

High Country Tour

featuring

Bright Autumn Leaves Festival

Autumn
Colours
Country Charm
Lasting Memories

Thursday 29 April 2027 – Thursday 06 May 2027



Scenic Drives ~ Charming Towns ~ Stunning Autumn Colours ~ Great Company

Day 1 (LD) HOME TO GOULBURN

Thursday 29 April 2027

Welcome aboard our **8-day autumn adventure** to the beautiful **High Country**. It's lovely to have everyone with us, and today is all about getting comfortable, meeting your fellow travellers and settling in for the journey ahead.

We begin by making our way south, enjoying the scenery and a relaxed morning on the road before our first stop at **Bulahdelah**. It's a chance to stretch the legs, grab a cuppa and have a chat before we continue on.

From here, we travel to **Ourimbah**, where lunch is waiting for us at the **Ourimbah RSL**. With everyone well fed, we climb back aboard and

continue south, making our way around Sydney and then heading further southwest towards **Goulburn**.

There's always something nice about that first day of tour — new faces, plenty of conversation and the excitement of knowing there are some wonderful days ahead. By late afternoon we arrive at our hotel in **Goulburn**, where we can unpack, freshen up and relax after our day on the road.

This evening, we'll come together for our **welcome dinner**. It's the perfect chance to get to know one another a little better, share a few laughs and settle into tour mode.

A nice easy first day, and just the beginning of our High-Country adventure.

Lunch at Ourimbah RSL | Dinner at hotel



Mercure Goulburn, Goulburn | 1 night

Day 2 (BLD) GOULBURN TO WANGARATTA

Friday 30 April 2027

After an early breakfast, we're back on the road and continuing our journey south. Today's drive takes us through some classic country towns and ever-changing scenery as we make our way deeper into southern New South Wales.

Day 2 (BLD) GOULBURN TO WANGARATTA

continued

Friday 30 April 2027

We travel through **Gundagai**, a town steeped in Australian history and folklore, before continuing to **Holbrook**. From here, it's not far to our lunch stop at the **Kinross Woolshed**, where we can sit back, enjoy a good meal and take a little time to relax before the afternoon's travels.

After lunch, we continue south and cross into Victoria, making our way towards **Wangaratta**. By late afternoon, we arrive at our accommodation and



this time there's no need to worry about packing up again tomorrow — **Wangaratta will be our home for the next four nights.**

With the bags unpacked and everyone settled in, there's time to relax, put your feet up and enjoy a quieter end to the day before we begin exploring the beautiful High Country in earnest tomorrow.

Breakfast and dinner in motel | lunch at Kinross Hotel

Quality Hotel Wangaratta | 4 nights



Day 3 (BD) BRIGHT AUTUMN LEAVES FESTIVAL

Saturday 01 May 2027

Today is all about colour, atmosphere and one of the real highlights of our High-Country adventure as we head to **Bright** for the much-loved **Bright Autumn Festival**. The festival is a ten-day celebration of the spectacular autumn colours and seasonal produce of Victoria's Alpine High Country, and we are lucky enough to be visiting on one of its biggest days. On arrival, we meet our local guide for a tour of **Bright**, learning a



little more about this beautiful township and the surrounding region before the festivities begin.

Then it's time to soak up the atmosphere of **Rotary Gala Day**, the feature event of the festival. There will be plenty of time to wander through the markets, browse the stalls, enjoy the live bands and entertainment, and simply take in the wonderful autumn colours that Bright is so famous for. This afternoon, we come together again for



the **Grand Parade**, the highlight of the festival and always a fantastic spectacle. With colourful floats, community groups, music and plenty of local spirit, it's a wonderful way to experience Bright at its very best. After a full and festive day, we make our way back to **Wangaratta** for the evening, with plenty of memories — and no doubt plenty of photos — from one of the most colourful days of the tour.

Breakfast and dinner in hotel | lunch, own arrangements and cost



DAY 4 (BLD) LEGENDARY BEECHWORTH AND GOURMET MILAWA

Sunday 02 May 2027



After breakfast, we set off for another wonderful day of history, flavours and local discoveries, beginning in the beautiful gold rush town of **Beechworth**. Our first visit is to the **Beechworth Historic Courthouse** and, if only these walls could talk, they would certainly have some stories to tell. With our guide bringing the past to life, we'll hear fascinating tales from the courtroom, including the story of Australia's most

famous bushranger, **Ned Kelly**, who was committed here to stand trial for murder. It's a captivating glimpse into Beechworth's colourful past and the people who helped shape its history. From here, we head to **Last Street Brewery**, formerly known as Billson's, where there is another chapter of Beechworth history waiting for us. Built in **1865**, during the height of the gold rush, the brewery was established on the site of a



DAY 4 (BLD) LEGENDARY BEECHWORTH AND GOURMET MILAWA

Sunday 02 May 2027



natural spring, and that pure mountain water is still used in its beverages today. Over the years, the site has produced beer, stout, soft drinks and cordials, adapting and changing with the times. Today, the focus includes beautifully crafted cordials inspired by traditional recipes and long-forgotten flavours, and we'll have the chance to enjoy a tasting before continuing on our way.

