

Welcome!

Thank you for your interest in Soulfree Adventures' guided Great Ocean Walk packages.

The purpose of this brochure is to provide you with further information on how our walking packages work, as well as specific detail on each of the trip itineraries.

Our walking packages are aimed at those of you who are keen to get out there and see the best of what this wonderful region has to offer, without making the walking any harder than it need be. On our walks there is no need to carry a heavy pack (just water, your lunch, camera and maybe a jacket) and there is no camping. We like to do our walking in style and to this end have carefully chosen some of the best accommodation this region has to offer and our packages are fully catered.

No matter the weather, at the end of each day on the track, you will be able to enjoy a shower, refreshing glass or two of wine and a professionally prepared meal.

Our walks are guided by professional experienced guides and utilise full vehicle support. Our tours start and finish in Melbourne.

Here are the itineraries for our 3, 4 and 6 day Guided Great Ocean Walks.



One of our friendly locals!

3 Day Great Ocean Walk

A glorious way to get a feel for what this spectacular region has to offer.

This 3 day guided walk introduces you to some of the most rugged and remote scenery to be found along this unique coastline. We



visit quiet secluded bays, towering coastal escarpments, isolated beaches, and finish our walk at the dramatic 12 Apostles. Our walks are vehicle assisted and incorporate unique local, catered accommodation

where you can compare notes with fellow travellers.

Itinerary

Day One

We meet you at Federation Square in the heart of central Melbourne at 8.30 AM. Once



our luggage is packed, we head down the coast in our bus and check into our accommodation, as well as grabbing a quick bite to eat at our lodge. Once changed into our walking gear, we head to

Blanket Bay from where we take the walking track around the coast to Parker Inlet, where the original light for the Cape Otway Lightstation was brought ashore in 1848.

From here we head to Pt Franklin and then



on to the delightfully secluded Crayfish Bay. A short walk

back to Parker Hill to our bus completes today's walking.

Total distance: 5.6 km

Day Two

Today's walk is the hardest section of the great Ocean Walk but also the most spectacular. Our walk takes us from Milanesia Beach to Moonlight Head, via Ryan's Den, Cape Volney and the Gables lookout (perched above mainland Australia's highest sea cliffs).

Once past the spectacular reef – fringed Milanesia Beach, we climb over Nettle Pass and take a short detour to the Ryan's Den Hiker's Camp, just



past Ryan's Den. The view from the windswept grass clad knoll behind this campsite is truly spectacular, looking out over the vast expanse of the wild Southern Ocean.

The track continues through undulating bushland and along the (now closed) Cape Volney 4WD track before heading through coastal bush to emerge at Moonlight Head.

From here we avoid a long road walk by taking the bus to the Gables, then providing



tidal conditions are favourable, we descend to Wreck Beach to observe the anchor remains of the wrecks Fiji and

Marie Gabrielle.

Once back at our lodge, you will have a chance to enjoy a well earned massage from a local practitioner.

Total distance: 13.4 km

Day Three

Today's walking is broken into two sections. Firstly we drive to Castle Cove. From here we take the walking track through varied coastal scrub and bushland featuring coastal



banksia, grass trees (Xanthorrhoea Australis) and messmate forest before descending to

remote and beautiful Johanna Beach. After exploring Johanna Beach, we board our bus and proceed to Princetown where we walk the final section of the Great Ocean Walk past Clifton Beach, Gibson's Steps and on to the spectacular 12 Apostles.



Total distance: 12.4 km

Once we finish our final viewing of this remarkable coastline, we board the bus and return to central Melbourne. We expect to return to Melbourne by 7.30 PM.

4 Day Great Ocean Walk

Traverse the length of the beautiful and remote Station Beach, stopping in at the unique Rainbow Falls, a moss laden cascade fed from bountiful underground springs. Clamber over rocky platforms and view the crashing surf of the wild Southern Ocean.

Look out over the treacherous Otway Reef from the Cape Otway Lightstation, Australia's oldest and most significant surviving

lighthouse to gain a deeper insight into the hazard this reef strewn coastline presented to shipping in the days of sail.

Itinerary

Day One

We meet you at Federation Square in the heart of central Melbourne at 8.30 AM. Once our luggage is packed, we head down the coast in our bus and check into our accommodation, as well as grabbing a quick bite to eat at our lodge. Once changed into our walking gear, we head to the Cape Otway Lightstation for a guided tour of Australia's most significant lighthouse.

