

## Sydney to Melbourne Southern States Cycle Tour

A wonderful 28 Day/28 Night Cycle Tour cycle tour, over 1000kms, exploring the stunning beaches, rolling countryside, historical country towns and spectacular huge forests of Gippsland and Southern NSW.

Includes bikes, cycling equipment, accommodation, breakfast, dinner as detailed, luggage transfers, spare tubes, first aid and repair kits.



### Tour Itinerary:

**Sector 1 – Waterfall to Jervis Bay following our Coastal Escape Cycle Tour. 7 days 7 nights. 240kms. Incl 1 rest day, with optional additional cycle routes to explore at Huskisson.**

Your tour starts in the Royal National Park where we will meet you at Waterfall Station and collect your luggage. If you like we can add a day for you to explore in Sydney or a rest day after your flights. Waterfall is a short train trip from Sydney or Sydney airport.

This first stage of your cycling tour allows you to explore the beautiful NSW coast south of Sydney, from the Royal National Park to the crystal clear waters of Jervis Bay. The route travels through coastal towns, forests and farmlands and includes a day walking the Kiama Coastal Path (or optional rest day), and an eco-adventure boat trip around the beautiful Jervis Bay Marine Park. We have included an additional day in Jervis Bay as there is so much to cycle or simply relax and appreciate! It is world class beautiful. The cycling for this sector finishes in Nowra where you will be transferred to Canberra with only your luggage. Stay Canberra.

**Sector 2 – Canberra to Nimmitabel 1 days 1 night. 35kms cycling, 1 day to explore the cycle paths/museums of our National Capital and bus trip Canberra to Nimmitabel where you will stay at the Royal Arms Hotel.**

Canberra is known as the Country Capital. Built on Lake Burley Griffin it is a very cycle friendly city. When you awake in Canberra your bikes are ready for you to cycle around the lake, exploring the city's national museums and attractions. If you do all three loops it will be a 35km day or you can just take it easy and do a short 5 km loop around the city's major attractions. The bus to Nimmitabel leaves at 4pm in the afternoon and your heritage accommodation is right near the bus stop in Nimmitabel.

**Sector 3 – 3-day custom guided cycle tour of the grand Erinunderra Plateau and Snowy River Region. 4 Day cycle Bairnsdale to Orbost. 146km easy Rail Trail + 120km guided tour cycling. 7 Day 7 Nights**

Snowy River Cycling will look after you for the next 7 days and 7 nights with their specialty knowledge of the East Gippsland Region. This is an area of wonderful beaches and remote grand rainforests. Snowy River Cycling will meet you at Nimmitabel and will take you on an a 3 day escorted cycle, back country to the spectacular Snowy River valley and Erinunderra Plateau. This area is remote and has no mobile coverage and only few places with traditional back country accommodation so cycling here is only with possible with Liz and her crew. You will enjoy this section of your trip with true Aussie back country accommodation including sharing the bathrooms! At the end of your guided tour you will stay the night at Marlo, where the Snowy River meets the sea. Your next 4 days will see you cycle the East Gippsland Rail Trail with its immense trestle bridges and Gippsland Lakes Discovery Trail that takes you into the heart of Lakes Entrance right on the beach. You will stay in a farmstay and the little township of Bruthen on the Tambo River. You will finish in beautiful Bairnsdale where you can visit the historic mural church painted during the 1930's depression by Francesco Floreani. You will return your bikes to Snowy River Cycling and we will meet you in the morning.



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**Sector 4 – Bairnsdale to Yarram. 5 Days and 5 Nights, 229kms including one bike optional day (55km) or option to explore Tarra Bulga National Park**

This is a fantastic mix of open plains, southern temperate rainforest, wonderful country towns and big rivers. The sector starts with a country plains ride to Stratford on the river Avon, home to the Shakespeare on the River Festival, Australian style. You may see our Roulettes Airforce Acrobatics Troupe training in the air. From Stratford, it's off to Rosedale with a wonderful mix of Rail Trail and quiet back country roads following the tyre treads of the racing Rowley brothers through the real Gippsland plains with views to the Great Divide, crossing our rivers while enjoying the old country towns. At Rosedale, you can either cycle up to Balook, 700m high on the ridge, or take a lift as we transfer your luggage. At Balook, you can explore the Tarra Bulga National Park. Hidden within the Strzelecki Ranges, Tarra-Bulga National Park features lush fern-filled gullies, giant Mountain Ash and ancient Myrtle Beech. Visitors have long enjoyed strolling along one of the nature walks or picnicking beside a shady fern-lined creek. Then its downhill to Yarram through the ferny glades of the rainforest. A delightful tea garden with local scones and jam and cream is there to enjoy along the way.

**Sector 5 – Yarram to Cowes. 6 Days 6 Nights, 212km. Incl. 1 Rest Day with optional 14km walk.**

Cycle along the southern Strzelecki Range with great views to Foster. A side trip takes you into Agnes Falls which are the highest, single drop falls in Victoria. Then take the Great Southern Rail Trail for a historic journey to Koonwarra, the small town that started the global slow food movement. Enjoy the great arts and crafts. From Koonwarra, you take off into the green rolling country that southern Gippsland is famous for. Finish the day in the lovely seaside hamlet of Inverloch where you can have a swim or walk along the surf beach. Then cycle the stunning Bunurong cliffs and Bass Coast Rail Trail to Kilcunda where you will stay right on the beach cliffs for 2 nights. During your rest day, you can explore the George Bass Coastal Walk for as long or as little as you like. It offers the most amazing coastal views! Your last day on this sector takes you to Cowes on Phillip Island where the Fairy Penguins come in at dusk. It has the most amazing Koala Park, great beaches and you may see wild kangaroos, koalas and other native animals in the reserve.

**Sector 6 - Cowes to Melbourne. 2 days 2 nights, 82km.**

You start today with a ferry trip to Crib Point on the Mornington Peninsula. When you arrive you cycle out to the historic Coolarts Mansion, then over the southernmost mangroves in the world and into the country side to ride the Mornington Peninsula. Stay alongside the beach at the end of your day. In the morning, you will head out for the last day of your cycle tour. You will cycle into Melbourne over the wetlands and along the beautiful bayside beaches. Melbourne's Beach Road is the premier cycle route in Australia. Stop at the Brighton Bathing Boxes and enjoy the art along the way. As you cycle the beachside bike path you watch the city getting closer and closer. Celebrate your achievement of riding from Sydney to Melbourne in historic Port Melbourne. You will stay tonight in the centre of the stately city of Melbourne. We hope you have enjoyed this Grand Cycle Tour of Southern Australia!



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