

# From Parliament to the Pipes:

## A Southern Sojourn through Canberra & the Highlands

8 DAYS

ABN: 92 607 321 531

13<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> April 2026



### 8 Days of History, Highland Fanfare & Scenic Splendour

#### Day 1 Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April Northern Rivers-Argenton: Rolling South

LD

Departing from the lush Northern Rivers, our journey begins with a scenic drive south, cutting through rolling farmland and leafy ranges. By evening, we settle into the welcoming Macquarie 4 Star Hotel in Argenton, nestled on the bank of Cockle Creek. A restful night sets the tone for the cultural riches ahead.

Accommodation: Macquarie 4 Star

#### Day 2 Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April Argenton-Canberra: Capital Bound

BLD

We continue our adventure toward the nation's capital — Canberra — a city of wide boulevards, grand institutions, and stories carved into sandstone. This is a day for travel and anticipation, with time to settle into our accommodation and prepare for two full days of exploration in the heart of Australian governance and remembrance.

Accommodation: Kurrajong Hotel Canberra 3 nights

#### Day 3 Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April Canberra: Democracy, Remembrance, City Views

BLD



Today begins with a tour of Parliament House, where marble pillars and modern design meet the pulse of national decisions. Morning tea can be enjoyed at the Queen's Terrace Café, before a scenic drive to Mt Ainslie Lookout, offering postcard-perfect views over Canberra's geometric cityscape. Lunch awaits at the tranquil Poppy's Café, followed by an afternoon immersed in reverence at the Australian War Memorial. We explore the highlights before pausing for the emotive Last Post Ceremony, a solemn daily tradition that honours Australia's fallen.

#### Day 4 Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> April Canberra: Stories of a Nation

BLD

We begin at the National Museum of Australia, where ancient Indigenous culture meets contemporary storytelling. Morning tea is your choice at the museum's café before we explore

history from another perspective at Old Parliament House — once the beating heart of the nation's political scene. After a relaxed lunch at the National Gallery of Australia, we depart with minds full of stories and eyes full of iconic architecture.

#### Day 5 Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April Canberra-Goulburn: Science & Shiraz

BLD

The day begins with wonder at Questacon, Canberra's interactive science centre — perfect for minds young and curious at heart. After a hands-on morning, we travel north into wine country for lunch at Lake George Winery, framed by rolling vineyards and views that stretch forever. Our evening brings us to Goulburn, nestled in the Southern Highlands, where cool-climate elegance and garden charm await.

Accommodation: Mercure Goulburn 2 nights

#### Day 6 Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April Bundanoon Gathering: Bagpipes & Highland Fling

BD

Grab your tartan! Today is a full-day celebration of Celtic culture at the iconic Bundanoon Highland Gathering. With bagpipes, traditional dancing, and games of strength and skill, this colourful festival brings Scotland to the Southern Highlands in grand style. Feel the thrum of the pipes and the warmth of local hospitality in this one-of-a-kind cultural experience.



#### Day 7 Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April Goulburn-Gloucester; A Change of Pace BLD

After breakfast, the journey begins with a scenic drive to Bowral. With time to explore boutique shops and enjoy a morning treat, this elegant Southern Highlands town offers a lovely pause. Next, it's on to Mt Annan Botanic Gardens, where a picnic lunch is enjoyed among native blooms and peaceful surroundings—a refreshing midday retreat. The road north continues through rolling countryside, before arriving in Gloucester. Surrounded by mountains and farmland, this welcoming town is the perfect place to relax over dinner and settle in for the night.

Accommodation: Bucketts Way Motel

#### Day 8 Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April Gloucester-Northern Rivers: Homeward Bound

BL

Today, we travel back to the Northern Rivers, bringing home a heart full of memories — from the solemnity of the Last Post to the spirited skirl of the Highland pipes.

**Please Note:** This itinerary was correct at time of printing. However, Simes Bros reserves the right to change venues if necessary.

#### MOBILITY

- ❖ Walking is a fundamental part of this tour and as such, requires, at the minimum, a moderate level of fitness. You will be expected to walk and stand for extended periods on tours at Parliament House & Old Parliament House, as well as self-guided tours at the National Museum, National Gallery, Australian War Memorial and Questacon. If you choose to book this tour and don't meet the mobility requirements, you must expect that you will not be able to participate in all tours, attractions and activities.
- ❖ Get on and off transportation multiple times unaided.
- ❖ Downstairs rooms and walk-in showers cannot be guaranteed.
- ❖ You must be able to manage your own luggage to and from allocated rooms, which could be upstairs or some distance to walk. Luggage may include one suitcase not weighing more than 20kg and one carry-on bag.

HOLIDAY  
here THIS YEAR

## INCLUSIONS

- ❖ 7 nights of hotel/motel style accommodation
- ❖ **Meals:** All breakfasts, 7 lunches & all dinners
- ❖ All highlighted attractions
- ❖ Travel in luxury air-conditioned coach
- ❖ Experienced coach driver

## COST:

**\$2,985.00 per person twin share**

**\$750.00 extra per person for sole use of room**

**\$600.00 deposit due at time of booking**

**Full payment due by 12<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

**Please see Terms & Conditions for Cancellation Policy**



**For bookings: Simes Bros Coaches - 21 Snow Street, South Lismore (in person) or post to PO Box 5421, East Lismore NSW 2480 ~ 02 6621 5416 ~ [tours@sbcoaches.com.au](mailto:tours@sbcoaches.com.au)**