


# RIVERLAND TRAIL OF LIGHTS



**SUNDAY 16 AUGUST 2026 - MONDAY 24 AUGUST 2026**

 9 Days

 Murray River Region NSW, VIC



\$6450 pp Twin/Double Share  
\$7290 Sole Occupancy

## Step into the enchanting world of internationally acclaimed artist Bruce Munro at the Mildura Trail of Lights.

Experience a magical Murray River journey, highlighted by internationally acclaimed artist Bruce Munro's breathtaking Trail of Lights. Travel in comfort as you explore the historic port town of Echuca, cruise the mighty Murray River aboard the PS Pevensey, and uncover the rich heritage of Bendigo, including its gold rush past and vibrant cultural influences.

Continue to Mildura for an immersive blend of art, history, and local flavours. Marvel at the enchanting Trail of Lights and the spectacular Fibre Optic Symphonic Orchestra at Wentworth's Perry Sandhills, two unforgettable light installations set against stunning natural landscapes. Along the way, enjoy unique attractions, regional tastings, fascinating museums, and relaxed country hospitality.

*Potter Travel Team and  
the Deane Family x*

### PICK UP TIMES

**7:10 am** Crawford Street, Queanbeyan  
**7:30 am** Platform 6, Woden Bus Interchange  
**7:50 am** Canberra City Bus Stop  
**8:00am** Depart Lyneham

### INCLUSIONS

- Comfortable coach travel
- 8 nights hotel accommodation
- 8 hotel breakfasts
- 5 motel two course dinners
- 2 additional included dinners – see below
- 7 included lunches
- Guided tour of Port of Echuca followed and entry to Port of Echuca Discovery Centre
- 1 hour Paddle-steamer cruise
- Entry and guided tour at The Great Aussie Beer Shed & Heritage Farm Museum
- Guided town tour of Bendigo
- Vintage Talking Tram Tour
- Guided Surface Tour and lunch at Central Deborah Gold Mine
- Guided museum and garden tour at Golden Dragon Museum
- Visit to Scrap Wire Sculptures and Wall Art
- Entry to Ron Dehne Ford Tractor Collection
- Guided town tour of Mildura
- Entry and lunch at Mildura Arts Centre
- Entry to Trail of Lights
- Entry to Woodsies Gem Shop
- Tour, tasting and lunch at Varapodio Estate
- Entry to Fibre Optic Symphonic Orchestra (FOSO)
- Entry and guided tour at Tocumwal Aviation Museum
- Lunch, tour and tastings at Byramine Homestead and Brewery
- Dinner at Barooga Sports Club
- Entry to Bullanginya Dreaming

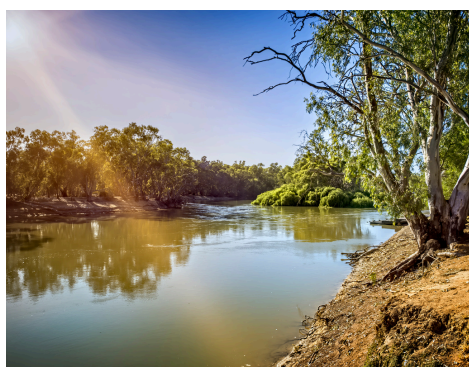


### CANBERRA TO ECHUCA

**Day 1 - Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> August 2026 (LD)**

Welcome to our tour to Mildura to experience the magic of the Trail of Lights and Fibre Optic Symphonic Orchestra. With our fellow travellers on board the coach, we begin our tour. We stop for lunch in Albury, before we arrive in the twin towns of Echuca-Moama, home to the historic Port of Echuca and Wharf which is recognised as one of Australia's finest heritage icons.

### **Mercure Port of Echuca | 3 Nights**



### ECHUCA

**Day 2 - Monday 17<sup>th</sup> August 2026 (BD)**

This morning, we are introduced to the story of Echuca with a local guide who will point out the areas of interest along the port and share tales of the colourful characters that crewed the old river boats. At the **Port of Echuca Discovery Centre**, walk the path of the town's river pioneering spirit with true tales, and learn how the bustling river trade changed the face of the town. Then board the **PS Pevensey** for a cruise along the majestic Murray River. This afternoon we visit one of the most unique and entertaining attractions in the region, the **Great Aussie Beer Shed**. Take a stroll down memory lane with an unbelievable display of iconic paraphernalia including 17,000 beer cans from Australia and around the world. Don't be fooled by the name, the shed also houses other interesting items such as old petrol bowlers, a Coca Cola collection and even a particularly restored WWI canon.



