



# GYMPIE TRAVEL CENTRE

flights, cruises + group charter

## ACTIVE TOURS AND TRANSFERS

07 5313 6631

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# Bright Autumn Festival

## & Colours of the Victorian Alpine Region

6 Days / 5 Nights Tour **Departs: Tuesday 28 April - Sunday 3 May 2020**

### Tour Price Includes:

Return airport transfers

Return economy flights Brisbane - Melbourne

Luxury coach travel

5 Nights quality motel accommodation

Breakfast, lunch & dinner as per itinerary (14 Meals)

All attractions - entry fees, guides & guided tours as per itinerary



**Tour Highlights:** Harrietteville Museum & Tronoh Dredge Hole; Granny's Pantry; Mountain Fresh Trout & Salmon Farm; Huggins Lookout; Red Stag Deer Farm Lunch; Highlights of Bright Tour; Bright Visitor Information Centre; Autumn Colours of Bright & Wandiligong, Nightingale Brothers, Bright Railway Station Museum; Highlights of Beechworth; Beechworth Courthouse Costumed Trial Re-Enactment; Burke Museum; Brown Brothers Cellar Door & Patricia's Table Restaurant; Milawa Cheese Factory + Milawa Kitchen, Woods Park Wines & Walnut Tree Collection Gift Shop; Australian Pumpkin Seed Factory; The Bright Autumn Festival; Tungamah Silos; St. James Silos; Devenish Silos; Goorambat Uniting Church Mural of Sophia; The Goorambat Silo Murals; Highlights tour of Shepparton; Highlights tour of Shepparton; Noorilim Estate & Garden; The Vietnam Veterans Commemorative Walk & much more

### Day 1. Tues 28 Apr: Home Port - Melbourne - Myrtleford (Lunch & Dinner)

#### Flights VA830 Departs Brisbane 0855, Arrives Melbourne 1120

After an early wake we are getting picked up from Gympie (door to door service) to make our way to the airport for our flight to Melbourne. On arrival we are met by our experienced Coach Captain and make our way up to Bright in North Eastern Victoria. The **Bright Rotary Autumn Festival** is a ten-day celebration of the wonderful autumn colours and autumn produce of Victoria's Alpine High Country. Just a short drive from Melbourne Airport is the home of **The Living Legends** such as Apache Cat, Brew, Bullish Luck, Fields of Omagh, Might and Power, Paris Lane, Rogan Josh and Silent Witness. We are able to rub shoulders with these equine royals, stroll the **Woodlands Homestead** heritage gardens and enjoy **lunch in the Black Caviar Cafe**. This afternoon our drive up to the Victorian Alpine Region has us stopping off in **Glenrowan**. We will have time to stroll across to the **Village Hall Cafe or Dad and Dave's Billy Tearooms** to purchase afternoon tea. After our comfort stop it's a very scenic drive across to Myrtleford for check-in at our accommodation. We then gather for a welcome drink and dinner in the motel restaurant.

#### Overnight Myrtleford: Motel on Alpine



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## **Day 2. Wed 29 Apr: Myrtleford - Harrietville (Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner)**

This morning after an early start our driver takes us across through Bright and Smoko as we follow the Ovens River to the picturesque mountain village of **Harrietville**. The **Harrietville Museum** situated in a restored old miner's cottage, features some unique exhibitions, including homemade snowshoes used by skiing pioneers, and gold mining relics from the 1880's. We also check out the **Tronoh Dredge Hole Lake** left behind after the site was mined in the 1940's and 50's. Just a short drive away is Brian and Jans 'Piece of Paradise' where we enjoy an informative talk and morning tea at the **Granny's Pantry**. Our next stop has us calling at the **Mountain Fresh Trout and Salmon Farm** where we enjoy a guided tour of the fish breeding ponds. From fish to deer we travel back through Bright and Porepunkah via **Huggins Lookout** then out to the **70-acre Red Stag Deer Farm for a late lunch**. This magnificent farm offers stunning alpine views in all directions including the beautiful Mount Buffalo National Park. Following lunch our host Grace will provide an **interesting insight into the farming of the deer, emus and ostriches**. We arrive back into Myrtleford late afternoon where we will have time to freshen up before dinner at the motel restaurant. **Overnight Myrtleford: Motel on Alpine**

## **Day 3. Thur 30 Apr: Bright & Wandiligong (Breakfast & Dinner)**

Today it is back across the valley before enjoying a **highlights tour of Bright** and the pretty village of **Wandiligong** with our local guide which starts at the **Bright Visitor Information Centre**. Our tour takes in all the magical colours of Bright and Wandiligong as well as a stop at **Nightingale Brothers**, producers of crisp juicy apples, chestnuts and persimmons, available for purchase. With a picturesque orchard setting, the Nightingale Bros Produce Store brings the region's best seasonal produce direct from the grower to the public!