Following our lighthouse tour, we commence our walk along the cliff top track to the Aire River. Along the way, we detour to remote



Station beach and head back to observe Rainbow Falls, a unique spring fed

cascade which deposits its mineral rich water onto the rocks right beside the beach. We have a chance to stretch our legs along Station Beach before returning to the cliff top



track which is taken to Escarpment Lookout perched above the Aire River

mouth. If time permits, we make another detour to the river mouth, which offers splendid swimming in good weather.

Once back at our lodge, you will have a chance to enjoy a well earned massage from a local practitioner.

Total distance: 10.0 km

Day Two

Today we rejoin the walk at the Aire River and head off through coastal wattle, tea tree and coastal heath towards Castle Cove. This first section of today's walk provides many interesting views back along the coast to Cape Otway, and you will be amazed at just how far you have walked in two days. From here the track initially contours above the escarpment before heading inland through a delightful stand of grass trees, messmate



forest and sheoaks (casuarina), finally descending to the delightfully wild and

remote Johanna Beach.

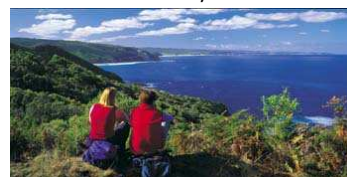
Once back at our lodge, you will have a chance to enjoy a well earned massage from a local practitioner.

Total distance: 12.4 km

Day three

Today's walk is the hardest section of the great Ocean Walk but also the most spectacular. Our walk takes us from Milanesia Beach to Moonlight Head, via Ryan's Den, Cape Volney and the Gables lookout (perched above mainland Australia's highest sea cliffs).

Once past the spectacular reef - fringed Milanesia Beach, we climb over Nettle Pass



and take a short detour to the Ryan's Den Hiker's Camp, just

past Ryan's Den. The view from the windswept grass clad knoll behind this campsite is truly spectacular, looking out

over the vast expanse of the wild Southern Ocean.

The track continues through undulating bushland and along the (now closed) Cape Volney 4WD track before heading through coastal bush to emerge at Moonlight Head.

From here we avoid a long road walk by taking the bus to the Gables, then providing tidal conditions are favourable, we descend



to Wreck Beach to observe the anchor remains of the wrecks Fiji and Marie Gabrielle.

Total distance: 13.4 km

Day Four

Today we head to Princetown for our final leg of the walk. Our walk commences just past the bridge over the Gellibrand River and initially takes us through tea tree scrub, before heading out into the tertiary dune structure above the increasingly steep escarpment. The iconic 12 Apostles finally seem tantalisingly close as we are gently teased with their forms framing a succession of stunning vistas. As we near the 12 Apostles we head past Clifton Beach before reaching the road shortly before Gibson's Steps. A short drives brings us to the 12 Apostles where we can silently view them from the safety of the well constructed viewing platforms.



Once we finish our final viewing of this remarkable coastline,

we board the bus and return to central Melbourne. We expect to return to Melbourne by 7.30 PM.

Total distance: 5.5 km

6 Day Great Ocean Walk

This is the package to choose should you wish to traverse the entire 104 km length of the Great Ocean Walk.

This tour incorporates all additional side trips and exposes you to the rich diversity of this iconic track: from alpine ash and manna gum forests inhabited by koalas, exquisite birdlife, secluded bays, long expanses of sandy beaches, and high coastal cliffs offering breathtaking views to the rugged limestone cliffs of Gibson's Steps and the 12 Apostles, you will see it all!

You will have the opportunity to photograph the wonderful flora and fauna and coastal scenery along your route – so don't forget your camera.

Itinerary

Day One

We meet you at Federation Square in the heart of central Melbourne at 8.30 AM. Once



our luggage is packed, we head down the coast in our bus and check into our accommodation, as well as grabbing a quick bite to eat at our lodge. Once changed into our walking gear, we head back to Apollo

Bay to the start of the Great Ocean Walk: our mission – to complete the whole of the walk!

