



**WE DRIVE YOU
SINCE 1992**

Great Ocean Road & Monarto Zoo Safari

With Ezi Drive Coaches and
Holiday Coach Tours.com.au



10 Days /9 Nights with Brian and Mary
Tour Date Sunday 11 - 2026 - Tuesday 20 October 2026

Tour Inclusions:

- Pick up from your home, transport to South Australia and return to your doorstep
- (Sydney Metropolitan area only)
- Luxury Coach Travel, Seatbelts and Restroom
- All fully cooked breakfasts
- Three Course Dinners with Choices at the motel
- Nine nights quality accommodation,
- Lunch 8 days
- All entry fees and guides as per Itinerary
- Escorted tour

Tour Highlights:

Corio Bay, National Wool Museum, guided tour of Geelong, Great Ocean Road Chocolaterie, Anglesea, Split Point Lighthouse, Memorial Arch, Lorne, Apollo Bay, Twelve Apostles, Port Campbell Flagstaff Hill Maritime Village, Port Fairy. Mount Gambier, Blue Lake, Wonambi Fossil Centre, Victoria Fossil Cave, Mary MacKillop Centre Interpretative Centre, Petticoat Lane, Naracoorte, Tailem Bend, Bend Motorsport Park, Monarto Zoo Safari Resort, Sunset Wildlife Safari Guided Tour, Loxton Historical Village, Wilkadene Woolshed Brewery, Angroves Wines, Balranald Discovery Centre, Hay Local Guide, Robertson's Hot Bread Kitchen, and more.

Tour Fee including GST:	Members	\$4391.00 per person twin share
	Non Members	\$4441.00 per person twin share
	Single Supplement	\$941.00

Book now Paid by Thursday 13 August 2026

P O Box 109 BRINGELLY 2556

For information and bookings phone: 02 4774 9700

Website: holidaycoachtours.com.au – Email: book@holidaycoachtours.com.au

Please note that the itinerary is subject to change without notice

The Itinerary

Day 1 Sunday 11 October 2026

Dinner

We travel southwest this morning along the M5 and South Western Motorway after we pick you up from home. Along the way we stop at the Yass Truck Stop to purchase lunch at your own expense. After lunch we continue southward crossing the border into Victoria at Albury to stop at our first night's accommodation in Wangaratta. Here we have dinner at the **Quality Hotel Wangaratta Gateway**.

Day 2 Monday 12 Oct 2026 Wangaratta to Geelong

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Our next stop is at **Corio Bay**, Geelong, an arm of Port Phillip Bay, it is Victoria's most sizeable provincial city. Regardless of Geelong's industrial reputation the CBD is quite elegant and beautiful owing to the Victorian public architecture, waterfront precinct and numerous parks. After lunch at **Black Sheep Geelong**, we visit the **National Wool Museum**. For most of its history, Geelong has been one of the great wool cities of Australia and the nearly 200 buildings in the area, classified by National Trust, keep residents and visitors mindful of the city's heritage. The museum showcases the Australian wool story – from the sheep's back to the clothes rack and from the birth of the industry in the 1840s to its place in the world today. Then we're off on a **guided tour of Geelong**. Our step on guide will give us a fascinating history of Geelong. Afterwards, we check in to the hotel for the night before enjoying dinner at the **Rydges Geelong**.

Day 3 Tuesday 13 October 2026 Apollo Bay

Breakfast, Dinner

Today we join the Great Ocean Road, one of the best drives in Australia. We leave Geelong this morning, stopping at the **Great Ocean Road Chocolaterie** for our Chocolate making workshop. Taste & create your own Rocky Road, before continuing to **Anglesea** and take in the views of **Split Point Lighthouse**. We continue along the Great Ocean Road and stop at **Memorial Arch**. The Memorial Arch is made from wood, with the sides being made from stone and cement for support. The first arch was erected in 1939 and has been replaced a few times over the decades. Despite the rebuilds over the years, the original sign still sits on the top of the arch, for all to see. Alongside the arch is a sculpture also commemorating the returned servicemen, which was commissioned and placed during the 75th anniversary of the road constructions. After our interesting trip, we continue to **Lorne**, a popular destination for holidaymakers offering white sandy beaches and a buzzing arts community. The approach to the town is remarkable as the township is built amongst a forest of native trees stretching down to the water. We have time to explore the town and have lunch (Own cost). Next, we reach Best Western Apollo Bay Motel and check in with some time to relax before dinner next door at the **Great Ocean Brewhouse**.

