

The Great Ocean Road Tour – 6 Days

Road Cycle Tour from Port Fairy to Melbourne



Our 6 day Great Ocean Road Cycling Tour begins in Port Fairy, Victoria. The Great Ocean Road is world renowned for its dramatic seascapes and beautiful bush land with cascading waterfalls, rainforest walks and ancient fern gullies on one side and on the sea side magnificent surf beaches, high cliffs and incredible rugged coastal scenery and landscapes. The tour caters for both advanced cyclist and less advanced cyclists with different distances scheduled to cater for each level of experience.

One of the World's Greatest Roads: Experience the highlights of this inspiring coastal road and learn about the area's diverse environments and rich maritime past.

A unique and spectacular coastline: Visit historic lighthouses, walk in pristine rainforest and cycle into a dormant volcano. See the rugged splendour of the huge Apostle rocks and explore the other remarkable features along this coast.

Fully Supported: The Great Ocean Road Cycling Tour starts and finishes in Melbourne. We'll be accompanied supported along the way by a support vehicle which is always on hand to rest weary legs.

Tour itinerary

Day 1. (Sunday) Arrive in Melbourne and travel to Port Fairy

Meet by 11am today and travel by private van transfer to Port Fairy. Melbourne hotel pickups between 9.00am and 10.00am; airport pickups at 10.30am-11.00am. Travel via Colac and the A1 highway to Warrnambool, we'll stop for a quick lunch along the road, before arriving at your evening's accommodation in Port Fairy. Have a chance to get your bike out this evening and go for a ride around the area. Stretch your legs with a walk around Griffith Island. This evening we will dine together as a group at a local restaurant.

Accommodation: Port Fairy Motel

Meals: Dinner

No cycling

Day 2. (Monday) Port Fairy to Port Campbell

We continue the journey along the Great Ocean Road from Port Fairy to Port Campbell. Today we will experience the beautiful and rugged coastline formed 10-20 million years ago and weathered by the force of the Southern Ocean into amazing shapes and landmarks. Known as the "shipwreck coast" we will stop at Bay of Islands Coastal Park and Bay of Martyrs, finishing the day in the small tourist town of Port Campbell.

Accommodation: Port Campbell Motel;

Meals: Breakfast, lunch & snacks

Cycling distance: Intermediate cyclists 68km (Port Fairy to Nirranda South); advanced cyclists 95km (Port Fairy to Port Campbell).

Day 3. (Tuesday) Port Campbell to Apollo Bay

Today we cycle to Cape Otway National Park and visit the incredible weather carved structures of the Twelve Apostles which rose from the sea and formed over thousands of years. We visit Loch Ard Gorge, sight of Victoria's most tragic shipwreck over 120 years ago, where 52 people died as the Loch Ard ran into the cliffs along the coastline.

Accommodation: Apollo Bay Motel;

Meals: Breakfast, lunch & snacks

Cycling distance: Intermediate cyclists 63km (Port Campbell to Glenaire); advanced cyclists 97km (Port Campbell to Apollo Bay).

Day 4. (Wednesday) Apollo Bay to Torquay

Today's ride is yet another filled with stunning views and long sandy beaches. Cycle all the way to Torquay if you like; passing through several of Victoria's most popular tourist towns, Lorne and Anglesea, a particularly significant town on the Great Ocean Road as it marks the first spot south-west of the road's official start at Torquay where it meets the coast.

Accommodation: Torquay Motel;

Meals: Breakfast, lunch & snacks

Cycling distance: Intermediate – 73km (Apollo Bay to Anglesea); advanced cyclists – 91km (Apollo Bay to Torquay).

Day 5. (Thursday) Torquay to Melbourne

Start the day with a ferry trip across Port Phillip Bay with your bike to Sorrento. Follow the coastline from Sorrento to St Kilda along famous Beach Road known for its "Hell Ride" to St Kilda in Melbourne named because on weekends there are so many cyclists on it.

Accommodation: Melbourne Hotel;

Meals: Breakfast, lunch & snacks; Dinner: farewell dinner in Melbourne tonight

Cycling distance: Intermediate – 50km (Sorrento to Mornington); advanced cyclists – 110km (Sorrento to St Kilda).

Day 6. (Friday) Finish tour

Today is departure day and we are able to provide airport drop offs until 12pm. If you are not leaving early you may choose to take an early morning ride with some locals, or enjoy some retail therapy in the shops of Melbourne.

Please note that elements of your trip may differ from the above itinerary either to better suit the needs of the group, or due to circumstances beyond our control such as the weather or road works.

Tour Information

Included in 6 day tour:

- * Airport pick up on arrival day from the airport or your accommodation in Melbourne
- * Airport drop off on Day 6 until 12pm or transfer to your next accommodation place
- * 5 nights' accommodation in 3-4 star standard ensuite (based on twin share)
- * Expert Guide/driver
- * Luggage transfers
- * Meals: Breakfasts (5), Lunches (4) and Dinners (2) as per itinerary
- * Queenscliff to Sorrento Ferry
- * Comprehensive trip notes, maps and itinerary planning

Not Included in 6 day tour:

- * International/Domestic flights to/from Melbourne
- * Airport transfers outside the days/time specified above
- * Meals that are not specified in the itinerary
- * Cycling clothing or wet weather gear (may be hired if required)
- * Bike and equipment (road or touring bike hire is available if required)

- * Single Room Supplement (AUD\$525)
- * Passport/Visa fees
- * Personal Expenses (including any specific medical related requirements)
- * Travel Insurance
- * Drinks (except daily drinking water) & Snack Bars

Bike hire:

Bike hire is available for the duration of the tour for AUD\$190 including helmet.

Tour Grade

This tour is graded 7/8 challenging to hard (on a scale of 1-10 with 9/10 being extreme).

Fitness Required:

A good level of fitness is required, exercising at least two to three times a week prior to the tour. These trips are designed to be both challenging and achievable. To cater for different levels of fitness, each day there will be longer and shorter cycling options catering to the different requirements of each group. The idea behind the different groups is so that everyone can feel comfortable riding as fast or as slow as they like - the pace you ride at is completely up to you. Moderate tour groups are more likely to ride at a slower pace with more and/or longer rest breaks. The group may also spread along the road due to different fitness levels, but all finishing safely at the next town or pick up location at whatever time feels right for each person. There is no racing involved, and no obligation to undertake any of the cycling sections if you don't want to.

2011 Departure Dates

APR 10
OCT 30
DEC 11

2012 Departure Dates

JAN 08,29
FEB 12
MAR 11
APR 08