

12 Days: Sydney, Melbourne & Adelaide Highlights

Sydney – Melbourne – Phillip Island – Mornington Peninsula – Adelaide – McLaren Vale – Kangaroo Island – Adelaide

Discover the best of New South Wales, Victoria, and South Australia on this journey through vibrant cities, picturesque landscapes, and iconic wildlife habitats. You'll experience the highlights of Australia's culture and history, visiting renowned wine regions like McLaren Vale and the scenic Mornington Peninsula, unwinding on the beaches of Kangaroo Island, and encountering native wildlife up close.

Along the way, enjoy golf at some of Australia's most prestigious courses, delve into Aboriginal heritage, explore hidden city laneways, and savor gourmet food and wine amidst breathtaking natural settings.

The Journey

Duration 12 days	Nearest major city Sydney / Warrane	Transport On Foot, Car, Boat, Plane
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Signature
EXPERIENCES OF AUSTRALIA



Day 3

Fly from Sydney to Melbourne, then start your Melbourne adventure by weaving through the city's enchanting laneways and arcades on a **Hidden Secrets Tour**, where you'll uncover local street art, boutique shops, and cozy cafés.

Head to Federation Square for lunch at one of the cafes or restaurants. Afterwards, visit the nearby **Koorie Heritage Trust** from where your private **Birrarung Wilm (River Camp) Walk** departs. An Aboriginal guide will lead you to the Yarra River, highlighting key art installations and sharing the rich Aboriginal history and stories of Melbourne.

Hop on Melbourne's free tram to the bustling **Queen Victoria Market**. Here, you can indulge in the freshest local produce, shop for gifts and explore an array of specialty foods.

Spend the evening along Flinders Lane, where acclaimed restaurants and hidden bars create one of Melbourne's most exciting dining strips.

Highlights

- Explore Melbourne's secret laneways and street art.
- Gain insight into the Aboriginal history of Melbourne on a guided river walk.
- Discover fresh produce, homewares and gifts at Queen Victoria Market.

Day 4

Drive to the Yarra Valley, beginning with a visit to the **TerraWarra Museum of Art**, where striking architecture and contemporary exhibitions sit harmoniously among vineyard surrounds.

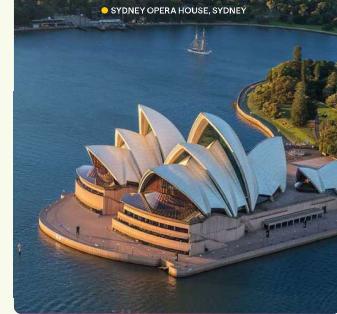
Continue to Chandon for the **Étoile Unveiled** experience including a private tasting of the prestigious Étoile masterblend, followed by a seasonal three-course lunch paired with Chandon wines. With preferential window seating and vineyard views, this is an extraordinary dining experience showcasing the best of local produce.

Conclude your day with a premium session at **Four Pillars Gin Distillery**, where you'll sample award-winning gins and gain insights into the craft behind one of Australia's most celebrated distilleries.

Return to Melbourne to dine in one of its multicultural enclaves — choose from Italian fare on Lygon Street, Vietnamese on Richmond, or Spanish and Indian in Fitzroy.

Highlights

- Discover Australian and international works at the TerraWarra Museum of Art.
- Indulge in the Chandon Étoile experience with a private tasting and three-course lunch.
- Sample award-winning gins during a premium tasting at Four Pillars Distillery.



Day 1

Kick off your morning with an exclusive **Backstage Tour** at the iconic **Sydney Opera House**. Dive into hidden areas where legends like Julie Andrews and Bob Dylan have roamed, from rehearsal spaces to the orchestra pit and learn about the unique architecture. Conclude with a special breakfast in the performers' Green Room.

Take a short stroll to the **Royal Botanic Garden Sydney** for an enlightening **Aboriginal Bush Tucker Tour**. Explore with a First Nations guide, learn about traditional and contemporary uses of native bush foods, and savor tastings of these unique flavours along the way.

Grab a bite to eat at the **Farm Cove Eatery** at Botanic House, then make your way to **The Lakes Golf Club** and enjoy 18 holes on one of Sydney's most prestigious private golf clubs.