### BENDIGO

**Day 3 - Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> August 2026 (BLD)**

Today we make our way to Bendigo for a full day of exploration. Start the day enjoying a city tour with our **Bendigo Historical Society** tour guide. Take in all the sights including Specimen Cottage, the oldest terrace house in Bendigo and possibly the oldest house in the city. The cottages have both State Heritage National Trust status. Also see the Bendigo Beehive building and the beautiful Sacred Heart Cathedral. Next, board the **'Talking Tram'** for an interesting ride through the main areas of Bendigo to see some of the other stunning buildings, such as the Shamrock Hotel and to learn a little about the history of the Goldfields.



## BENDIGO CONTINUED

Day 3 - Tuesday 18th August 2026 (BLD)

At the **Central Deborah Gold Mine**, discover with a guided surface tour of what is an actual working mine - right in the centre of the city. Enjoy lunch in the café, before a visit to the **Golden Dragon Museum**. Our guide will share the story of the impact and contribution made by the Chinese people of Bendigo - from the gold rush of the 1850s to the present day. One permanent display is "Sun Loong" the longest Imperial dragon in the world and "Loong" the oldest Imperial dragon in the world. Returning to our hotel, refresh for dinner tonight in the hotel to share our stories of the day.



## ECHUCA TO MILDURA - QUIRKY SIGHTS AND DELIGHTS

Day 4 - Wednesday 19th August 2026 (BLD)

Following breakfast, we take a short drive to the small town of **Nyah West** to see some very quirky and creative collections. In the centre of town, we see the **Scrap Wire Sculptures and Wall Art**. Retired local farmer, Jim Watson, started creating these unique sculptures after seeing similar artwork at a country museum and thinking "I can do that!". Using his bare hands, he has transformed useless scrap wire into this interesting art form.



On the drive, we also spot some impressive silo art, adding a splash of colour and local charm to the rural landscape.

Our final stop in town is the **Ron Dehne Ford Tractor Collection**, Australia's largest private collection of Ford tractors. From here we travel to Tooleybuc for lunch before arriving at our destination, Mildura. Unpack and relax prior to dinner as this will be our home for the next three nights.

**Best Western Chaffey Motor Inn, Mildura | 3 nights**

## TOUR OVERVIEW

### MILDURA & TRAIL OF LIGHTS

Day 5 - Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> August 2026 (BLD)

Meeting our local guide, we will be introduced to the town with a morning of sightseeing. We'll hear about the Canadian Chaffey Brothers, who arrived in Mildura in 1886 to establish the first irrigation scheme in Australia and hear about life on the river past and present. Next, we visit the **Mildura Arts Centre**. With multiple attractions located onsite, you'll have the chance to explore Rio Vista Historic House, the Gallery and Sculpture Park.

After lunch we return to our hotel to relax or explore the town at your own pace before dinner and this evening's 'light' treat! **Trail of Lights** is a transcendent experience, allowing connection with both the artwork and the natural environment. Through the interplay of 12,500 firefly lights, Gone Fishing sculptures, and the natural landscape, Munro invites contemplation and reflection, creating a space for introspection and wonder. As night falls, this spectacle will turn **Lock Island** into a must visit destination.

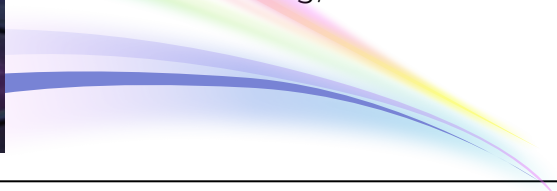
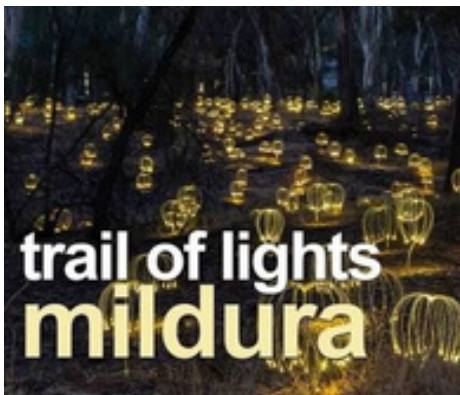


### MILDURA AND WENTWORTH

Day 6 - Friday 21<sup>st</sup> August 2026 (BLD)

We start our day with a visit to **Woodsies Gem Shop**, Australia's largest gemstone-cutting and jewellery-manufacturing complex. It's a fascinating place where we can browse through collections of fossils, jewellery, and crystals. Next, we head to Varapodio Estate, a family owned and operated olive grove. Enjoy a talk on their farm as well as tastings of their award-winning oils before lunch here.

