

Great Ocean Road Walk, Victoria

Tour Date:
Departs **11 October 2010**



For **SINGLE WALKERS 40 to 59 Years**
5 days / 4 nights

Melbourne • Cape Otway • Apollo Bay • Shelley Beach/ • Blanket Bay • Cape Otway • Johanna • The Gable, Wreck Beach • The 12 Apostles Head • Melbourne

Great Ocean Road Walk, VIC

Walk Victoria's fabulous Great Ocean Walk. It's a new walking trail which complements Victoria's famous Great Ocean Road.

With so much of Victoria's coastline developed, the Great Ocean Walk offers a unique opportunity to explore the largely untouched, rugged and uniquely beautiful coastline of Victoria's Shipwreck Coast. The walk has been thoughtfully constructed, offering great variety, secluded forest tracks, windswept surf beaches and rock pools and high undulating tracks with spectacular coastal views that will have your camera working overtime.

Trip Grade - Fitness Level

It's ideal for the walker of a medium level of fitness. On most days some walkers can walk less if they prefer as long as this is negotiated with the guide. Only one section of the walk is rated as 'Hard' by Parks Victoria. As far as preparation goes a general preparatory program for someone who is not a walker would involve a schedule of regular weekly walking for at least 6-8 weeks prior with the aim of gradually walking further each week as well as starting to incorporate some hill walking would be appropriate

Testimonial

'The Great Ocean Road walk was excellent. You see much more on the walk than the road. The scenery from every turn was breath taking, and there was heaps of wildlife to see. The guides were very experienced and accommodating. Our nightly 3 course meals were scrumptious, and so deserved after a full day's walk. I'd recommend this walk to everyone who loves the great outdoors.'

Valda, 51 Nth QLD

Fellow Passengers: Share your journey with other like-minded active single walkers.



Small group walking.
Book early for your
place.

TOP 5 REASONS TO BOOK

1. Age-matched holiday groups
2. Travel with like-minded singles
3. Tours provided by leading tour operators
4. Early bird savings with many tours
5. Room-mate matching option

Tour Inclusions

- Four nights 4 star cabin accommodation
- All meals, lunch day 1 to lunch day 5
- Highly experienced professional walking guide/s
- Return bus transfers from Melbourne by private bus with trailer
- All shuttles during the trip
- Guided shipwreck tour, day 1
- All national park permits
- Emergency group first aid kit
- Emergency communications
- Fully escorted

Meals

Meals are a highlight of the tour, being healthy, tasty and enjoyable. They will be varied over the duration of the tour and include snacks to take on the trail.

Tour Date

Monday 11 - Friday 15 October 2010
(bookings close 28 August 2010*)

**Bookings will close before published date if places sell out.*

Tour Prices

| Per Person AUD | Price |
|--|--------|
| Deluxe Cabin: four-share | \$1789 |
| Deluxe Cabin: twin-share | \$1999 |
| Pre or post tour hotel, Melbourne twin share with breakfast | \$75 |
| Pre or post tour hotel, Melbourne single room with breakfast | \$140 |

Deluxe Cabins: Each cabin has 1 bathroom with two beds per room. They are modern style cabins with a lounge area and a kitchen.

- 4 share (2 bedrooms) deluxe cabins with shared bathroom
- 2 share (1 bedroom) deluxe twin share cabin with en suite

Pre and/or Post Tour:

Hotel Grand Chancellor, Melbourne 131
Lonsdale Street, 4 star

Prices correct at time of publishing but are subject to change should circumstances dictate.

About Us

At A Rendezvous for Singles we offer holiday groups for single travellers, visiting destinations across Australia and around the globe. From short tropical escapes to adventure trips and leisurely touring, all trips are age-matched and enjoyed with a group of like-minded people.

Contact Us

Monday to Thursday 10:00 am to 6:00 pm
Friday 10:00 am to 5:00 pm (AEST)

Phone 1300 653 692
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aRendezvous



Itinerary for Great Ocean Road Walk, Victoria



Day One - Monday 11 OCTOBER 2010

Walk: Apollo Bay to Shelley Beach

Distance: 8.0km

Walking Time: from mid afternoon

After being collected from the central Melbourne meeting point at 8.00am, the group departs on the minibus for the three drive to the accommodation at Cape Otway. Once we've had lunch and settled in, we head to Apollo Bay for the afternoon's walking, walking out of Apollo Bay to Point Bunbury and follow the road over the Barham River and around the western shore of Mounts Bay before arriving at Cape Marengo. Once past Marengo we traverse rock platforms and sandy beaches before ascending big Grassy Hill for stunning views past The Blowhole and Shelly Beach towards Blanket Bay. After detouring down to Shelly Beach and Elliott River we return to our bus to be driven back to our accommodation.

