

<u>Bushfire Recovery Tour – East Gippsland & The Murray River Road</u>

Mon 4 – Sat 9 April 2022 - 6 Days / 5 Nights

The Tour Price Includes:

- Luxury Daytripper Coach Travel
- 5 Nights Motel Accommodation
- All Touring and Entrance Fees as per Itinerary
- Most meals (as per Itinerary)
- Door to Door Pick Up & Return (t&c's apply)



Tour Highlights:

- Prom Country Cheese
- Port Albert
- Gippsland Regional Maritime Museum
- Paynesville
- Raymond Island
- Buchan (incl donation to Buchan CFA)
- Nowa Nowa
- Lakes Entrance
- Cabbage Tree Creek
- Mallacoota (incl donation to Mallacoota Wildlife Shelter)
- M.V. Loch-Ard Cruise @ Gypsy Point
- Marlo Hotel
- Bruthern
- Tambo River
- Omeo
- The Witches Garden
- Mitta Valley
- Murray River Road (Corryong, Jingelic, Thologolong and Talgarno)
- Wodonga
- Man from Snowy River Museum
- Violet Town Community Market
- Yarra Valley
- And much more.....









Bushfire Recovery Tour

During the latter part of 2019 and the beginning of 2020 more than 46 million acres of land were burned in thousands of fires that raged across Australia. Homes and livelihoods were lost along with a staggering estimated 1 billion animals including Kangaroos, Koalas and Wombats. East Gippsland was amongst some of the worst areas hit by these devastating bushfires with many towns folk and tourists forced to flee. The effect of the pandemic and subsequent lockdowns that followed, have also impacted these towns economically. They have really done it tough! The purpose of this tour is to visit many of the towns in the fire affected areas, showing support by increasing tourism in the area and making some direct donations in a couple of the smaller towns.

Day 1: HOME to PAYNESVILLE:

(MT/D)

Welcome on-board. We hope you enjoyed the ease of being collected from your door this morning. Today we make our way towards **Gippsland**, the region was devastated by fire earlier in 2020 so we're heading there to spend some much-needed money in the community. Our first stop will be **Prom Country Cheese**. Here we enjoy **cheese tasting** and **Morning Tea** with Bron and her crew as she explains the cheesemaking process. Next, we head along to **Port Albert**, a lovely little coastal village fronting Bass Strait and steeped in rich, maritime history. Whilst here we will visit the **Regional Maritime Museum** and those who would like, can purchase some lunch – we suggest fish & chips from the Wharf – yum! Next, we continue our way towards the Mariners Cove Motel in **Paynesville**. Our **resort right on the waterfront** and home for the next 2 nights. There will be plenty of time to freshen up before we head out for dinner at the local hotel.

Overnight: Mariners Cove Resort, Paynesville







Day 2: PAYNESVILLE & BUCHAN

(B/D)

This morning breakfast is provided by the local bakery – we do hope you enjoy! Next, we are off to **Raymond Island**, known for some of the best **Koala spotting** around. We'll head across on the **ferry** and enjoy **Morning Tea** and a gentle walk on the Island. Be sure to look up as the sleepy koalas are probably snoozing above you! Heading back through Paynesville we begin our way towards the **Buchan Caves Hotel** where you can purchase lunch. Buchan is a resilient little community that was severely affected by the bush fires. Whilst here we will make the first of our **donations to the Buchan CFA**. Next stop is **Café at Mingling Waters, Nowa Nowa**. Here we will meet Kristen for an **informal Bushfire chat**. Buy a cuppa and have a look through the gift shop. It's important to **support local**. We'll head to **Lakes Entrance** with time for some **retail therapy** before returning to Paynesville. Time to freshen up before we **head out for dinner** to one of the local restaurants.

Overnight: Mariners Cove Resort, Paynesville

Day 3: PAYNESVILLE to MALLACOOTA

(B/L/D)

After another lovely Breakfast we load the bus to head towards **Mallacoota**. Our first stop is **Marlo**, a holiday & fishing village at the mouth of the Snowy River. We'll head to the Marlo Hotel, perched on the hill, overlooking the estuaries. Here we'll enjoy morning tea and a chat with some of the locals. Next, we'll head to Cabbage Tree Creek and take a relaxing walk around the Cabbage Tree Palms. Moving on we stop at Cann River to enjoy a lovely lunch. On our way into Mallacoota, we stop at **Gypsy Point** to enjoy a relaxing cruise aboard the M.V. Lochard - undoubtably the best way to see the beautiful scenery of Mallacoota and the surrounding areas. Whilst on board please do enjoy some afternoon tea. From here we will make our way towards **Mallacoota** where we will spend the night at the local hotel. Settle in and relax with time before dinner to freshen up. Mallacoota is a small village in East Gippsland that has a population of just over 1,000 (add 8,000 during high tourist season). Mallacoota was entirely hemmed in by the bushfires and resulted in thousands of people huddled on the beach eventually being rescued by the navy. Many will recall the media reports that came out of this little town on New Year's Eve and the following days. The toll on the wildlife in the area was devastating and local wildlife shelters and carers were inundated with injured animals. Joining us tonight for dinner are Sue & Lou Johns from the Mallacoota Wildlife Shelter. Sue loves a chat and will have some photos and amazing stories of the wonderful characters in her care to share. During dinner we will deliver a donation to Sue & Lou to assist them to continue the marvellous care of our native wildlife. Sleep well tonight! Overnight: Mallacoota Hotel / Motel