In the evening, head to Surry Hills, a buzzing precinct filled with eclectic eateries, bustling bars, and a lively atmosphere.

Highlights

- Gain exclusive access to the Sydney Opera House's private areas and hear secret stories of legendary performers.
- Taste native bush foods, guided by a First Nations guide.
- Enjoy spectacular views and a round of golf at The Lakes Golf Club.

Day 2

Take a walk round Circular Quay to the Museum of Contemporary Art's **MCA Café** at Tallowadah for a casual breakfast with scenic harbour views.

In the late morning, embark on a **Sydney Wildlife Safari** with **Sydney Bespoke Tours** to the Southern Highlands, just 90 minutes from Sydney. In the company of a passionate naturalist guide, you'll have the chance to spot eastern grey kangaroos, emus, wallabies, and more in their natural habitat. Learn about the critical Great Western Wildlife Corridor as you explore private bushland.

Enjoy a country-style dinner at one of Australia's oldest inns before going night-spotting for nocturnal species like common wombats and tawny frogmouths.

Highlights

- Enjoy breakfast with a harbour view.
- Spot iconic Australian wildlife, including the elusive platypus.
- Go night-spotting for nocturnal creatures.

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Day 5

Begin your Phillip Island adventure at **Panny's Amazing World of Chocolate**, where a self-guided tour takes you through interactive exhibits, fascinating displays, and the chance to see chocolate at work creating sweet masterpieces.

Continue to the Koala Conservation Reserve for a **Guided Koala Tour**, where treetop boardwalks place you eye-to-eye with these iconic marsupials. With rangers on hand to share conservation insights, this peaceful sanctuary offers an intimate way to observe koalas in their natural bushland habitat.

Conclude your day with the **Penguins Premium** experience at the Phillip Island Penguin Parade. Enjoy an intimate, small-group encounter on a secluded boardwalk, guided by an expert ranger, before settling into a limited-capacity beachfront viewing stand for an unforgettable close-up of the little penguins as they waddle ashore at dusk.

Highlights

- Indulge your sweet tooth on an interactive tour at Panny's Chocolate Factory.
- Encounter koalas up close from elevated treetop boardwalks.
- Witness little penguins waddle ashore with the exclusive Penguins Premium experience.

Day 6

Today, head to the Mornington Peninsula for a two-night getaway.

Commence with a **Terroir Masterclass** at **Ten Minutes by Tractor**. Through guided tastings, delve into the nuances of the region's wines.

Continue to **Montalto** for a scenic lunch amidst the vineyards, where you'll enjoy dishes crafted from local ingredients paired with Montalto's award-winning wines. Post-lunch, stroll along the Montalto sculpture trail, blending art with nature.

End your day at **Alba Springs Thermal Spa**, where you can unwind in the naturally heated mineral pools surrounded by tranquil settings.

Check in to your Mornington Peninsula accommodation.

Highlights

- Dive deep into the world of wine on a Ten Minutes by Tractor Terroir Masterclass.
- Enjoy a gourmet lunch at Montalto, and a stroll through the sculpture park.
- Soak in mineral-rich waters amid peaceful natural surroundings at Alba Springs Thermal Spa.

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THE NATIONAL GOLF COURSE,
CAPE SCHANCK.



PENFOLDS MAGILL ESTATE,
ADELAIDE HILLS

Day 7

Start with a round of golf at the prestigious **National Golf Club**, known for its challenging courses set against the breathtaking backdrop of the peninsula's rugged coastline and rolling greens. After your game, visit **Cape Schanck Lighthouse**. Explore the lighthouse museum and enjoy a scenic walk around the rugged cliffs with panoramic ocean views. Head to **Pt. Leo Estate** for the **Laura Signature Luxe experience**, beginning with a Laura 75 cocktail and a two-chef's-hat, five-course menu paired with estate wines. Conclude with a private cellar door tasting and a guided tour of the acclaimed Sculpture Park, set against sweeping vineyard and sea views. Return to your accommodation for a leisurely evening.

