

PS Murray Princess

Thursday 28th July to Monday 8th August 2022



PS Murray Princess, cruise the majestic Murray River in style on one of the world's longest rivers with Port Bus this August.

Rivers have long defined the heart and soul of Australia – for native peoples, settlers, and travellers alike – and no river is more important than the Murray River.

From its source in the Kosciusko National Park, through to its outlet into the Southern Ocean, the mighty Murray River has shaped our land as it carves its way to the sea.

If you have ever wanted to explore this special part of the world, now's the time to do so with Port Bus for a truly memorable trip. And the cruise is only a portion of this twelve-day adventure, so ALL ABOARD but be quick as numbers are limited!

Day One Thursday 28th: Port to Parramatta

We head South for our infamous Port Bus morning tea at Buladelah. When was the last time you called through the now bypassed town of Bulahdelah - Meaning 'the meeting place of two rivers' Yes, it is all about the food as our next stop is The **Anglers Inn** Brooklyn on the beautiful Hawkesbury River for lunch? Arriving in Parramatta around 15:30, checking inn at **Sydney Mecure Parramatta**. Dinner is not until 18:00 so head out for a late-night shop @ Westfield Parramatta or sit back and relax.

Includes: Port Bus morning tea, lunch, dinner & accommodation.



Day Two Friday 29th: Parramatta to Gundagai



After breakfast we head into the Harbour for our **Convicts, Castles & Champagne Cruise**, a unique tour of Sydney Harbour and historic Goat Island and get up close and personal with Sydney's colourful convict past. Enjoy an entertaining and fascinating guided convict history walking tour on the island with catered lunch, along with a relaxing cruise around the harbour. Sit back and take in Sydney's

beautiful harbour vistas whilst sipping on delicious, chilled champagne! After all that excitement we take a comfort stop at Goulburn. Tonight, we set up camp at **Tuckerbox Motor Inn**, Goulburn's only 4-star Motel. Dinner tonight is at **Gundagai Services Club** in Banjo's Kitchen.

Includes: Breakfast, Convicts, Castles & Champagne Tour, accommodation & dinner.

Day Three Saturday 30th: Gundagai to Balranald

Travel day today. Checkout after breakfast around 08:15. Morning tea @ Narrandera. "Narrandera", is a town located in the Riverina region. The town lies on the junctions on the Newell & Stuart highways, adjacent to the Murrumbidgee River. Lunch is @ **Hay Bowling Club**, choices of eight meals. Dinner, bed, and breakfast is at **Balranald Motor Inn & Billabong Restaurant**. The town of Balranald is located where the Sturt Highway crosses the Murrumbidgee River in a remote, semi-desert area.

Includes: Breakfast, lunch, dinner, and accommodation.



Day Four Sunday 31st: Balranald to Tailem Bend



Checkout today is a respectful 09:00. A stop at **Ouyen Club** for morning tea, lunch at **Golden Grain Hotel, Pinnaroo** before checking in around 16:14 to **Rydg's Pit Lane Hotel** in The Bend Motorsport Park. The complex has a 7.770 km (4.8 mi) bitumen circuit, [drag racing](#) strip, and [drift racing](#) circuit. ^[2] [Scott McLaughlin](#) holds the lap record for a [Supercars](#) (Ford Mustang) in 1.47.495 August 2019. 'Wikipedia'. Dinner is in house tonight.

Includes: Breakfast, morning tea, lunch, dinner & accommodation.

Day Five Monday 1st: Tailem Bend to Murray Bridge

After breakfast we head off to **The Round House** in Murray Bridge. The unique, hexagonal-shaped residence built between 1873 and 1876, was pivotal to the early development of Murray Bridge. Built for Henry Parker, the superintendent overseeing the construction of the first bridge to span the Murray River, the Round House has also served as the town's first school, post office, church, and council chambers. We tour the



homestead and wander the beautiful garden overlooking the river and bridges. Off to **Swanport Wetlands**. The wetland is essentially one lagoon, which has been bisected by a causeway. This causeway has altered the natural flow patterns of the wetland and now forms part of the wetlands as we see it today. Hungry? Lunch is at **Murray Bridge Community Club** overlooking the majestic Murray River. Mid-afternoon we board the **PS Murray Princess** and depart historic Mannum, the birthplace of the Murray River trade and communication, and heads upriver while you enjoy a Welcome dinner. As we cruise under floodlight to our evening mooring at Curnamont, you may see nocturnal wildlife on the riverbank. Watch out for kangaroos, hairy nosed wombats, tortoises, egrets and many other species. An on-board entertainer provides music for the night owls.

