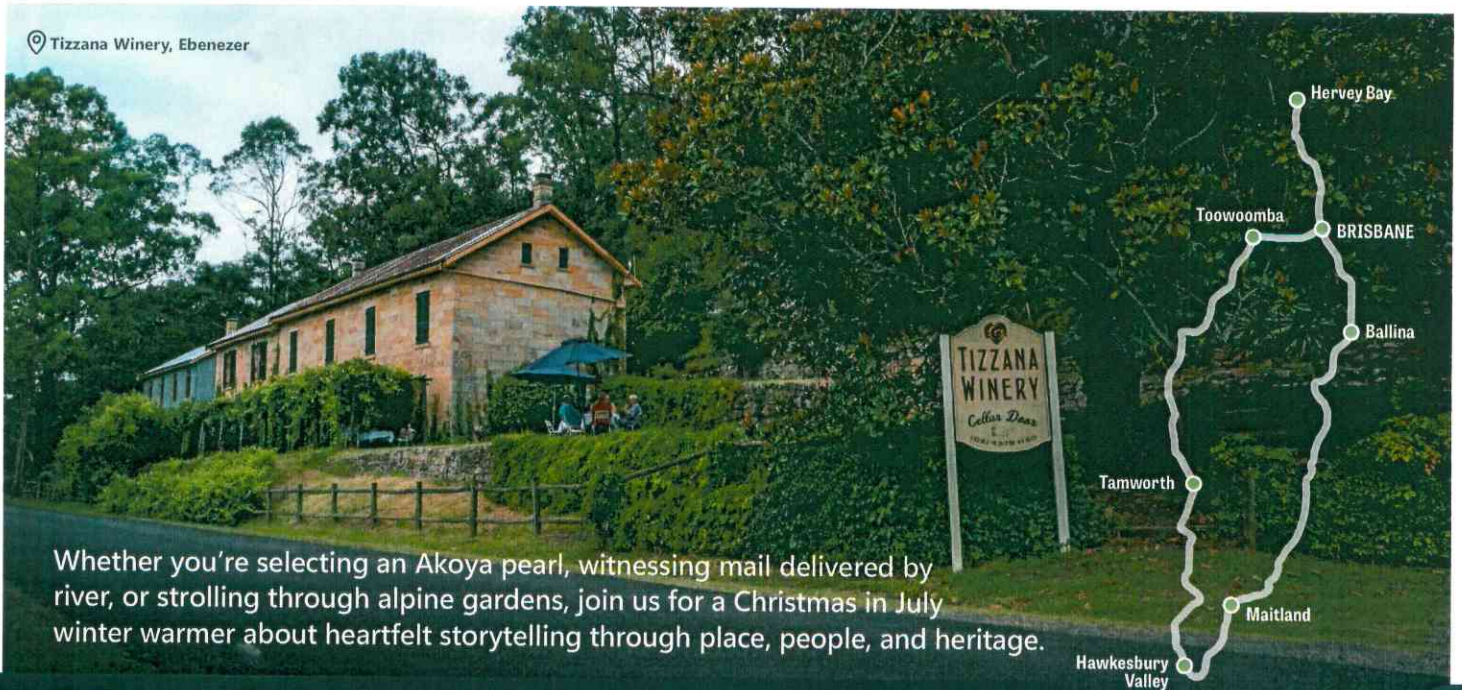




Whether you're selecting an Akoya pearl, witnessing mail delivered by river, or strolling through alpine gardens, join us for a Christmas in July winter warmer about heartfelt storytelling through place, people, and heritage.