Highlights

- ⌚ Experience challenging fairways and panoramic views at the National Golf Club.
- 🏛 Explore the historic Cape Schanck Lighthouse with its sweeping ocean views from the rugged cliffs.
- 🍷 Indulge in a five-course wine-paired menu at Pt. Leo Estate.

Day 8

Return to Melbourne and catch an early flight to Adelaide. On arrival, make your way to the **Adelaide Hills**, for a visit to **Petaluma** for the **Museum Release Glass Room Experience**. In this striking space, featuring a ceiling of 540 wine glasses, enjoy an intimate guided tasting of rare museum-release wines paired with a three-course menu showcasing **Adelaide Hills** produce. In the afternoon, choose to stroll the charming streets of **Hahndorf**, visit **The Cedars**, historic home of artist Hans Heysen, wander the scenic trails of the Mount Lofty Botanic Garden, or meet native wildlife at **Cleland Wildlife Park**. Tonight, head out to **Penfolds Magill Estate** for an unforgettable dinner at their acclaimed restaurant.

Highlights

- ⌚ Sample rare museum-release wines over a relaxed three-course lunch in Petaluma's Glass Room.
- 🚶 Wander the charming village of Hahndorf, then take a scenic walk or wildlife encounter.
- 🍷 Enjoy world-class wines paired with fine dining at Penfolds Magill Estate.



D'ARENBERG, MCLAREN VALE



EXCEPTIONAL KANGAROO ISLAND,
KANGAROO ISLAND

Day 9

Explore McLaren Vale with a day of wine, art, and unique experiences. Start at **d'Arenberg** with a hands-on **Blending Bench** workshop, creating and bottling your own wine to take home. Then, enjoy an indulgent 8-course degustation at **d'Arry's Verandah Restaurant**, paired with exceptional wines and scenic views. Continue exploring the **d'Arenberg Cube**, featuring surreal art installations, the **Salvador Dali** exhibition, and the **Alternate Realities** Museum. Next, visit **Hardys Tintara** for the immersive **Tasting in the Dark** experience. Discover wine differently with a guided, blindfolded tasting in Hardys' historic cellars, enhancing your senses and deepening your appreciation of wine.

Highlights

- ⌚ Create your own wine and enjoy an 8-course degustation at d'Arenberg.
- 🎨 Explore the surreal art of the d'Arenberg Cube and Salvador Dali exhibition.
- 🍷 Enjoy a blindfolded sensory Tasting in the Dark at Hardys Tintara.

Day 10

Take an early morning flight from Adelaide to Kangaroo Island, joining **Exceptional Kangaroo Island's Kangaroo Island In Style tour**. Begin with morning tea and a walk under towering eucalypts, spotting koalas along the way. Explore vibrant bush trails with your guide, discovering local wildlife and flora. Enjoy lunch accompanied by South Australian wines at a private bush camp. Conclude with a private tour at **Seal Bay**, observing sea lions up close on the sandy beach.

Highlights

- 🚶 Stroll through lush eucalyptus forests to spot koalas resting or feeding overhead.
- 🍽 Enjoy a bush lunch of local seafood, fresh salads, and South Australian wines.
- 📱 Observe Australian sea lions in their natural habitat at Seal Bay Conservation Park.

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Day 11

Your second day delves into the natural wonders of Flinders Chase National Park, beginning with a journey through landscapes rejuvenating from the devastating bushfires of 2019/20. Discover the fascinating dynamics of fire ecology and how it stimulates certain plants to flower.

Explore the dramatic formations of Remarkable Rocks and enjoy a gourmet picnic lunch. The day continues at Admirals Arch, where you can observe a bustling colony of Long-nosed fur seals against the backdrop of the powerful Southern Ocean.

Highlights

- ⌚ Discover the rejuvenating landscapes and learn about fire ecology.
- 🍷 Enjoy a gourmet picnic at Remarkable Rocks with scenic clifftop or bushland views.
- 🦘 Visit Admirals Arch to watch a lively colony of Long-nosed fur seals.

Day 12

Depart Kangaroo Island on a morning or afternoon flight to Adelaide.

Trip extension recommendation: Southern Ocean Lodge

Treat yourself to a few extra days on Kangaroo Island at Southern Ocean Lodge, where breathtaking coastal views and luxurious experiences meet pristine wilderness.



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