Day 4: MALLACOOTA to OMEO

(B/D) Another lovely breakfast before hitting the road towards Cabbage Tree Creek. We'll visit the Cabbage Tree Creek General Store and Bushware Café – a chance to grab a cuppa and browse the local goods on offer. Next we head to the Bruthen, tucked into the foothills of the high country where the Great Alpine Road starts to bend and wind. The **Tambo River** ambles slowly through the town dotted with historic buildings, rounding out the idyllic landscape. Here we'll enjoy lunch (own expense) and a chance to stretch our legs before making our way towards our final destination for the day, Omeo. We arrive with time to relax before a delightful dinner.

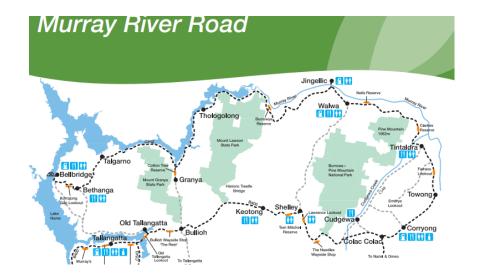
Overnight: Omeo Hotel / Motel

Day 5: OMEO to WODONGA

(B/L/D)

Another hearty breakfast before boarding the bus. Our first stop for today is The Witches Garden secluded in the picturesque Mitta Valley. Here we'll enjoy Morning Tea and a tour of the superb gardens & grounds. Lunch today is at the delightful **Mitta Mitta Brewing Company**. The owners of this lovely establishment are expat Peninsula residents. After lunch we make our way along the Murray River Road to Corryong with a visit to the Man from Snowy River Museum. We'll enjoy a tour around the museum before heading further north towards Jingelic, Thologolong and Talgarno, crossing Lake Hume at Bellbridge before arriving in Wodonga for our final night and a fabulous 2 course dinner and a great night's sleep

Overnight: Blazing Stump Motel Wodonga



Day 6: HOMEWARD BOUND

(B/L)

We enjoy our final leisurely breakfast together before loading the bus to begin heading home. We'll stop at **Violet Town** for a visit to the local **Community Market**. Enjoy some time exploring the stalls here. We have around an hour to stroll around so please do purchase some morning tea for yourself. For those who prefer, there is the **Town Museum & Art Gallery** and lovely café a short 5-minute walk from the market. Departing this lovely country town, we make our way towards **Dixons Creek** and the **Yarra Valley**. We will enjoy lunch at one of the gorgeous venues in this area – our shout today From the Valley we make our way towards home where you are chauffeur driven to your front door having enjoyed a lovely holiday with Daytripper Tours – it doesn't get much easier than that!

Tour Cost from: \$1899.00 per person Twin Share (\$325- single supplement)

(Includes donation to a Fire Brigade & a Wildlife Shelter)

Tour Price is Valid for Travel during 2022
Minimum numbers apply

\$200pp deposit to secure your seats

The itinerary may be subject to change without notice. Whilst every effort is made to adhere to the itinerary as provided, Daytripper Tours reserves the right to alter the touring and attractions as dictated by circumstances and conditions outside the company's control. Alterations may be made to ensure the smooth running of the tour. Every attempt will be made to ensure alterations do not adversely affect the operation of the tour. Daytripper Tours will not be held responsible for weather-based cancellations or those closures made at the venue's discretion.

TRAVEL INSURANCE IS NOT COMPULSORY HOWEVER IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

COVID19

With the safety of our Passengers, Staff, and our Community foremost in our minds we will continue to closely monitor the current health situation and follow the advice of our State & Federal Governments. We have implemented stringent hygiene and sanitising procedures for the coach and will provide hand sanitiser to all our passengers upon entering and exiting our coach. We will also provide sanitising wipes whilst onboard, please ensure you make use of these. To assist with the protection of our staff and your fellow travellers - if you experience flu like symptoms before your tour please get tested and inform us via email or phone (leave a message if the call is out of hours)

We have always highly recommended Travel Insurance and under the current circumstances we strongly suggest that you consider travel insurance for every tour. Please check with your travel insurance company for the best insurance that suits your needs. If Daytripper Tours must cancel a tour due to government restrictions all Daytripper Tours cancellation fees are waived. In the instance where suppliers have been prepaid (theatre shows, accommodation, airfares etc) refunds may be delayed until funds have been returned by the suppliers to Daytripper Tours. Under government restrictions circumstances all monies paid will be given as a Daytripper Tours Credit or a Refund (less bank/credit card fees).

If there are no government restrictions in place and our tour is going ahead, please see the individual tour Cancellation Terms & Conditions.