Includes: Breakfast, visit & tour of Round House, lunch & our Cruise

Day Six Tuesday 2nd : Outback Heritage Cruise

Daybreak and it is time for the keen photographer to be out to capture the special light and the morning movement of wildlife. Prolific birdlife includes pelicans, wrens, and swans. Enjoy a leisurely morning and lunch cruising upriver to Blanchetown through one of the 13 locks which maintain the flow and levels of water. This afternoon we moor opposite to the township of Blanchetown for our overnight anchorage. As the last rays of the sun fade, we visit **Burk Salter Boutique Winery** and enjoy wine tasting at the cellar door which is fitted out with beautiful red gum bars. After dinner, join in the fun and excitement, and participate in the "Murray River Cup"



Includes: Our Cruise.

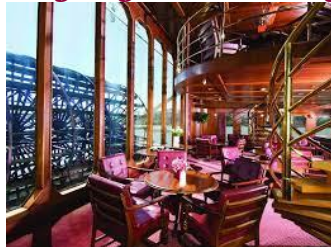
Day Seven Wednesday 3rd : Outback Heritage Cruise

After breakfast we cruise downriver to picturesque Swan Reach. The town was first settled in the 1850's, was originally the largest of five sheep and cattle stations in the areas and is now home to native flower and fruit growers. The original **Swan Reach Homestead** is now the **Swan Reach Hotel** where you can enjoy an ale or cappuccino overlooking the Murray River (additional cost). Join a walking tour and visit the Swan Reach Museum (gold coin donation on entry). Cruise downriver after lunch and take in the tranquillity as the landscape slide by, when we arrive at Sunnysdale, it's all ashore for the Woolshed Show as we recreate typical Australian woolshed history. Later we visit the Native Wildlife Shelter where some of South Australia's most interesting animals are cared for. And then of course, there is the great Aussie BBQ – cooked and served in a bush setting on the banks of the Murray River. An optional Nocturnal Tour (additional cost) in a comfortable purpose-built cart is available after dinner where you may see kangaroos, wombats, foxes, bats & owls by powerful spotlights. Special stops along the way included to view the spectacular night sky which is part of the River Murray International Darl Sky Reserve.



Includes: Our Cruise.

Day Eight Thursday 4th: Outback Heritage Cruise



After an optional early morning Bush Tucker Breakfast (additional cost) or a bush walk with the Captain, the vessel cruises slowly downriver past magnificent cliffs scoured by the river over millions of years. We reach **Ngaut Aboriginal Reserve**, one of Australia's most significant archaeological sites, for a step back in time – tens of thousands of years – for a guided boardwalk tour to view ancient rock carvings and to river to **Younghusband**. Along the way, adventure seekers can also take a scenic tender boat ride. Tonight, join our fellow passengers for a delicious final night dinner and enjoy the entertainmet.

Includes: Our Cruise.

Day Nine Friday 5th: Mannum to Adelaide + Adelaide Hills & Hahndorf

We leave Younghusband and head back to Mannum. After breakfast we reluctantly say farewell as we arrive at the Mannum Wharf. Morning tea is at the iconic Hahndorf Inn, rich in history and hospitality. The Cedars guided tour and then enjoy free time in **Hahndorf** wandering along the main street exploring many shops



including art, craft, leather, and fabric shops, butchers, bakers, cafes and of course pubs! Drive past Bridgewater Mill water wheel and the villages of Crafers, Stirling, and Aldgate. Stop at the **Berenberg Farm Shop**. We stop for a photo opportunity at **Mt Lofty Summit** – this highest peak of the Mt Lofty Ranges. Arriving for check in around 17:30 to **Sage Hotel**, Adelaide.

