

Itinerary Name: Discover South East Australia - Self Drive

Routing: Sydney to Adelaide

Duration: 16 Days within Australia

#### DAY 01: ARRIVE SYDNEY

Upon arrival in Sydney, you will be met at Sydney International Airport and transferred by shuttle to your hotel.

Welcome to Sydney. With a picture-postcard setting, vibrant nightlife and plenty of things to see and do, Australia's largest city is also one of the world's great destinations.

Sydney is blessed with a temperate climate, beautiful harbour and natural attractions that surround the city.

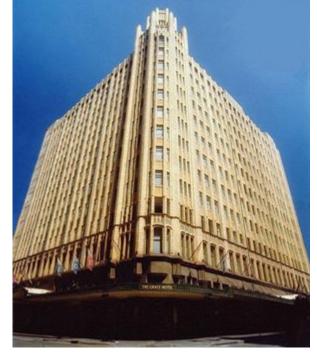
Sydney has a lively events calendar that ensures there is always plenty to see and do. Visit Darling Harbour to explore its exciting attractions and stylish harbourside dining or take a trip to the historic Rocks district and soak in the atmosphere from a bygone era at one of the quaint heritage pubs.

If you love shopping head for fashionable Oxford Street or take in the bustling

atmosphere at one of Sydney's weekend markets.

Whether you are a first-time visitor or returning to see more, you'll discover that Sydney always has something new to uncover. Take a sunset climb to the summit of Sydney Harbour Bridge, go sailing on a leisurely cruise or find a walking trail in Sydney Harbour National Park and enjoy some peace and quiet with stunning views. Take a surf lesson at Manly or Bondi beach and enjoy Sydney's famed outdoor lifestyle like a local.

The world-famous icons are not to be missed - Sydney Harbour Bridge and the World Heritage-listed Sydney Opera House.



The Grace Hotel is right in the heart of the CBD. It occupies a prime position on the city block bordered by York, King and Clarence Streets. Designed with the traveler in mind, it features a state-of-the art business centre and in-room technology, a fully-equipped rooftop fitness centre, spa, sauna, steam room and lap pool.

There is a sophisticated wine bar, superb buffet and a la carte dining at The Grace Brasserie, and the Deli and Cafe Co offers excellent coffee and informal meals and snack items. Club Grace Health and Fitness Centre offer the latest exercises and training equipment, an indoor lap pool, spa, sauna, and steam room.

The property has a coin operated in-house laundry available 24 hours a day with washing, drying, and ironing facilities. The Grace Hotel has 382 spacious guest rooms dispersed over 11 floors. They have all been designed with the frequent

traveler in mind, with the latest in modern telecommunications including broadband, voicemail, and data points installed in every room.

The Grace beds are internationally renowned for their exceptional comfort. Individual comfort is also enhanced with the feather comforters and pillows, maximizing guest satisfaction.

Each room is conveniently equipped with an iron, ironing board, climate control, in-

room safe, refreshment centre and fully stocked minibar. All our spacious, contemporary guest rooms are designed with the frequent traveller in mind with voice mail, data points, broadband (fee applies), Foxtel and Fox Sports available in every room. Individual comfort is 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.

Overnight: The Grace Hotel, Superior Room

DAY 02: FREE DAY IN SYDNEY

The day is free to explore Sydney.

Overnight: The Grace Hotel, Superior Room

## DAY 03: BLUE MOUNTAINS HIGH COUNTRY ECO TOUR

This fantastic Eco tour begins at your hotel and the historical Rocks area of old Sydney. Heading westwards across the coastal plain we make our way to the Great Dividing Range of Australia. It is here we leave the 'average' Blue Mountains tourist behind and enter the National Park and Euroka Clearing to unlock a piece of Australia you would never have known existed. We drop into a hidden valley where we roam the area, seeking out kangaroos that may graze in the wild while enjoying a home-

made morning tea.

We next visit some scenic lookouts to view the Blue Mountains including King's Tableland before visiting the quaint little village of Leura, we skirt around Cliff Drive to Katoomba where you will find yourself looking out over the magnificent Jamieson Valley and the world renowned Three Sisters from Eagle Hawk lookout.

We enjoy a traditional Australian style lunch including fine Australian produce in the heart of the Blue Mountains.

Next we travel to the scenic Evan's Lookout for more gorgeous views of the Blue Mountains and finish the day with a short walk at the stunning Wentworth Falls. We continue back into Sydney, time permitting we may call into the Sydney 2000 Olympic site.

Overnight: The Grace Hotel, Superior Room

## DAY 04: SYDNEY TO JERVIS BAY (115 Miles)

Pick up your rental car this morning with Avis (Group ICAR)

The first day of your driving adventure will take you south, away from city sights of Sydney. Pass through the coastal town of Kiama and enjoy the seaside view over lunch before continuing on to Jervis Bay. Once you arrive at Jervis Bay you will be greeted with beautiful beaches, secluded bays and an abundance of wild life. Why not take a 'learn to surf' lesson or dolphin watch cruise before heading out for relaxing dinner (own expense).