Next, we travel into the renowned **Milawa gourmet region**, where our first stop is **Brown Brothers Vineyard**. With a winemaking history dating back to **1889**, Brown Brothers is one of the region's best-known names.

Here we'll enjoy a wine tasting followed by lunch, giving us plenty of time to relax and soak up the surroundings. Our final tasting stop for the day is **Milawa Mustards**, housed in the charming old butcher shop in Milawa. This small local producer



creates a range of handmade seeded mustards, from mild and sweet through to those with a little more kick. We'll enjoy a tasting and learn a little more about this authentic cottage industry before it's time to begin our journey back to Wangaratta.

After a full day of history, wine and gourmet treats, we return to our hotel with time to freshen up and relax before dinner.



Breakfast and dinner in hotel | lunch at Brown Brothers

Day 5 (BLD) YARRAWONGA

Monday 03 May 2027

Today we head north to **Yarrawonga**, beautifully positioned on **Lake Mulwala** in an area of the Murray often known as "**Sun Country**." With its towering River Red Gums, sandy river beaches and wide-open landscapes, it is a lovely part of the region and a great place to begin our day.

On arrival, we board the **PS Cumberoona** for a relaxing morning tea cruise on **Lake Mulwala**. The lake was created in 1939

following the completion of the Yarrawonga Weir, as part of a major irrigation project designed to harness the waters of the Murray River. One of the lake's most distinctive sights is the thousands of ghostly dead



gum trees that still rise from the water — silent reminders of the landscape that existed here before the lake was filled.

Back on dry land, we continue to **Koonoomoo** for a visit to **The Big Strawberry**. As the name suggests, strawberries are very much the star of the show here.

Jams, ice creams, milkshakes, liqueurs and plenty more

are all made with strawberries, so there will be no shortage of temptation. We enjoy lunch here and have time to browse before continuing.

This afternoon we make our way to nearby **Strathmerton** for something completely different at **Cactus Country**. This family-run attraction has been a labour of love for many years and is home to more than **4,000 species of cacti and succulents** from Africa, North America, Mexico and South America.

After hearing a little about the story behind the gardens, we can explore at our own pace on a self-guided walk through this unique landscape. With towering cacti, unusual shapes and plenty of photo opportunities, it's certainly one of the more unexpected stops on our tour. By late afternoon, we return to **Wangaratta**, where there's time to put the feet up and relax before enjoying a well-earned dinner together.

Breakfast and dinner in hotel | lunch at Big Strawberry





We wake to the freshness of the mountain air, ready for a full day exploring some of the charming townships and hidden gems of the High Country.

Our first stop is **Red Ramia Trading** in **Myrtleford**, where it almost feels as though we are travelling through Japan, Morocco and India all in one morning. This fascinating store is filled with an eclectic collection of hand-picked antiques, artisan-crafted goods, recycled treasures and one-of-a-kind

pieces. There is plenty to discover as we wander through the displays, and you may even find a special something to take home. After time to browse, we enjoy morning tea before continuing on.

From here, we travel to the little township of **Eurobin** to visit **Red Stag Deer Farm**. Set against a stunning alpine backdrop, this unique property gives us the opportunity to get up close to deer, emus and ostriches while learning more about the animals and the farm. We'll enjoy lunch here



too, taking in the beautiful mountain views as we relax.

Our next stop is **Shady Brook Gardens**, a magnificent private property that has been featured more than once on ABC's *Gardening Australia*. We'll have time to wander through the gardens and enjoy the colour, peaceful surroundings and beautiful landscaping.

This afternoon, we take one of the loveliest drives in the region as we journey through the **Wandiligong Valley**. The entire valley is registered with the National Trust and is well known for its

historic charm, orchards and wonderful High Country scenery.

We finish the day with a visit to **Nightingale Bros Apples**, where the Nightingale family has been growing apples in the Wandiligong Valley since 1954. There will be a chance to browse and perhaps stock up on some fresh local produce before we make our way back to the hotel.

After another full day of exploring, tasting and taking in the beautiful High Country scenery, we return to the hotel for dinner and a relaxing evening.

Breakfast and dinner in hotel | Lunch at Red Stag Deer Farm

**Day 7 (BLD) WANGARATTA TO GOULBURN****Wednesday 05 May 2027**

centre of town. It is certainly an unexpected sight so far from the ocean, and during our visit we'll discover the fascinating story of how a submarine came to find a home here.

We'll also learn about the remarkable man behind the town's name, **Lieutenant Norman Holbrook**, a courageous British submariner whose daring exploits during the First World War earned him the Victoria Cross. Through an impressive holographic presentation, we'll hear the story of his bravery and discover how the town, once known as Germanton, came to be renamed Holbrook in his honour.