This afternoon you have time at leisure to unwind before we travel to Wentworth to experience the awe-inspiring **Fibre Optic Symphonic Orchestra (FOSO)** installation, set against the Perry Sandhills. The setup features 80 Hills Hoist clotheslines arranged like an orchestra pit, complete with a dazzling display of colours and sounds. Each clothesline is lit with fibre optic lights representing different musical instruments, creating a symphonic visual and audio feast you won't want to miss. After a fun-filled evening, we return to our accommodation



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## TOUR OVERVIEW

### MILDURA TO MULWALA

**Day 7 - Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2026 (BD)**

We have a travel day ahead as we depart Mildura and head through Balranald to Deniliquin. Lunch today is at a fantastic museum called, **The Depot**. It has grown around the historic vehicle and memorabilia collections of Neville and Debbie Purtil and the Purtil family. With touches of Hollywood, trucking and transport, Australian motoring, rescue vehicles and cars from around the world, The Depot is full of nostalgia and discovery. From here we continue to Mulwala for the next two nights. Dinner tonight is at the club next to the hotel at your leisure and own expense to allow you greater choice and flexibility

**Club Mulwala - Yarrawonga RSL Club | 2 night**

### MILDURA AND WENTWORTH

**Day 8 - Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2026 (BLD)**

This morning we make our way to Tocumwal. Here we learn about the significant, unique and secret part of Australia's civil aviation history at the **Tocumwal Aviation Museum**. The museum showcases the first aeroplane landing at Tocumwal in September 1919 through the barnstorming days of the 1920s and early regional airlines on the 1930s and more. For lunch we visit a fascinating colonial house, **Byramine Homestead**. Built in 1842 by the famous explorer Hamilton Hume for sister-in-law Elizabeth and her nine children after her husband was murdered by Bushrangers. The house was built in an octagonal shape to provide a clear view of all angles in case of an attack.

Tonight, travel out to the banks of Bullanginya Lagoon for **Bullanginya Dreaming**, combining an unforgettable journey through the Indigenous history of the region featuring a mesmerising laser light show. Bullanginya Dreaming features 12 unique activations, each telling its own district story. Through immersive art experiences and heritage celebration, it cultivates unity, respect and appreciation for the rich legacy of the Bangerang people.

*NB: Bullanginya Dreaming is 1.8km track. To see all the installations requires walking about 60-90 minutes at a leisurely pace, with rustic seating along the way.*

### HOMEWARD BOUND

**Day 9 - Monday 24<sup>th</sup> August 2026 (BL)**

With our bags packed full of memories, we checkout of our hotel and settle into the coach, enjoy the scenery as we travel home via Lockhart and stop for lunch in Cootamundra, after a fantastic tour.

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# BOOKING TERMS & CONDITIONS

It is important that you read these conditions carefully to ensure that You understand Your rights and obligations. Payment of deposit or other charges constitutes acceptance of these terms. This applies equally to all persons included in the reservation.

**Payments:** A non-refundable, non-transferable deposit is required within 7 days of receiving written confirmation of your booking. Potter Travel may cancel the booking if this deposit is not received within that time. **The deposit for this tour is \$500 per person.** The final payment is due by **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2026.**

Online Direct Debit transactions must include your Booking Reference noted on your Booking Confirmation. There is a 1.99% service fee on all credit/debit card transactions, this covers the cost of using Stripe's reliable payment processing services. The charges will apply for partial or full payments by credit card and debit card. \*Subject to change, in accordance with Stripe Gateway payment conditions.

**Cancellation:** You may cancel your booking by giving written notice to Potter Travel or calling our reservation team. Cancellation fees and charges will be levied as follows, irrespective of when notice of cancellation is received:

- Any amounts we have paid or have contractually committed to pay to third parties to deliver your travel arrangements that we cannot reasonably recover (for example payments made or due to hotels, airlines, cruise companies, tour wholesalers).
- Where we operate any of the services included in your travel arrangements (for example, coach travel), a reasonable amount attributable to such services which we determine we cannot resell.
- A fee which is the greater of the deposit and 20% of the booking value to compensate us for work performed up until the time of cancellation.
- A fee not greater than 5% of the booking value to compensate us for processing the cancellation and any associated refund.
- Cancellations received within 30 days before departure will incur a 100% cancellation fee.

