

Victoria Explorer

March 24—31, 2023

Including the Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show



Tour Highlights

- Marysville Peppers resort
- Cruden Farm
- Coombe Farm
- Healsville Sanctuary
- Yarra Valley gardens
- The Edible Forest
- High Country national parks
- Melbourne Cricket Ground tour
- Cranbourne Native Botanical gardens
- Melbourne Flower Show
- Quality accommodation
- All coach transfers with local experienced operator
- Everything organised!



Day 1 Friday 24/3 Melbourne to Marysville L, D
 Meet in Melbourne airport at around 11am with flight details to be confirmed. We hope to have the option of flying from Toowoomba Wellcamp for those from this part of the world but will coordinate with suitable flights from Brisbane and other airports. We will then meet our coach and travel to Alowyn Gardens in the Yarra Valley. We will have lunch in the café before time to explore the extensive show gardens. We will then drive to the gateway to the Victorian high country, Marysville, to check in to our resort accommodation. Dinner will be in our hotel tonight.

Peppers Resort Marysville or similar for 4 nights

Day 2 Saturday 25/3 Local exploring B

This morning we will explore a little of the local area including a short

walk to Stevenson's Falls that have a total drop of 122 metres. We will then visit Bruno's Sculpture garden, home to some lovely pieces in a garden setting. Healsville Sanctuary is home to many native



animals set in a free range environment. We will have time to explore, learn from some demonstrations and talks and have lunch here before heading back to Marysville.

Day 3 Sunday 26/3 Coombe Farm and Yarra B, L

Today will drive into the Yarra Valley to visit Coombe Farm and garden, famous home of Dame Nellie Melba. The idea is to have a guided walk in the lovely garden before lunch in one of the private dining rooms. Promises to be a real highlight. We will then travel to Warburton for a walk along the river before a visit to the Rainforest Gallery. This is an elevated walkway in the canopy of the lovely forest of the area.

Day 4 Monday 27/3 Kinglake area B, MT

Our first stop this morning is the Edible Forest. A relatively new venture that seeks to showcase all things edible, sustainable and green. We will have a guided walk of the extensive gardens before morning tea. Next stop is Antique Perennials a show garden and nursery focused on colourful perennials that should be putting on a good autumn show. We will then have some free time for lunch in Kinglake before arriving at Kinglake National park where you can decide to take one of a number of walks including a gentle stroll to Mason's Falls.

Day 5 Tuesday 28/3 Marysville to Melbourne via Cranbourne and Cruden Farm B, AT

We leave Marysville today with our first stop being the huge and interesting native Cranbourne Botanical gardens. We will have time to have lunch, walk and catch the explorer train around the site to see one of best nation's best native gardens.

Next we will head to Cruden Farm, home of the late Dame Elisabeth and Sir Keith Murdoch. We will have afternoon tea in the stables on arrival followed by a guided visit of the attractive gardens. Later head into the CBD to check in to our hotel.

Mantra on Exhibition or similar for 3 nights.

This accommodation is fully self contained but does not include breakfast. There are heaps of options in the adjacent area.

Day 6 Wednesday 29/3 Botanical Garden & MCG

Leisurely start to the day before arriving at the Melbourne Botanical gardens. Some free time to explore the gardens either with me or independently and to have morning tea in one of the cafes. Next stop is a guided tour of the Melbourne Cricket Ground and the Sports Hall of Fame. Even for non sports fan this is a very interesting visit. Rest of the day free.

Day 7 Thurs. 30/3 Melbourne Flower Show D

This morning we will take the tram to the Melbourne Flower show which takes place each year in the Carlton Exhibition Centre. It is a beautiful venue for the largest flower show in the southern hemisphere. Expect to see display gardens by professionals, student gardens, floral displays, art exhibitions, plants and all kinds of garden related merchandise for sale. You may also decide to explore the excellent Museum which is next door (own expense). The day is free for you to spend as much time at the show as you like or you may decided to head off to explore other sites or shopping in Melbourne. Meet later for our farewell dinner in a local restaurant.

Day 8 Friday 31/3 Melbourne to home

Depart the hotel around 10am to go the airport for our homeward flights. Flight times to be advised but currently planning on booking on flights departing around 12 noon.



Tour price

\$2895 per person twin share land only.

Please complete a booking form and pay deposit of **\$500** pp to secure place.

Sole use **\$750 extra** - single room