of the only orca skeletons in the world, that of Old Tom, Eden's famous killer whale.

Old Tom the Killer Whale, was the most boisterous of the killer whales who hunted baleen whales with the Davidson family in the 1800s. At times Old Tom and the pod numbered up to 36, many of which were known by name to the whalers.

Previous to settlement, the orcas had a special relationship with the local Yuin people and it was through this connection that they bonded with the whalers, whose crews often included Yuin men.

Our final dinner together on this tour will be enjoyed in the Motel dining room.

Day 7: Sunday 20th February 2022

An early start today, as we enjoy our final breakfast together before loading our luggage and starting our journey back home.

Stopping in **Cann River** for a toilet break and a quick cuppa, we continue on to **Bairnsdale** and our luncheon venue for today, **Mitchell River Tavern** for a 2 course meal.

We board our coach for the last time, as sadly our **7 Day Sapphire Coast Tour** comes to an end.



Cost:

**From \$1635.00 per person
Twin / Double Share**

**From \$ 321.00 per person
Single Supplement**

Tour Code: 685-CTA-A

Inclusions:-

- * Luxury Coach Travel
- * Professional & Courteous Coach Captain
- * Friendly & Accommodating Tour Escort
- * 1-Nights Accommodation—Bellevue on the Lakes, Lakes Entrance
- * 5-Nights Accommodation—Comfort Inn, Merimbula
- * All Meals
 - Breakfast Days 2-7
 - Lunch Days 1-3 & 6-7
 - Dinner Days 1-6
 - Morning Tea Day 1
- * All Entries/Admissions (as per Itinerary, unless otherwise indicated)
- * 2-hour Cruise—Lakes Entrance
- * 2-hour Cruise—Twofold Bay, Eden



including



ORGAN'S COACHES

SUNBURY
Coaches

Trans North
Bus & Coach

For more details on our **7 Day Sapphire Coast Tour** or if you would like to make a booking, please contact one of our friendly Team:-



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