The first 4.0 km section to Marengo is a gentle introduction. We had out of the seaside village of Apollo Bay, crossing the Barham River and skirting the shoreline of Mounts Bay. As we head towards Hayley enquiries@soulfreeadventures.com.au

Point at Marengo, keep a close eye on the reefs of the Marengo Reefs Marine Sanctuary, as you may spy fur seals basking on the rocks! From here our track takes us past a series of small beaches before climbing gently inland through an attractive stand of forest characterised by casuarinas, messmate, and an amazing stand of towering alpine ash and blackwood. Watch out for stinging nettles alongside the track. Shelley Beach Picnic Ground marks the end of our first day's walking.

Total distance: 8.7 km

Day Two



Today's walk is our longest leg of the Great Ocean Walk and takes us from Shelley

Beach to the Cape Otway Lightstation.

After descending to the beach at the mouth of the Elliot River (see picture below), the track climbs steeply before topping out in a magnificent stand of alpine ash forest. A delightful forested section continues to Blanket Bay, where we have the chance to cool our feet in the refreshing ocean water. We continue to Cape Otway, stopping along the way at Parker Inlet, Pt Franklin and



Crayfish Bay.

After a long day on the trail a refreshing glass of

wine awaits us at the lodge, as well as the chance for a refreshing shower before settling down to a well earned dinner.

Total distance: 22.6 km

Day Three

Once changed into our walking gear, we head to the Cape Otway Lightstation for a guided tour of Australia's most significant lighthouse.



Following our lighthouse tour, we commence our walk along the cliff top track

to the Aire River. Along the way, we detour to remote Station beach and head back to observe Rainbow Falls, a unique spring fed cascade which deposits its mineral rich water onto the rocks right beside the beach. We have a chance to stretch our legs along Station Beach before returning to the cliff top track which is taken to Escarpment Lookout perched above the Aire River mouth. If time permits, we make another detour to the river mouth, which offers splendid swimming in good weather.

This section: 10.0 km

From the Aire River we continue through coastal wattle, tea tree and coastal heath towards Castle Cove. This section of today's



walk provides many interesting views back along the

coast to Cape Otway, and you will be amazed at just how far you have walked in two days. From here the track initially contours above the escarpment before descending to a lower level just above the beach, finally climbing briefly to emerge at Castle Cove, which marks the end of today's walking.

Once back at our lodge, you will have a chance to enjoy a well earned massage from a local practitioner.

Total distance: 15.5 km

Day Four

We rejoin the walk today at Castle Cove. Our first leg to Johanna Beach takes us through a diverse range of ecosystems and we see a wide variety of shrubs and trees, including coastal banksias, heath, wattle, grass trees, messmate, rosemary and Casuarina. As we



pass through the grass trees, we make use of the newly installed footbaths which have been

introduced to minimise the spread of *Phytophthora cinnamomi* through spores on walkers' boots. We descend to Johanna Beach at Brown Creek and enjoy a leisurely beach walk along this remote and wild beach.

From Johanna our track heads uphill through farmland and forest before heading along backcountry roads to finish at Milanesia Gate.



Total distance: 14.9 km

Day Five

Today's walk is the hardest section of the great Ocean Walk but also the most spectacular. Our walk takes us from Milanesia Beach to Moonlight Head, via Ryan's Den, Cape Volney and the Gables lookout (perched above mainland Australia's highest sea cliffs).

Once past the spectacular reef – fringed Milanesia Beach, we climb over Nettle Pass



and take a short detour to the Ryan's Den Hiker's Camp, just past Ryan's Den. The view

from the windswept grass clad knoll behind this campsite is truly spectacular, looking out over the vast expanse of the wild Southern Ocean.

The track continues through undulating bushland and along the (now closed) Cape Volney 4WD track before heading through coastal bush to emerge at Moonlight Head.

From here we avoid a long road walk by taking the bus to the Gables, then providing tidal conditions are favourable, we descend to Wreck Beach to observe the anchor remains of the wrecks Fiji and Marie Gabrielle.

Total distance: 13.4 km

Day Six

Today we head to Princetown for our final leg of the walk. Our walk commences just past the bridge over the Gellibrand River and initially takes us through tea tree scrub, before heading out into the tertiary dune structure above the increasingly steep escarpment. The iconic 12 Apostles finally



seem tantalisingly close as we are gently teased with their forms framing a

succession of stunning vistas. As we near the 12 Apostles we head past Clifton Beach before reaching the road shortly before Gibson's Steps. A short drive brings us to the 12 Apostles where we can silently view

them from the safety of the well constructed viewing platforms.