9 Day | Christmas in July – Hawkesbury Valley

DEPARTS FRIDAY 03 JULY 2026

HIGHLIGHTS

- * Ballina Naval Maritime Museum
- * Broken Bay Pearls
- * Ebenezer's Tizzana Winery
- * Australia's Last Riverboat Postman Cruise
- * Zig Zag Railway
- * Blue Mountains Botanic Gardens
- * Hunter Warbirds Museum
- * Japanese Garden, Ju Raku En

DAY 1 HOME – BALLINA

Friday 3rd July: Welcome to our 9 day tour of the Hawkesbury Valley. Once settled, sit back, relax and meet fellow travellers as we journey south to Ballina for the evening. We'll make convenience stops and pause for lunch en-route. On arrival, we visit the Ballina Naval Maritime Museum with displays on the Port, local history, women in the navy, interactive exhibits and a working triple-expansion steam engine.

Accom: Ballina Bryon Islander Resort (D)

DAY 2 BALLINA – MAITLAND

Saturday 4th July: We settle in for today's journey with a morning stop in Grafton, then rejoin the coast at Coffs Harbour before enjoying lunch in Urunga. This afternoon, we continue south, arriving in Maitland for our overnight stay.

Accom: Mercure Maitland Monte Pio (BLD)

DAY 3 MAITLAND – HAWKESBURY VALLEY

Sunday 5th July: This morning we visit Broken Bay Pearls, the only pearl farm on Australia's East Coast. Our discovery tour includes a cruise to the oyster leases on the scenic Hawkesbury River and an exclusive pearl grading session inside the restricted-access Pearl Room. Returning, we learn the seven virtues that define pearl value before browsing the collection. Lunch is arranged at Berowra

RSL Club, followed by a visit to the Museums Discovery Centre, a collaboration of Sydney's leading museums. Later, we arrive at Crowne Plaza Hawkesbury Valley, our base for the next four nights.

Accom: Crowne Plaza (BLD)

DAY 4 WILBERFORCE & EBENEZER

Monday 6th July: We journey into Australia's colourful past at the Australian Pioneer Village in Wilberforce. Step back in time, explore the grounds, see the blacksmith at work, and hear bush musicians play colonial tunes. Enjoy damper with cocky's joy and billy tea at Damper Camp, or browse speciality shops for unique gifts and souvenirs. Next, we visit Ebenezer's Tizzana Winery. Here we enjoy a tasting, lunch, and a relaxing end to the day. Tonight, we celebrate Christmas with a festive resort dinner.

Accom: Crowne Plaza (BLD)

DAY 5 RIVERBOAT POSTMAN CRUISE

Tuesday 7th July: After an early breakfast, we head to Brooklyn Wharf for Australia's Last Riverboat Postman Cruise. Operating since 1910, it has long served river communities, and today we share the experience. Lunch is included. After a memorable day, we return to the resort.

Accom: Crowne Plaza (BLD)

DAY 6 ZIG ZAG RAILWAY

Wednesday 8th July: Today we visit the popular Zig Zag Railway, built 1866–1869 and hailed as a major engineering feat. Highlights include magnificent scenery and the sight, sound, and smell of a hard-working steam locomotive, sure to spark nostalgia for the steam era. After our trip, we travel the scenic Bells Line of Road to Mount Tomah for lunch and a visit to the Blue Mountains Botanic Gardens, home to 48,000+ plant specimens including the Formal Garden, Explorers' Walk, and Brunet Meadow. We return to our resort for a relaxing dinner.

Accom: Crowne Plaza (BD)

DAY 7 HAWKESBURY VALLEY – TAMWORTH

Thursday 9th July: We farewell our hosts, and travel to Muswellbrook through the scenic Hunter Valley, with its rolling hills and countryside. After a morning stop in historic Singleton, we continue to Scone for lunch. We then visit the Hunter Warbirds Museum for a talk and tour, showcasing key fighter and trainer aircraft from the Australian Flying Corp and RAAF. Back onboard, we head to Tamworth for our overnight stay.

Accom: Econo Lodge Tamworth (BLD)

DAY 8 TAMWORTH – TOOWOOMBA

Friday 10th July: This morning we travel through Bingara and Texas before lunch at The Shed, Goat Rock. The Croft Family serves a home-style country lunch, enjoyed amid Goat Rock's scenery. We arrive in Toowoomba late afternoon.