**We recommend that you obtain an appropriate level of travel insurance at the time you pay your deposit to cover any applicable non-refundable or cancellation fees.**

**Itinerary:** Potter Travel reserves the right to alter itineraries without notice due to weather, road conditions or any other reason which is seen to be in the best interest of passengers travelling. The operation and provision of services from other tour operators and carriers included in the itinerary is the responsibility of these operators and no responsibility is taken by Potter Travel for the failure of such operators to provide the nominated service. No guarantees will be given as to the exact arrival and departure times for carriers and operators used by Potter Travel. Drop-offs may be in the opposite direction to the pickups depending on the touring route taken.

**Tour Inclusions:** Meals and accommodation at the hotels as mentioned in the Itinerary, some lunches and morning or afternoon tea supplied from the coach, entry fees and/or guided tours to attractions as mentioned in the itinerary, tickets to shows (if applicable), luxury coach travel and GST. Meals are stated in the itinerary as B = Breakfast, L = Lunch and D = Dinner.

**Not Included:** Alcoholic beverages or other drinks (except wine tasting), meals not specified, room service, telephone calls, some morning/afternoon teas or any items of a personal nature.

**Special Dietary Requirements:** Special meal requests/food allergies must be advised at the time of booking. All efforts are made to accommodate special dietary requirements, like vegetarian and coeliac meals however in some locations this cannot be guaranteed. If You have food allergies, Potter Travel is not responsible for ensuring that the special meals requested meet the needs of Your circumstances. It is the responsibility of You, the passenger, in this circumstance, to make it known at the time the meals are served that.

**Travel Insurance:** Potter Travel recommends purchasing Travel Insurance to protect against unforeseen circumstances. Potter Travel is accredited to provide you with insurance through CoverMore. Please contact us for a quote.

**Health and Fitness:** Our tours are designed for active retirees and, whilst we have passengers every day with varied mobility levels, it is an essential requirement that each passenger be able to negotiate coach steps without the aid of the coach driver or other non-related passengers. No passenger will be permitted to continue the tour while their mental or physical condition is such as to render them incapable of caring for themselves. As part of our ongoing commitment to delivering safe and enjoyable travel experiences, we encourage passengers to ensure they are fit to undertake the activities and travel outlined in our tour itineraries.

It is important that all passengers are reasonably healthy and able to participate fully in our tours. Our tours are designed so that you, the passenger, in most cases, can be as active or inactive as you prefer. However, some tours do require a higher level of fitness and the ability to walk on uneven ground unassisted; the ability to walk upstairs or up hills may also be required to participate in the tour fully. There may be times when you will be standing for up to 30 minutes during a tour of an attraction. You may have to walk over uneven ground with no paving. You should be able to get in and out of transportation, including but not limited to Potter Travel coaches, unassisted and be able to manage your own luggage where necessary, i.e. at airports.

Passengers must advise Potter Travel of pre-existing medical conditions at the time of booking that may affect their ability/mobility/health, or well-being whilst on tour. Passengers must provide Us with emergency contact information for a third party before embarking on a tour.

**Accommodation:** The accommodation listed in the package should be viewed as a guide only and, where not available, accommodation of a similar standard will be provided. Passengers travelling together on the same package may be accommodated in different hotels, and no compensation will be provided for staying in accommodations that differ from those of other travellers.

All accommodation is on a twin share basis unless stated otherwise. Twin share prices are per person. Single rooms may be available for an additional fee. However, Potter Travel makes no guarantee that sufficient single rooms will be available on any given tour. While all care is taken in selecting hotels of an appropriate standard, the day-to-day operations of each hotel remain beyond the control of Potter Travel. Any injury, illness, or loss of enjoyment resulting from a fault on the part of the hotel will not be the responsibility of Potter Travel. Requests for specific room types or showers are subject to availability, and Potter Travel accepts no responsibility if these requests are not met.

**Limitation of Liability:** Potter Travel products include and depend on the services provided by our suppliers, such as hoteliers, airlines, coach companies and other third-party operators who are not agents or employees of Potter Travel. Although we take care in selecting these suppliers, we cannot and do not take responsibility for the conduct of our suppliers, their employees, agents or subcontractors. Potter Travel reserves the right to alter or change the itinerary, accommodation or carriers at any time for any reason. We reserve the right to substitute coaches at any time when circumstances may require so, without prior notice. We shall not be liable to any person taking our tour for, loss (including loss of enjoyment), injury or damage to such persons or their belongings or otherwise in connection with any accommodation, transportation or other services or resulting directly or indirectly for any occurrences. Potter Travel reserves the right to cancel or postpone the tour due to insufficient numbers or as a result of circumstances outside the company's control. Potter Travel accepts no responsibility for damage, loss of personal belongings or liability for delays, accidents, injury, irregularity or damage caused by other transport companies used for connecting tours operated by this company.

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