Day 7 (BLD) WANGARATTA TO GOULBURN

Wednesday 05 May 2027



After our visit, we make our way to the nearby **Holbrook RSL Club**, where lunch has been arranged for us. It's a chance to relax, enjoy a hearty meal and share a few stories from our morning before we continue our journey.

This afternoon we travel through the rolling countryside of southern New South Wales, making our way towards **Goulburn**. Known for its rich pastoral history and impressive heritage buildings, Goulburn will be our home for the final night of the tour.

After another wonderful day on the road, we'll settle into our accommodation and enjoy our last evening together, with plenty of memories, laughs

and stories to reflect on from our time away.

Breakfast and dinner in motel | lunch at Holbrook RSL Club

Mercure Goulburn | 02 4822 5445 | 1 night



DAY 8 (BL) HEADING HOME

Thursday 06 May 2027



It's hard to believe our wonderful **Wangaratta Autumn Tour** has come to an end. What a lovely time we have had together, travelling through some beautiful parts of the country and enjoying autumn at its very best. Along the way, we've watched the landscape transform from lush greens into brilliant shades of red, orange and gold, with the changing leaves adding a warm and nostalgic beauty to our travels.

After enjoying our final breakfast together, we check out of our Goulburn accommodation, load the coach one last time and begin our journey home. There will no doubt be plenty of chatter along

the way as we reflect on the places we've visited, the sights we've seen and all those little moments that have made our holiday so enjoyable.

As we continue north, we make our way to **Raymond Terrace Bowling Club**, where we'll stop for a well-earned break and our final meal together before beginning the last leg of our journey.

From here, it's homeward bound. As familiar scenery begins to

appear outside our windows, our adventure may be drawing to a close, but we'll be bringing home much more than our suitcases! There will be photographs to share, stories to tell, new friendships made and plenty of wonderful memories of our time together.

We expect to arrive home later today, bringing to a close our fantastic **Wangaratta Autumn Tour**. Thank you for joining us on this beautiful autumn adventure. We hope you've enjoyed every moment and return home with many happy memories of the colourful landscapes, wonderful attractions, great company and experiences we have shared along the way.

Until our next adventure together... **safe travels and welcome home!**

Breakfast in motel | lunch at Raymond Terrace Bowling Club



TOUR INCLUSIONS

- 7 night's motel accommodation
- 7 hotel breakfasts
- 7 hotel dinners
- 7 included lunch – see below
- Lunch at Ourimbah-Lisarow RSL Club - The Kitchen
- Lunch at Kinross Woolshed Hotel



TOUR INCLUSIONS

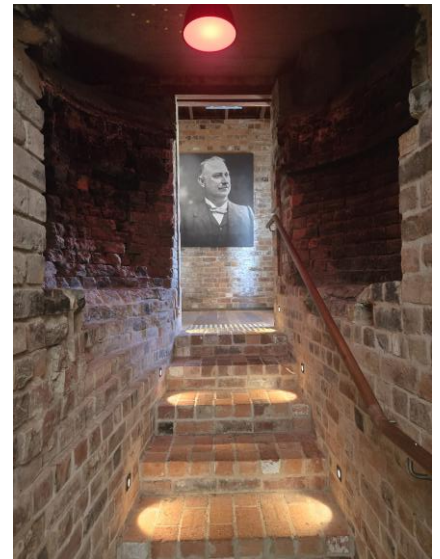
- Locally guided tour of Bright
- Gala Day - Bright Autumn Festival
- Guided tour of the courthouse, includes talk on the history of the courthouse and Ned Kelly trial exhibition at the Beechworth Historic Courthouse
- Visit to Retail Store and tasting at Last Street Brewery, Beechworth
- Lunch and tasting at Brown Brothers Winery
- Visit Milawa Mustards
- Morning cruise including morning tea on the PS Cumbaroona, Yarrawonga
- Lunch at The Big Strawberry, Koonoomoo
- Self-guided tour of the garden followed by talk plus afternoon tea at Cactus Country
- Morning tea at Red Ramia Trading
- Talk and lunch at Red Stag Deer and Emu Farm
- Garden entry to Shady Brook Gardens
- Visit Nightingale Bros Alpine Apples
- Guided tour at Submarine Museum, Holbrook
- Lunch at the Holbrook RSL Club
- Lunch at Raymond Terrace Bowling Club

CONFIRMED ACCOMMODATION

- Mercure Goulburn (2 nights)
- Quality Hotel Wangaratta Gateway (5 nights)

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO BOOK;

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\$3,999 pp twin | + \$1,115 pp single sup | \$1,000 deposit pp

PLEASE NOTE

- Price is based on a minimum of 25 paying passengers. If numbers fall below 25 paying passengers, this tour *may* need to be recosted.
- Price is valid for above tour dates only and includes GST.
- Morning teas or afternoon teas are not included unless specified.