Accom: James Street Motor Inn (BLD)

DAY 9 TOOWOOMBA – HOME

Saturday 11th July: After breakfast, we visit Toowoomba's Japanese Garden, Ju Raku En, for a self-guided tour of Japanese and native trees and plants. Next is the Empire Theatre, magnificently restored to its 1933 origin, where we enjoy a historical tour with amusing stories. With bags full of memories, we journey home, arriving late afternoon. (B)

Adult:	\$4,976
Pensioner:	\$4,958
Past Passenger:	\$4,949
Single Supplement:	\$1,144

Payment Due: 14th May 2026

TERMS & CONDITIONS FOR 2026

DEPOSIT: Unless otherwise stated, a deposit of \$350 per person is payable within seven days of booking. A deposit of \$600 is required for Early Bird discount. Final payment is due 50 days prior to departure unless otherwise advised.

CANCELLATIONS: The above amount will be deducted from your fare according to notice given plus any non-refundable tickets or airfares. No refund is payable once your tour has commenced. Please note: if booking through a travel agent please check the agent's cancellation policy as extra charges may apply. Cancellation fee is per person.

Days Notice	50 days or more	49 days – 36 days	35 days or less
% of fare	\$100 admin fee (plus any non-refundable costs)	\$350 (plus any non-refundable costs)	100%

TRAVEL INSURANCE: We STRONGLY ADVISE passengers to take out travel insurance to cover for health, baggage and personal effects, loss of monies through cancellation, additional expenses incurred through illness and early departure from a tour.

LUGGAGE LIMITS: Luggage space is limited onboard our coaches. Each passenger is entitled to take one suitcase, the size of which is not to exceed 75cm(H) x 47cm(W) x 31cm(D), and the weight limit is 20 kilos. Please ensure your luggage complies with the size and weight limit and you yourself can manage the bags. Personal items should be carried in a travel bag.

CLOTHING: Pack a wash 'n' wear wardrobe of casual, comfortable clothing with some warmer clothes for evenings. Include a jacket, walking shoes, hat, swimsuit, towel, light raincoat, torch, and a special outfit.

PASSENGER SEATING: A compulsory seat rotation policy is employed (for longer tours), and there are no exceptions to this policy. While Down Under Coach Tours makes every effort to accommodate the special requirements of our passengers in fairness to other travellers, we request that all travellers participate in the seat rotation.

DAILY ROUTINE: Breakfast is usually 7.00 or 7.30am. Generally, your coach will be ready to leave at 7.45 to 8.00am. You will have many opportunities to stop for photographs during the day. Depending on the day's activities, you will arrive at your accommodation between 5.00 to 5.30pm. Dinner is usually 6.30 pm, allowing time for a rest and to freshen up before dinner.

MEDICAL & DIETARY: Passengers accept that it is their responsibility to ensure that their health is in a state which allows them to enjoy the tours and successfully complete activities that the tour offers. We require all passengers to complete our Booking Form truthfully and accurately with regard

to their medical/physical condition. It is essential for you to address any medical conditions / dietary requirements with us at the time of booking.

SPECIAL NEEDS: A reasonable level of physical and mental health and fitness is required on all of our tours. We recommend that you visit your doctor to confirm that you are physically able to undertake the day-to-day requirements of the tour. Persons with limited mobility or those unable to adequately care for themselves are required to be accompanied by a carer. In particular, hostesses, tour guides, coach captains, and your fellow passengers will not act as assistants or carers in these circumstances. Down Under Coach Tours reserves the right to refuse to carry passengers requiring assistance who are not accompanied by a carer.

ACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOUR: No passenger will be permitted to embark or continue on the tour while their mental or physical condition, in the opinion of any representative of the company, such as to render them incapable of caring for themselves or whereby they become objectionable to other passengers, or they become a hazard to themselves or other passengers. The company will not be responsible for expenses resulting in such persons being precluded from completing the tour for any reason.