After morning tea it's back into Bright to the **Bright Museum** situated in the heritage listed old Bright Railway Station. The museum covers railway history, gold mining history and the social history of the area along with local family histories and a photographic collection. We have free time for the remainder of the afternoon, exploring the boutique shops and enjoying Bright's natural charms. Later in the day we meet at our pick-up point in the town centre to return to the motel to refresh before **dinner at Happy Valley Hotel**.

**Overnight Myrtleford: Motel on Alpine**

## **Day 4. Fri 1 May: Myrtleford - Beechworth - Milawa (Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner)**

This morning we travel to Beechworth where we take in the **highlights of the historic Beechworth precinct**. Visit the historic **Beechworth Courthouse** for a costumed interactive trial re-enactment based on actual court transcripts, as well as a guided tour and talk in the **Burke Museum**, including the Kelly Vault. Moving on we make our way to the **Brown Brothers Milawa Winery** where we enjoy lunch at **Patricia's Table Restaurant** and tastings at the cellar door. The Cellar Door is the nerve centre of new ideas and experimentation within Brown Brothers and is the perfect environment for tasting new varieties and wine styles. The Milawa region is also home to the **Milawa Cheese Company**. Contained within the 101-year-old former butter factory we enjoy a talk and cheese tasting. The former butter factory also houses the Milawa Kitchen, Woods Park Wines and Walnut Tree Collection Gift Shop. Later in the afternoon we enjoy an insight into the pumpkin seed industry at the **Australian Pumpkin Seed Company**. Our stop includes an audio visual, pumpkin seeds and pumpkin seed oil tasting and more, followed by a leisurely browse through the shop. After a wonderful day out it's time to sit back and **enjoy the stunning colours of the valley** as we return to Myrtleford. This evening we gather for dinner in the motel restaurant.

**Overnight Myrtleford: Motel on Alpine**



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### **Day 5. Sat 2 May: Bright Autumn Festival - The Silo Art Trail – Shepparton (Breakfast & Dinner)**

Today we check out of our motel and make our way back through the valley to celebrate the **Gala Weekend at Bright's Autumn Festival** and a free morning in the town centre with markets and street performers beginning early. The main streets will be closed off for all the fun of the festival. With brass and highland bands, craft displays, the **Autumn Festival Parade** delights us with a real carnival atmosphere. Early afternoon we will board the coach and make our way across to Goulburn Valley Region to the **Tungamah Silos**, this is the regions first silo to be painted by Western Australia artist, Sobrane Simcock in February 2018. It's then on to **St. James**, a new addition and a work in progress silo by local artist Tim Bowtell, with Draught horses and a truck that was once used to cart bushels of wheat to the silos. Next are the **Devenish Silos**, in the small unique town with a population of 197. The silo art at Devenish was unveiled on Anzac Day 2018, painted by Melbourne Artist Cam Scale, the mural features a nurse from World War 1 and a modern-day army medic. More than 100 locals raised \$20,000 to fund the striking 20-metre-high mural. We arrive into Shepparton late afternoon to check-in and refresh for happy hour and dinner in the motel restaurant. **Overnight Shepparton: Quality Hotel Parklake**

### **Day 6. Sun 3 May: Shepparton - Noorilim Estate - Melbourne – Homeport (Breakfast & Lunch)**

After breakfast this morning we check out and make our way to the **Shepparton Information centre**, where we will be met by our local guide. We enjoy our **highlights tour of Shepparton** which includes some of the 100+ Moooving Art Cows and the Aboriginal street art project mural featuring William Cooper and Pastor Sir Douglous Nicholls. Just a short drive away is **The Uniting Church in the tiny town of Goorambat**, home to "Sophia", an art mural inside the church completed by Adnate as part of the 2017 Benalla Festival. Just down the road is the Goorambat silos which were officially opened on the 7th of April 2018. They were painted by D'Vate, featuring an endangered barking owl which is native to North Eastern Victoria. The rural scene painted on the second silo represents the area's rural bush and farming landscapes. Next we visit the **Noorilim Estate**, built in 1879 and surrounded by 22 acres of picturesque botanical gardens, an ornamental lake and 75 acres of vineyards that are home to over 150 species of native birds and mammals. Here we enjoy a guided tour of the Homestead and gardens followed by a light lunch. Continuing back down the highway we stop in Seymour to view the **Vietnam Veterans Commemorative Walk**. Opened in 2013, the wall includes the names of all Australian veterans who served in the Vietnam War and a photographic timeline. This concludes our week exploring the Victorian Alpine region. At Melbourne airport we check in for our flight home to Brisbane, arriving home late with wonderful memories of a lovely week in the Alpine Region. Flight VA867 Departs Melbourne at 1700 and arrives into Brisbane at 1910. After arrival our bus is waiting for us to take us back to Gympie.

**Tour Cost: \$2328.00 per person Twin Share (Single Supplement \$360.00)**

#### **PAYMENT DETAILS**

**\$300.00 DEPOSIT due 16th of December 2019 to confirm your place on tour.**

**FINAL PAYMENT is due on or before Friday 16th February 2020**

*The tour prices valid for travel in 2020 but is subject to change until confirmed. Please note that the itinerary is subject to change without notice*