

Q TRAIN & THE MELBOURNE FLOWER SHOW

SUNDAY 14 MARCH 2027 – SUNDAY 21 MARCH 2027



8 Days



Melbourne, VIC



\$4610 pp Twin/Double Share
\$5260 Sole Occupancy

Ride the historic Q Train, step inside Victoria's grand old homesteads and celebrate the Melbourne International Flower & Garden Show.

We begin with a scenic drive to Melbourne, settling in at Caroline Springs for four nights. Then it's all aboard the Q Train for a degustation lunch of fresh local produce along the historic Bellarine Railway, with views of Swan Bay and the rolling hills. Step into Victoria's pastoral past at Werribee Park Mansion, Tarndwarncoort, Coragulac House and Barwon Park, set off on safari at Werribee Open Range Zoo, and meet Melbourne Cup winners at Living Legends. Festival day awaits at the Melbourne International Flower & Garden Show, Australia's most prestigious horticultural event, followed by a day among the gardens and pioneer history of the Yarra Valley. With touring, gourmet meals and quality accommodation all arranged, your only job is to sit back and enjoy the journey.

PICK UP TIMES

7:00 am Crawford Street, Queanbeyan
7:20 am Platform 6, Woden Bus Interchange
7:40 am Canberra Theatre Centre, Bus Stop
7:50 am Riggall Place, Lyneham

INCLUSIONS

- Luxury Coach Travel
- 7 nights' quality accommodation
- 7 breakfasts – 7 dinners – 6 lunches, including a degustation lunch dining experience onboard the Q Train
- Entry to Werribee Park Mansion
- General admission and safari tour at Werribee Open Range Zoo
- Guided tour and morning tea at Tarndwarncoort Homestead
- Guided tour and lunch at Coragulac House
- Guided tour of Barwon Park Mansion
- Morning tea, guided tour and lunch at Living Legends (Woodlands Historic Park)
- Guided tour of Como House & Garden
- Entry to the Melbourne International Flower & Garden Show
- Guided tour of historic Gulf Station
- Entry and lunch at Blue Lotus Water Garden
- Entry to SkyHigh Mount Dandenong
- Lunches at Soden's Hotel, Albury, and Beechworth Bakery, Yackandandah

**CANBERRA TO MELBOURNE****DAY 1 | Sunday 14 March 2027 (LD)**

Welcome aboard! Departing Canberra, we settle in for a comfortable drive south with regular stops along the way and lunch at Soden's Hotel in Albury, a grand old pub trading since 1857. Arriving in Melbourne's west in the late afternoon, we check in to our hotel at Caroline Springs and unpack and relax as this will be our home for the next four nights.

Mercure Caroline Springs | 4 nights**THE BELLARINE RAILWAY ONBOARD THE Q-TRAIN****DAY 2 | Monday 15 March 2027 (BLD)**

We make our way to Drysdale Railway Station to board The Q Train. Our incredible train journey will take us to Queenscliff and back to Drysdale while treating us to an exceptional degustation of fresh local produce, all cooked and prepared onboard in the well-appointed kitchen car. Every day, the Head Chef and their team carefully choose top quality ingredients from local ethical and sustainable producers. This way the menu always reflects the very best of what the region has to offer. Expect fresh, delicious and seasonally changing menus. As the train whistle sounds, the journey begins as does our first course. Travelling along the beautiful Bellarine Railway, we are offered views of the rolling hills, olive groves and the bay.



The Q Train will pause at Suma Park Historic Homestead, with a chance to stretch your legs before travelling alongside beautiful Swan Bay where our main course will be served. These protected wetlands are abundant with birdlife and provide a lovely backdrop to our meal. Upon return to Drysdale Railway Station, our coach will be waiting for us, and we return to our hotel after a memorable day.

**Have you considered domestic travel insurance?**

It is a common misconception that just because travellers are travelling within their own country that the risk level is extremely low, however, unforeseen events such as illness and extreme weather conditions can happen anywhere in the world at any time.

Talk to us about how Cover-More can protect your next Australian trip.





WERRIBEE

DAY 3 | Tuesday 16 March 2027 (BD)

Today will be spent in Werribee. Our first visit is to Werribee Park Mansion which has long been regarded as Victoria's finest rural homestead. Completed in 1877, it was built in the Italianate style by pioneering pastoralists, the Chirnside brothers from Scotland. We have time to enjoy the formal gardens of The Mansion including a stroll through the StateRose Garden, featuring 4,500 plants from 100 species in the shape of a giant Tudor rose. Next, we embark on an African adventure at Werribee Open Range Zoo. We'll board our special safari bus to take a tour amongst the unique savannah where we marvel at rhinos, giraffes and zebras. We will be completely immersed in the sights, smells and sounds as we travel across the zoo's open plains. After our tour we have some free time to enjoy a stroll along the walking tracks to see other animals such as the pride of lions or observe the playful monkeys. At a designated time, we meet the coach to return to our hotel and freshen up before dinner.