CONDITIONS AND LIMITS OF LIABILITY: The conditions and terms of liability on which these tours operate are detailed as follows:

- 1) Down Under Coach Tours finalises all arrangements for these tours upon the express condition that they cannot accept responsibility or liability for any delays, accidents, injury or damage caused by the airlines, rail, express coaches or any other service the company acts as agents on behalf of or arising out of the provision of, or failure to provide these services.
- 2) Down Under Coach Tours have used information supplied to it by the providers of relevant tours and accommodation houses and have endeavoured to ensure the information contained is correct at the time of printing. Down Under Coach Tours can accept no responsibility for inaccuracy or mis-descriptions.
- 3) Down Under Coach Tours reserves the right to alter or change the accommodation, carriers or coach at any time for any reason. Down Under Coach Tours reserves the right to change or amend the tour itinerary should the occasion warrant and if it becomes necessary, due to adverse weather/road conditions or unforeseen circumstances. The coach crew retain the right to alter the itinerary in a manner which will benefit all concerned.
- 4) Down Under Coach Tours provide a Tour Leader subject to a minimum loading of 20 passengers. If the tour takes place with fewer than 20 passengers, the Coach Captain may take on both roles.
- 5) Departures are subject to a minimum number. In the event that a tour is cancelled by Down Under Tours due to low numbers, you will be notified prior to the final payment due date and any deposits paid will be refunded in full.

6) Down Under Coach Tours maintains strict standards of safety and reliability of vehicles at all times, however, in rare cases mechanical failure may occur. Passengers are assured that every effort is made to minimise any small inconvenience experienced, while we utilise the large network of repair facilities Australia wide.

7) Down Under Coach Tours can give no guarantee as to the exact arrival and departure times for carriers and operators used in the tour and cannot be liable for failure to make connections with any other services or attractions.

8) Down Under Coach Tours will endeavour to contact clients in the event of industrial action affecting air, rail or other tour related transportation. However, if contact is not made passengers should phone the number listed below to finalise alternative arrangements.

9) Down Under Coach Tours reserves the right to vary the advertised or printed price to cover any significant increases in airfare, rail fare, fuel price or other tour related costs.

10) Down Under Coach Tours accepts no responsibility for the suitability of the rooming partners allocated for single passengers willing to share accommodation. If a passenger regards the rooming partner to be unsuitable every effort will be made to arrange single accommodation for the duration of the tour with the additional costs being paid by the passenger.

11) Down Under Coach Tours takes all reasonable steps to ensure an enjoyable holiday experience and cannot accept liability for any loss of enjoyment whatsoever and howsoever experienced by the passengers.

A DOOR TO DOOR SERVICE

A door to door service is offered to residents in the following areas:

Hervey Bay: within a 5km coastal strip from Pt Vernon to Urangan

Maryborough: within 5km radius from McDowell Car Park

Gympie: within 5km radius of GPO

Sunshine Coast: within 10km from one of the following designated pick up points – Cooroy, Eumundi, Forest Glen, Palmview, Caboolture/Burpengary.

Brisbane: within 30km radius of Brisbane Transit Centre.

Toowoomba & Ipswich: Door-to-Door service may be available from this area if tour travels in this direction – please check with your travel consultant.

The door to door service applies to tours of five days duration or more. For passengers requiring overnight accommodation to join or depart a tour, accommodation is an additional cost. For more details please enquire.



Free Information and Booking Service
Freecall 1800 072 535 or (07) 4123 1733

Office Location: Shop 1 Stockland Shopping Centre,
 Central Avenue, Pialba Hervey Bay, QLD 4655
 (within Hervey Bay Travel & Transit Centre office)

E: info@downundercoachtours.com.au
www.downundercoachtours.com.au

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