Overnight: Paperbark Camp, Original Safari Tent

# DAY 05: JERVIS BAY TO MERIMBULA (175 miles)

Today's South-bound journey will take you through Ulladulla, stop and walk the 'One Track for All' and learn about the local town history. Continue along the highway, passing through Batemans Bay which is situated on the mouth of the Clyde River, before heading to the seaside town of Merimbula, surrounded by forest. Make sure you take a walk along the board walk, spotting the local birds along the way.

Overnight: Fairway Motor Inn, Standard

## DAY 06: TILBA TILBA TO METUNG (213 Miles)

Travel through Eden and explore the Ben Boyd National Park and Eden Whaling Museum before continuing further. Driving south on the Princes Highway, you will pass Cann River and Orbost, situated on the banks of the Snowy River, before travelling on to Lakes Entrance. Lakes Entrance is a unique area with rivers, lakes and lagoons joining 90 Mile Beach. Explore the nearby village of Metung.

Continue south and head to the small village of Metung in South Gippsland. Why not sample some of the local chocolates and produce whist watching the boats come back to shore.

Overnight: The Moorings at Metung, Luxury Motel

## DAY 07: METUNG TO MELBOURNE (192 Miles)

From Lakes Entrance travel on south to Sale, a supply and residential centre for the Bass Strait oil fields. Pass through Morwell, Moe, Warragul and Drouin as you travel along the Princes Highway to Melbourne. Take some time this afternoon to explore the hidden laneways and cafes of Melbourne's vibrant city centre.

Overnight: Sebel Albert Park, Queen Room

## DAY 08: MELBOURNE TO APOLLO BAY (112 Miles)

On leaving Melbourne, cross the West Gate Bridge and take the Princes Highway to Geelong, the largest provincial city in Victoria. From Geelong travel to Torquay, the start of the Great Ocean Road, and recognised as the surfing capital of Australia. After Torquay follow the coast road through Anglesea to the picturesque town of Lorne. Take time to see the beautiful Erskine Falls, then travel the scenic coastline from Lorne to Apollo Bay. This has been described as one of the most beautiful and breathtaking drives in the world.

Overnight: Claerwen Retreat, Guest House Suite

# DAY 09: APOLLO BAY TO WARRNAMBOOL (99 Miles)

Continue exploring the Great Ocean Road today, travelling this morning through

the Otway National Park. As the road joins the coast again, see the amazing rock formations of the Twelve Apostles, which are huge stone pillars sticking out of the surf, carved over time by the crashing waves of the Southern Ocean.

Travelling on past Port Campbell you will see London Bridge - the broken arch. Continuing the 'Shipwreck Coast' begins, from Port Campbell and onto Warrnambool.



# Overnight: Sebel Deep Blue, Ocean View Studio

#### **DAY 10:**



# WARRNAMBOOL TO HALLS GAP (101 Miles)

Travel via Penhurst to Dunkeld, and then from Dunkeld a scenic drive will take you through the Grampians National Park and onto Halls Gap. Highlights within the Grampians include McKenzie Falls, Reids Lookout and the Balconies, and there are walks of varying length and difficulties to reach some of these points.

Overnight: DULC Cabins, One Bedroom Cabin

#### DAY 11: HALLS GAP

Explore the spectacular scenery that is the Grampians National Park. Take one of the many walks and remember your camera.

Overnight: DULC Cabins, One Bedroom Cabin



# DAY 12: HALLS GAP TO COONAWARRA (137 Miles)

From Halls Gap return to Dunkeld and travel through the towns of Hamilton, Coleraine, Casterton before reaching Mt Gambier, in South Australia where you can visit the surrounding crater lakes and the Sunken Garden.

Overnight: Chardonnay Lodge, Standard Room

# DAY 13: COONAWARRA TO ADELAIDE (225 Miles)

Travel on through the coastal ports of Robe and Kingston. As you head towards Adelaide, travelling along the Coorong National Park skirting Lake Albert and Lake Alexandria. Travel to the towns of Tailem Bend and Murray Bridge. From Murray Bridge take the freeway directly into the heart of Adelaide.

Overnight: Majestic Roof Garden Hotel, Executive Deluxe

### DAY 14: ADELAIDE TO KANGAROO ISLAND

From Adelaide Airport take the flight to Kingscote on Kangaroo Island and on arrival collect the vehicle. Kangaroo Island is the largest island off the South Australian coast and shows nature at its wildest and most majestic in a magical combination of sun and sea, native flora and fauna. The coastline of the island changes from the attractive curved beach at Emu Bay to the rugged cliffs and

roaring surf of the south. On the west are two of the island's natural wonders;



Admirals Arch, a huge arch where stalactites are silhouetted against the afternoon sun, a magnificent sight. The other is Remarkable Rocks, huge unusually shaped granite boulders.

Upon arrival on Kangaroo Island, pick up another rental car from Hertz.

Overnight: Kangaroo Island Seafront Hotel, Oceanfront

#### DAY 15: KANGAROO ISLAND

There is a never ending list of things to do and see on Kangaroo Island and today you have time to explore the natural beauty of this island and discover Australian wildlife – in the wild!Highlights include Flinders Chase National Park, Kelly Hill Caves, the "Koala Walk" and the seals at Seal Bay.

Overnight: Kangaroo Island Seafront Hotel, Oceanfront

#### DAY 16: KANGAROO ISLAND TO ADELAIDE

This vacation package terminates at Adelaide.