GRAND OLD HOMESTEADS

DAY 4 | Wednesday 17 March 2027 (BLD)

This morning, we head to Tarndwarncourt Homestead – one of Victoria's oldest surviving homesteads and the continuation of one of Australia's oldest family sheep farms. Owned and operated by the Dennis family since 1840, it is the birthplace of Australia's first breed of sheep – Polwarth. It will be an interesting visit with morning tea and a tour of the gardens. From here we have arranged a visit to Coragulac House, nestled at the foot of Red Rock scenic lookout. Built in 1873 by pioneering pastoralists, the historic bluestone homestead has been privately owned throughout its history. We'll enjoy a light lunch and tour of the house, beginning with the six-metre cedar panelled Entrance Hall. Lastly, we head straight to Winchelsea and the majestic Barwon Park Mansion. Feeling all too inadequate after entertaining the visiting Prince Alfred, Duke of Edinburgh, at their more modest single storey homestead, pioneer pastoralist Thomas Austin and wife Elizabeth set to work on building a property far more fitting for a Duke. This resulted in them building the lavish, 42 room bluestone Italianate mansion, Barwon Park. We are given a brief overview of this beautiful home before returning to Melbourne.





MELBOURNE

DAY 5 | Thursday 18 March 2027 (BLD)

We enjoy a leisurely morning before a visit to Woodlands Historic Park, home to Woodlands Homestead and Living Legends racehorses. Woodlands Homestead is a unique and treasured heritage building that now houses an extensive art collection, historic artefacts and horse racing memorabilia. Living Legends is home to some of Australia's finest retired champion racehorses including Melbourne Cup winners, Might & Power (1997), Rogan Josh (1999) and Efficient (2007). We then head through to Como House & Garden. We will immerse ourselves in the history and luxury that makes Como House and Garden a most glamorous visit before arriving at our accommodation to settle in for the next 3 nights.

Canterbury International Hotel | 3 nights



MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL FLOWER & GARDEN SHOW

DAY 6 | Friday 19 March 2027 (BD)

Today is festival day! We spend the day at the Melbourne International Flower & Garden Show — a hallmark event for Victoria and the Southern Hemisphere's largest horticultural event, showcasing landscape gardening, floristry and cut flowers in the glorious surrounds of the Royal Exhibition Building and Carlton Gardens. Wander at your own pace, gather ideas and soak up the colour before our coach returns us to the hotel.



YARRA VALLEY

DAY 7 | Saturday 20 March 2027 (BLD)

Our Yarra Valley day begins at historic Gulf Station, a pioneering farm dating from the 1840s, where a guided tour reveals the homestead, outbuildings and lovingly restored cottage garden. Travelling via Healesville to Yarra Junction, we enjoy lunch and a wander through the Blue Lotus Water Garden — 14 acres of display gardens where ponds and lakes brim with thousands of lotus and waterlily blooms. We finish among the cool fern glades and towering forests of the Dandenong Ranges, taking in views from SkyHigh Mount Dandenong across Port Phillip Bay before returning to our hotel.



HOMEWARD BOUND

DAY 8 | Sunday 21 March 2027 (BL)

We farewell our hosts this morning and begin the journey home, pausing in the pretty gold-rush village of Yackandandah, its town centre classified by the National Trust. We stop for lunch from the Beechworth Bakery and time to browse its galleries and antique stores. Then sit back, relax and reflect on a week of historic homesteads, glorious gardens and gourmet delights, as we make tracks for Canberra.



Activity Level: Moderate (Level 2)

This 8-day tour combines comfortable coach travel with light to moderate walking at each stop (1–3 km per day). Many of the historic homesteads and mansions include stairs, gravel paths and uneven ground, and the Melbourne International Flower & Garden Show is a full day on your feet, at your own pace.

Days 1 and 8 are long coach days with regular stops. Gulf Station (Day 7) carries a terrain warning, and boarding the Q Train involves steps from the platform. Enclosed, supportive footwear is essential for all days.

Guests who use a walking aid can participate in most activities; please contact us before booking if you would like to discuss specific stops.

BOOKING TERMS & CONDITIONS

DEPOSIT

\$200 per person
Due within 7 days from
booking.

FINAL PAYMENT

Due by
Wednesday 13 January 2027
60 days prior to travel

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 your booking confirmation. Potter Travel may cancel the booking if this deposit is not received within that time. **The deposit for this tour is \$200 per person.** The final payment is due by **Wednesday 13 January 2027.**

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 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 **60 days** before departure are 100% non-refundable and non-transferable.

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.

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.

BOOKING TERMS & CONDITIONS

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.

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 from 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.

For more information on our travel terms and conditions, please visit
www.pottertravel.com.au/terms-conditions,
or speak to one of our friendly team members by calling **02 6297 8585**.

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