Day 4 Wednesday 14 October 2026 Great Ocean Road

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

The Great Ocean Road runs the full length of the Port Campbell National Park. Our first stop this morning is at the **Twelve Apostles**, huge pillars which loom out of the surf, carved over time by the fury of the ocean, **Loch Ard Gorge** and stop in **Port Campbell** for lunch at the **Waves Port Campbell Café** before visiting the ill-fated **London Bridge**. We continue our journey westward for our final stop at **Flagstaff Hill Maritime Village**. (1530) Our focus is then on the maritime history of the region as we enjoy a wander through the **State Heritage listed Lady Bay Lighthouse** precinct, overlooking Lady Bay. Flagstaff Hill holds the richest collection of Shipwreck artefacts in Australia. Scattered

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throughout the Village are a range of trades that supported the rich maritime heritage of the late 1800s. Afterwards, we check into our accommodation at **Best Western Olde Maritime Motor Inn**, Warrnambool and after settling in, we enjoy dinner at the hotel.

Day 5 Thursday 15 October 2026 Naracoorte

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

This morning, we head to the small fishing village of **Port Fairy**. Our **step on guide** will talk about Port Fairy's rich, maritime history and its colonial character have been faithfully preserved. Seaman's blue-stone cottages rub shoulders with gracious commercial and administrative buildings. Its fine antique shops, pubs and restaurants are all housed in original Victorian buildings - The National Trust has classified 50 of them. Next, we travel across the boarder to South Australia and stop at **Mount Gambier**. Enjoy lunch at the **Bookmark Cafe** before visiting the famous **Blue Lake**. Their water supply comes from the famous Blue Lake – the largest of the many crater lakes in the area. The steely grey waters of the lake changes to a brilliant blue, almost overnight during Summer. After stopping off at several vantage points, we continue our journey to **Naracoorte** for our 2 night stay. **William MacIntosh Motor Lodge, Naracoorte**

Day 6 Friday 16 October 2026 Penola

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

This morning, we visit the **Wonambi Fossil Centre**, stepping back in time to discover what Naracoorte was like over 200,000 years ago! The Wonambi Fossil Centre shows how the caves acted as pitfall traps, dens and roosts for more than 500,000 years, leading to a vast accumulation of skeletal remains of reptiles, birds and mammals. It recreates a time when megafauna roamed the landscape, and the local animal community was more diverse than today. We now meet our **guide for a tour of the Victoria Fossil Cave**. In this tour we'll walk through magnificent speleothem chambers (e.g. stalactites, stalagmites and helictites) on the way to the Fossil Chamber. Our guide will tell us all about the accumulation of bones in the caves, excavation techniques, current research and World Heritage. Finishing up we enjoy lunch back at the Wonambi Fossil Centre at the **Cave Café** before continuing to **Penola** where the spirit of Mary MacKillop, Australia's first saint, comes to life at the **Mary MacKillop Centre Interpretative Centre**. Discover her inspiring story and legacy, enriched by the serene surroundings of Penola. This self-guided tour tells the story of the co-founders of the Institute of the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart – initially to provide a Catholic education for poor, isolated and rural children. Adjacent to the Interpretative Centre is **Petticoat Lane**. This intriguing heritage site portrays the pioneer living standards of the 1890's. The story of Christopher Sharam, his wife and 15 children are detailed at a site just behind the original slab hut cottage. After we complete our touring, we continue back to Naracoorte.