Highlights:

- Fur seals on Marengo reefs
- Sheltered sandy coves and rock platforms
- Views towards Blanket Bay from Grassy Hill
- Forest walk

Day Two - Tuesday 12 OCTOBER 2010

Walk: Blanket Bay to Accommodation

Distance: 16.0km

Walking Time: 5 - 6 hours

After driving to Blanket Bay, we take the time to explore this picturesque and historic bay before making our way along the trail to Parker River. At Parker River we are met by our local guide Mark, who guides us around the spectacular rocky coastline from Parker River to Point Franklin, entertaining us with the rich and intriguing history of this important location. We learn and laugh and once we farewell Mark, we continue to detour to the equally spectacular Crayfish Bay. There isn't a better spot for lunch anywhere along this coastline and if the weather's friendly, it's a great spot for a swim. After lunch it's time for a bit of koala spotting through the manna gums of Parker Hill before we wind our way to Cape Otway from where it is a short walk into our accommodation. A visit to the historic and heritage listed Cape Otway light station is optional (not included in tour price).

Highlights:

- Shipwreck Tour - Parker Inlet to Point Franklin
- Crayfish Bay
- Cape Otway
- Rainbow Falls
- Station Beach

Day Three - Wednesday 13 OCTOBER 2010

Walk: to Johanna to Hiders Access

Distance: 19.4km or 13.4km.

Walking Time: 6 - 7 hours maximum

Today, any walkers who do not want to walk the last six km from Johanna to Hiders Access may request a pick up for this section.

Leaving Cape Otway on foot we traverse the rugged escarpment above Point Flinders and Station Beach. Depending on the tides, we take the detour down to Station Beach and walk out to Rainbow Falls. This unique feature is well worth a visit and the remote beach walking beside the southern ocean is a treat. From Aire River we drive to Castle Cove from where we continue our walk through stunning grass tree and stringybark forests to remote and beautiful Johanna Beach to complete our day's walking.

Highlights:

- Escarpment Lookout over Aire River
- Castle Cove
- Native vegetation
- Cliffs and views
- Johanna Beach and Hikers Camp views

Day Four - Thursday 14 OCTOBER 2010

Walk: Melanesia Beach to Moonlight Head

Distance: 9.6km

Walking Time: 5 - 6 hours

This is the shortest and most challenging day but also the most stunning. Leaving the bus we have a short walk down to Melanesia Beach; a stunning beach and the underlying rock of Melanesia Beach makes this beach walking easier..

On Days 3 & 4 the bus will be available at intervals to meet the group. You will have the option of continuing with the walk, riding the bus for a spell or returning to camp to relax and give your feet a well earned break!

From Melanesia the cunningly constructed trail winds its way sinuously through the gullies and forest to finally emerge on the ridge line above the cove of Ryans Den. We detour into the hikers' camp to marvel at the spectacular views from the grassy knoll behind the campsites. Past Ryans Den we "earn our views" as we climb up hill and down dale, resting to drink water and take in the breath-taking scenery before finally arriving at Moonlight Head from where we have a short walk out to our bus & driver.

Highlights:

- Melanesia Beach-remote sandy beach, cannonball rock faces
- Ryans Den - views to die for
- Stunning coastal views
- Moonlight Head

Day Five - Friday 15 OCTOBER 2010

Walk: The Gable to Wreck Beach

Prinetown to 12 Apostles

Distance: 9.4km

Time: around 5 hours

This day is in two sections. Around three to three and a half hours of walking depending on tides. The order is sometimes swapped depending on the tides to ensure anchor viewing at Wreck

Beach (the main attraction of Wreck Beach and what many people come to see). The walk currently finishes beside the Great Ocean Rd 1.5km from the 12 Apostles but we always factor in viewing time at the 12 Apostles after the end of the walk.

The group will be returned to Melbourne (Grand Chancellor Hotel) in the evening around 9pm. It's recommended to stay in Melbourne overnight.

Option to book additional hotel nights through A Rendezvous for Singles at the Grand Chancellor Hotel, Melbourne.

What to Pack - Clothes & Gear

- * 2 pairs comfortable walking shorts or lightweight trousers (avoid jeans)
- * 3 breathable fast drying walking shirts (collared long sleeves recommended for hot weather)
- * Vest / lightweight jumper or fleece
- * Windproof & waterproof lightweight rain jacket, goretex or similar
- * 1 pair comfortable and broken-in walking boots for walking (sandals unsuitable)
- * Sun protection hat & sunglasses
- * Walking poles (optional)
- * Change of clothes for relaxing in each evening
- * Change of footwear for relaxing in
- * Gaiters are recommended for summer
- * Towels
- * Toiletries
- * Water bottles/bladder to carry 2-3 litres
- * Swimmers (warmer months)
- * Day pack for day walks
- * Camera (with spare batteries) & watch
- * Head torch or hand torch
- * Cash for personal expenses for kiosk at cabins
- * consider; mobile phone, books, binoculars

NOTES. *The tour operator reserves the right to alter or deviate from the tour itinerary should circumstances dictate.*

PRE-DEPARTURE CONTACT SERVICE. *With your permission, we share your first name, state and email (or other preferred contact method) to the rest of the travellers on your tour from **A Rendezvous for Singles**, prior to departure. It's a popular choice, especially as most guests usually book solo. It provides the opportunity to get in touch with others in the group prior to travel. This contact list is provided after bookings close.*

TERMS AND CONDITIONS. *Full terms and conditions are available on the holiday website. Information was correct at the time of publishing however some details may change without notice. This holiday is provided by Soulfree Adventures.*

This holiday is offered to the A Rendezvous for Singles community of single travellers. There may also be other guests on this tour booked via other channels. This trip generally appeals to persons of 40 years and over.