Includes: Our cruise, guided tour, dinner, and accommodation.

Day Ten, Saturday 6th: Barossa Valley Food & Wine



Travel through the city of Adelaide northwards to the world-renowned Barossa wine region. Enjoy the change of scenery as you make your way into the vineyards of South Australia's premium wine region.

Your first stop is **Pindarie**, a multi-tourism award winning cellar door, which feels more like an Australian Homestead than a cellar door. The friendly staff share their stories behind the wines as you sample their famous blends in the heritage stables. Sit back and admire their stunning vineyard views while you enjoy some morning tea.

The next stop is a visit to **Maggie Beer's Farm Shop**, an absolute must whilst visiting the Barossa. Maggie Beer – cook, writer and founder of 'Maggie Beer Products', offers tastings and sales of her full product range including the limited-edition seasonal produce. Here you can browse amongst her personally selected regional speciality goods, purchase one of her signed books or simply sit back and take in the view.

On arrival at **Lambert Estate** at Angaston, you will enjoy a structured wine tasting whilst sampling local seasonal produce from gourmet platters. Main course follows, and is a feast for the senses, with two signature dishes, salad, and vegetables. You may wish to purchase a glass of wine from the impressive wine selection, or enjoy a coffee accompanied with their popular Chocolatier (Chocolate Port).

Leaving Lambert Estate, travel to **Mengler Hill Lookout** for sweeping views over the valley and then onto **Barossa Valley Chocolate Company** your final stop for the day. Here you will taste house made chocolates paired with Vineyard Road's handcrafted wines which will be a great way to finish off our Barossa Food and Wine Experience.

Includes: Breakfast, transport, local tour guide, morning tea & tastings, 2-course lunch & structured wine tasting, taste chocolates paired with wine, dinner & accommodation.



Day Eleven, Sunday 7th: Kangaroo Island



Your first official stop will be the fascinating **Birds of Prey Display at Raptor Domain** for an educational interactive and inspiring experience. The only "In-Flight" Birds of Prey display in South Australia, it is thought by many to be the most interactive Birds of Prey display in Australia.

Next, travel to **Emu Ridge Eucalyptus Distillery** for a delicious lunch followed by an introductory talk about the history of the oil distillery and take a guided tour. You may choose to taste Kangaroo Island Ciders' range of Colony Cove products including Apple Sparkler and Cider (additional

cost). Finish off with some free time in their souvenir shop where you will find an assortment of Eucalyptus products. Your next stop is **Clifford's Honey Farm**, where you will enjoy an informative guided tour of the honey room where you will learn about the extraction process, taste a honey soft drink, and have the option to sample the Drunken Drone Brewery's Honey Wheat Ale. In the farm gate shop, you can see a working beehive where you can try to spot the Queen bee. There are different varieties of pure Kangaroo Island Ligurian honey and beauty products to purchase as well as their famous honey ice-cream.



Continue to **Pennington Bay**, a spectacular beach on the south coast of Kangaroo Island for a photo opportunity before arriving at your final stop **False Cape Wines Cellar Door**. This stunning new cellar door is made from recycled wood, jetty timbers and limestone sourced on the property. Here you can take part in structured wine tasting while you enjoy the peaceful, views of the surrounding vineyards. Your tour ends at **Penneshaw Hotel** where you have ample time to have dinner (own expense) before returning to the Penneshaw Ferry Terminal for your ferry and coach transfer back to your Motel.

Includes: Breakfast, transport, ferry, 2-course lunch & guided tour, structured wine tastings & accommodation.

Day Twelve, Monday 8th: Adelaide to Home

Sleep in for our last day considering our BIG day out yesterday! Enjoy breakfast at 08:30 before we depart to Adelaide Airport for an 11:45 departure. We do have to go via Brisbane, but it is only a short turn around before we are homeward bound. Another coach and driver will meet us at Newcastle Airport when our flight lands at 17:00. Drop offs will commence around 19:30.

Includes: Breakfast, transfer to airport, one way flight to Newcastle via Brisbane and transfer home.

Duration: 12 Days & 11 Nights

\$4,490 twin share or \$5,845 single

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All times are approximate only and are subject to change without notice.