Once we finish our final viewing of this remarkable coastline, we board the bus and return to central Melbourne. We expect to return to Melbourne by 7.30 PM.

Total distance: 5.5 km

Choosing your accommodation

Once you have chosen your length of walk, you need to choose the **style of accommodation** which best suits your requirements.

We can cater for a range of accommodation types depending on your budget and the style of accommodation you are seeking.

Our accommodation packages range from wholly **Bed and Breakfast** style to wholly **Boutique** style; in between is a mix of both.

Our accommodation providers have been **hand selected** for the quality and cleanliness of their accommodation, the owners' friendliness and attentiveness to guests' needs, and the quality of the food and service they provide.

3 DAY GUIDED GREAT OCEAN WALK PACKAGES

- All prices include GST
- All prices are in Australian dollars (AUD)
- Trips require minimum 4 to run

PACKAGE STYLE	OUTLINE	PRICE	INCLUDES
Boutique package 1	2 nights at award winning Ecolodge	\$1,441.00 per person Queen bed or twin share	Accommodation in award winning and self sustaining Ecolodge All meals including 2 glasses wine with dinner Transport to and from Melbourne Lighthouse tour on Day 1 Evening dusk walk by qualified naturalists Walk guided by highly qualified and experienced walking guide
Boutique package 2	2 nights at historic guest house	\$1,303.50 per person Queen bed or twin share	Accommodation in award winning and self sustaining Ecolodge All meals including 2 glasses wine with dinner Transport to and from Melbourne Lighthouse tour on Day 1 Walk guided by highly qualified and experienced walking guide
Bed & breakfast package	2 nights at quaint Bed & Breakfast	\$1,166.00 per person Queen bed or twin share	Accommodation in locally owned and run B&B All meals including 2 glasses wine with dinner Transport to and from Melbourne Lighthouse tour on Day 1 Walk guided by highly qualified and experienced walking guide

4 DAY GUIDED GREAT OCEAN WALK PACKAGES

- All prices include GST
- All prices are in Australian dollars (AUD)
- Trips require minimum 4 to run

PACKAGE STYLE	OUTLINE	PRICE	INCLUDES
Boutique package 1	3 nights at award winning Ecolodge	\$1,864.50 per person Queen bed or twin share	Accommodation in award winning and self sustaining Ecolodge All meals including 2 glasses wine with dinner Transport to and from Melbourne Lighthouse tour on Day 1 Evening dusk walk by qualified naturalists Walk guided by highly qualified and experienced walking guide
Boutique package 2	3 nights at historic guest house	\$1,661.00 per person Queen bed or twin share	Accommodation in award winning and self sustaining Ecolodge All meals including 2 glasses wine with dinner Transport to and from Melbourne Lighthouse tour on Day 1 Walk guided by highly qualified and experienced walking guide
Bed & breakfast package	3 nights at quaint Bed & Breakfast	\$1,457.50 per person Queen bed or twin share	Accommodation in locally owned and run B&B All meals including 2 glasses wine with dinner Transport to and from Melbourne Lighthouse tour on Day 1 Walk guided by highly qualified and experienced walking guide

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6 DAY GUIDED GREAT OCEAN WALK PACKAGES

- All prices include GST
- All prices are in Australian dollars (AUD)
- Trips require minimum 4 to run

PACKAGE STYLE	OUTLINE	PRICE	INCLUDES
Boutique package 1	5 nights at award winning Ecolodge	\$2,612.50 per person Queen bed or twin share	Accommodation in award winning and self sustaining Ecolodge All meals including 2 glasses wine with dinner Transport to and from Melbourne Lighthouse tour on Day 2 Evening dusk walk by qualified naturalists Walk guided by highly qualified and experienced walking guide
Boutique package 2	5 nights at historic guest house	\$2,271.50 per person Queen bed or twin share	Accommodation in award winning and self sustaining Ecolodge All meals including 2 glasses wine with dinner Transport to and from Melbourne Lighthouse tour on Day 2 Walk guided by highly qualified and experienced walking guide
Bed & breakfast package	5 nights at quaint Bed & Breakfast	\$1,936.00 per person Queen bed or twin share	Accommodation in locally owned and run B&B All meals including 2 glasses wine with dinner Transport to and from Melbourne Lighthouse tour on Day 2 Walk guided by highly qualified and experienced walking guide

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