



Magnificent High Country of Australia

Port of Sale Historic Cruise and the Great Alpine Road

11 Days | Thursday 9 April to Sunday 19 April 2026

View soaring mountains, alpine lakes, lush green valleys and picturesque historic towns on a journey from Victoria's Gippsland region to Lake Jindabyne in New South Wales. Traverse some of Australia's most magnificent high country on this fabulous 11-day tour. Visit the historic mountain village of Walhalla, cruise from the Port of Sale and travel the acclaimed Great Alpine Road. Enjoy autumn colour in Bright, gold rush tales in Omeo and Beechworth and sweeping Snowy Mountains scenery before concluding in Canberra.

Highlights

- The Long Tunnel Extended Mine reveals a world underground rich in gold-rush history
- A ride on the Walhalla Goldfields Railway showcases forested gorges and autumn colours
- Classic machines and memorabilia gleam at the Gippsland Vehicle Collection
- Time drifts gently on the Port of Sale Heritage Cruise
- The Great Alpine Road winds across mountains and valleys with sweeping views
- Mount Beauty offers pristine scenery and High Country heritage
- Beechworth Gaol holds the legends of Ned Kelly
- At Holbrook, an inland submarine museum fascinates and surprises
- The Pioneer Women's Hut honours resilience in rural Australia
- Scenic vistas line the Snowy Mountains Highway
- Panoramic views of Thredbo and Lake Jindabyne unfold from the chairlift
- The Australian War Memorial invites reflection and remembrance

Inclusions

- Pre/post tour transfers (ex Perth, WA)
- Airfares and taxes (ex Perth, WA)
- 25 meals – 10 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 10 dinners
- 10 nights' accommodation
- Tours and attractions
- Professional Villa Tour Leader

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Your holiday itinerary (ex Perth, Western Australia)

Day 1. Perth to Gippsland (D)

Fly from Perth to Melbourne then travel into Central Gippsland. Settle into Warragul and meet your fellow travellers over dinner as the adventure begins.

Overnight: Mercure Warragul

Day 2. Central Gippsland and Port of Sale Cruise (BLD)

Call at the ANZAC Lookout and Gippsland Immigration Wall before Maffra's Gippsland Vehicle Collection, a treasure of rotating classic cars and memorabilia. After lunch at a local brewery, step aboard a heritage wooden vessel in the Port of Sale and cruise the canal and river while hearing stories of early settlement and trade.

2 nights at M Hotel, Sale

Day 3. Walhalla Mountain Village (BLD)

Wind into the ranges to Walhalla, once one of the richest gold towns in the world. Explore the Corner Store Museum, then go beneath the mountain on a guided Long Tunnel Extended Mine tour. After lunch, ride the Walhalla Goldfields Railway through dramatic forested gorges and autumn hues. Return to Sale for dinner.

Day 4. Great Alpine Road: Sale to Bright (BD)

Travel via Bairnsdale to admire St Mary's celebrated murals, then follow gold rush history through Omeo. Climb to Mt Hotham and Dinner Plain for sweeping alpine vistas before descending into the Ovens Valley and the charming town of Bright.

3 nights: Riverbank Park Motel, Bright

Day 5. Beautiful Bright at Leisure (BD)

Enjoy Bright in autumn with free time to wander tree-lined streets, visit boutiques and galleries, and sample local produce. Choose to call at Nightingale Bros orchard for tastings or relax by the Ovens River before a convivial dinner.

Day 6. Mount Beauty and High Plains Views (BD)

Call at scenic lookouts en route to Mount Beauty. Learn about the valley's First Peoples and High Plains huts at the visitor centre. Continue to the historic streets of Yackandandah for lunch at leisure, then take in grand views around Mount Buffalo before returning to Bright.

Day 7. Beechworth Gold History (BD)

Arrive in beautifully preserved Beechworth for a guided tour of the Historic and Cultural Precinct. Taste at Beechworth Honey, then step inside the Old Beechworth Gaol to hear tales of notorious inmates including the Kelly gang.

Overnight at The Grands Oaks Resort, Beechworth

Day 8. Holbrook and the Pioneer Women's Hut (BLD)

Pass the famed Ettamogah Pub as you continue north to Holbrook to explore the Submarine Museum and its remarkable inland submarine. At the Pioneer Women's Hut, discover resourceful stories from rural Australia over a light lunch before reaching Tumut.

1 night at Tumut Valley Motel, Tumut

Day 9. Snowy Mountains Drive to Cooma (BD)

Follow the Snowy Mountains Highway through rolling hills and alpine country. Pause in Adaminaby, then explore the Snowy Scheme Museum's exhibits on one of Australia's greatest engineering feats. Continue to Cooma and settle in for dinner.

2 nights: Redhill Cooma Motor Inn, Cooma

Day 10. Jindabyne, Wildbrumby and Thredbo Views (BLD)

Begin with the Charles Davis Photography Gallery, showcasing alpine wildlife and landscapes. Visit Wildbrumby Schnapps Distillery for tastings and lunch among sculpture gardens. Continue to Thredbo for chairlift views across Kosciuszko National Park and Lake Jindabyne before returning to Cooma.

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Day 11. Cooma to Canberra, then Perth (BL)

Travel to Canberra to visit the Australian War Memorial for poignant exhibits and the Roll of Honour. Enjoy a light lunch at the Queens Terrace Café before your evening flights via Sydney to Perth, where home transfers conclude your tour.

Itinerary is subject to change. Terms and conditions apply. Call 08 9754 2026 for details.

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Cost per person twin share (inc GST)

Price: \$ 6,725

Single option: \$ 905

Earn 135 villabucks



Active

Requires some fitness. Involves longer days filled with activities, excursions requiring standing and walking for extended periods of time and nature based activities. You will be required to walk confidently over uneven ground and surfaces at a timely pace. Your accommodation may require access via stairs, a short walk to reach hotel facilities and have showers over baths.

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