Day 7 Saturday 17 October 2026 Monarto Experience

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

A leisurely morning before continuing our journey Westward before arriving at **Tailem Bend**, to visit the world class motorsport facility, **Bend Motorsport Park**. Wait until you see the amazing reception with its array of specialty cars and enjoy a chance to look through the car collection. We enjoy lunch here before arriving at **Monarto**, where our accommodation is nestled in the wilderness under a blanket of stars at **Monarto Zoo's Safari Resort**. This is a one-of-a-kind experience as our retreat is where luxury meets adventure with our hotel, built in an area known as **Wild Africa** blends seamlessly with a gourmet restaurant, refreshing pool and beautiful rooms with unparalleled views. After checking in, relax, enjoy the ambience and the exclusive **Monarto Sunset Wildlife Safari**. Soak in the last rays of the sun on the Sunset Wildlife Safari **guided tour**. Departing two hours before sunset daily, you'll enjoy exclusive access to Monarto Safari Park after hours, with ample opportunity to immerse

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yourself in the vast parklands and watch the free-roaming herds of African animals across 550 hectares. You'll have the opportunity to observe and photograph animals including Southern White Rhinos, Giraffes, Cheetahs, Eland, Ostriches, and Zebras. Drinks and canapes will be served during the tour, capping off the unforgettable experience.

Day 8 Sunday 18 October 2026 Renmark

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Our journey takes us to one of several towns along the **Murray River**. Arriving at **Loxton**, we visit the **Loxton Historical Village**, which has the town's fascinating history on display. William Loxton was a stockman on a local Station who lived with his wife Mary, in a slab hut on the riverbank. A replica of this hut was built in 1970 on its original site. This was the beginning of Loxton Historical Village. Next, we make our way to **Wilkadene Woolshed Brewery**. It's Riverland's only independent craft brewery – and, as it's located on the banks of the Murray River, its known as a "Brew with a View!" Based on a 100-year-old shearing shed this is a truly unique cellar door experience and it is also our lunch venue today. After lunch we arrive at **Angoves Wines** for a wine tasting and history talk. Angoves Wines is the largest privately owned winery in Australia. It was established in 1886 and commencing operation in 1910, it is noted for a large variety of premium wines and brandy. From Renmark we now head to Mildura for our overnight stay at **Best Western Chaffey International Motor Inn**.

Day 9 Monday 19 October 2026 Hay

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Following our earlier breakfast, we depart Mildura and begin our journey across the expansive Hay Plain. Our first stop of the day is in **Balranald**, where we pause for a break at the **Balranald Discovery Centre** for morning tea. From here we continue deep into Hay Plains. Hay is located on the banks of the Murrumbidgee River and has always been an important centre for transport and communications and was a staging depot for Cobb and Co. Coaches. On arrival, we meet our **local guide** who will talk about the history of Hay and internee camps from World War Two. The first group of internees at Hay became known as the 'Dunera Boys'. The internment at Hay of this assemblage of refugees from Nazi oppression in Europe was an important milestone in Australia's cultural history. Just under half of those interned at Hay eventually chose to remain in Australia. The influence of this group of men on subsequent cultural, scientific and business developments in Australia is difficult to overstate they became an integral and celebrated part of the nation's cultural and intellectual life. We have lunch at **Robertson's Hot Bread Kitchen** before continuing to our hotel **Quality Hotel Rules Club** in Wagga Wagga. After check in we enjoy dinner together.

Day 10 Tuesday 20 October 2026 Home

Breakfast, Lunch

We pack our bags and load the coach as we make our way home. With plenty of rest stops along the way, we enjoy our farewell lunch at the **Goulburn Soldiers Club**. Passing through the Southern Highlands we arrive back in Sydney to commence our home drop offs and complete our tour and say goodbye at your door after a wonderful 10 day tour with Brian and Mary and Ezi Drive Coaches.

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