

## **Swain Destinations: Aussie Wine and Wildlife**

### **Day 1 USA to Adelaide**

Today you will begin your Swain Destinations customized itinerary. Please note, international air has not been included in this package price.

### **Day 2 Cross the International Date Line**

Cross the International Date Line, an imaginary line on the surface of the Earth that runs from the North to the South Pole - and defines one calendar day from the next. Crossing the International Date Line adds one day (24 hours) traveling west, and subtracts one day (24 hours) traveling east.

### **Day 3 Welcome to Barossa Valley, South Australia**

Your driver will be waiting to transfer you from Adelaide Airport to your accommodation in the Barossa Valley region.

#### **The Louise - Best of Barossa**

The Louise is a luxury vineyard retreat on a gentle hill, surrounded by acres of vines overlooking the world renowned Barossa Valley. With just fifteen suites, each with private terraces, soft contemporary furnishings and spacious en-suites, the romance of an idyllic vineyard hideaway is complete. Acclaimed on-site restaurant Appellation, offers seasonal cuisine nightly for casually elegant dining (open five nights per week, Friday through Tuesday). One hour from Adelaide, The Louise is one of Australia's premier vineyard retreats.

The Best of Barossa package includes three nights accommodation, full breakfast served to guests in room daily, newspaper at breakfast, and house baked cookies, fresh fruit and port-style wine on arrival. Includes dining for a party of two in Appellation restaurant on the arrival night, beverage and bar-snacks at Appellation Sunset Terrace and Wine Bar on the third night. Also includes meet-greet with pick up and return to Adelaide airport, full day of Barossa winery touring, lunch one day at nearby FINO restaurant, and Legends of Seppeltsfield tour. Also includes Two Hands Winery tour and tasting in five local vineyards followed by lunch. During high season, includes Breakfast with the Kangaroos experience.

The Louise  
Meals: B, D

### **Day 4 Two Hands Flagship Experience**

Two Hands welcomes you on a vineyard experience like no other; to invite you to enjoy a personalized experience of tasting their acclaimed single vineyard wines in the exact vineyards from which they are produced. Travel through the Western ranges of the Barossa Valley and visit five of their most exceptional vineyard sites.

After a tasting of the wine made from the vines, venture along a dirt road to the Secret Block, then onto the Coach House vineyard in Greenock, followed by Wazza's Block in Seppeltsfield before heading to their largest estate vineyard, the Holy Grail. Once on top of the hill you will take in one of the most breathtaking vistas in the Barossa Valley region. Then, retreat to the beautiful setting under the 100 year old gum tree to taste the Single Vineyard Shiraz wines.

Return to the cellar door to complete your vineyard experience, enjoy a long lunch of gourmet pizza

direct from the wood fired oven, either in the private bake-house or on the picturesque terrace. As a guest of The Louise, you will also receive a gift - a personally selected Two Hands wine, to enjoy during your stay.

The Louise  
Meals: B, L

### **Day 5 Best of Barossa Breakfast with Kangaroos**

It's no secret that most visitors to South Australia's Barossa Valley have come for a world-class food and wine experience. The global reputation of the Barossa's iconic wines is undisputed, and fine dining venues such as Appellation, provide guests access to fresh local cuisine paired with the region's outstanding wines. Lesser known, the Barossa is home to a large conservation park abundant with native Australian flora and fauna. The Louise has developed a unique experience that offers guests access to one of the simple pleasures of visiting regional Australia, seeing kangaroos up close in their natural habitat.

Your guide arrives at dawn in a 4-wheel drive vehicle for the 20-minute ride to the nearby conservation park. An easy 15-minute bush walk into the park leads to a clearing where families of kangaroos are enjoying their breakfast and your gourmet breakfast will be laid out on a picnic blanket in this truly natural setting.

### **Hentley Farm Experience**

Set among the rolling hills on the banks of Greenock Creek, just ten minutes from The Louise, Hentley Farm is a boutique, single-estate vineyard that produces distinctive wines reflective of the exceptional site. As a guest of The Louise, Hentley Farm are pleased to extend to you an invitation normally reserved exclusively for their top level wine club members.

Enjoy a tasting in the exclusive Tally Room and then wander over to their restored barn where you will be treated to a memorable four-course lunch prepared by chef Lachlan Colwill, complemented with a selection of Hentley Farm's luxury wine range.

Hentley Farms is one of the Barossa's newest winemaking operations, and within a short time has earned a reputation for its wines and for the experience of visiting its boutique site in the Western Barossa.

The Louise  
Meals: B, L

### **Day 6 Barossa Valley to Kangaroo Island**

You will be transferred by private vehicle to Adelaide Airport for your flight to Kangaroo Island. A driver will meet you to transfer you to your accommodation.

### **Southern Ocean Lodge**

Southern Ocean Lodge provides a level of style and sophistication on Kangaroo Island. Set in natural bush land overlooking a spectacular section of coastline, the organic luxury of the contemporary Lodge will ensure guests have every opportunity to relax and explore the island's wonders with a dash of indulgence. Located at Hanson Bay on the island's southwest coast, the Lodge site adjoins both Flinders Chase and Cape Bouguer/Kelly Hill National Parks. Set back from a cliff above the pounding surf the sensitive design showcases a full frontal panorama and is within easy reach of all of Kangaroo Island's major attractions. Its location, stunning views, contemporary environmental

design, locally sourced food and beverages, personalized interpretative activities and modern wellness spa will ensure its status as a South Australian icon.

Southern Ocean Lodge  
Meals: B, L, D

### **Day 7 Southern Ocean Lodge Activities**

Southern Ocean Lodge offers guests a complete Kangaroo Island experience. With selected guided island experiences, all guests enjoy a personalized experiential touring itinerary of the island's unique natural attractions. A range of signature activities are offered daily allowing guests to encounter rich and varied wildlife, indulge in world-class food and wine and discover the island's unique natural attractions, often with exclusive access and always with a touch of luxe. A menu of bespoke experiences provides further opportunity for exploration and excellent private charters are also available at additional cost. These are some of the options offered by the lodge.

Southern Ocean Lodge  
Meals: B, L, D

### **Day 8 Southern Ocean Lodge Activities**

Southern Ocean Lodge offers guests a complete and personal Kangaroo Island experience. A signature itinerary of shared guided excursions is designed daily and included in the tariff, allowing guests to encounter abundant wildlife in a 'zoo without fences' and discover the island's unique natural attractions, often with exclusive access and always with a touch of luxury.

Southern Ocean Lodge  
Meals: B, L, D

### **Day 9 Kangaroo Island to Yarra Valley**

Transfer from Southern Ocean Lodge to Kingscote Airport for your flight to Melbourne via Adelaide.

Upon arrival in Melbourne, you will pick up your Budget rental vehicle and make your way to Yarra Valley. At your leisure, take the Maroondah Highway out of Melbourne towards The Yarra Valley; a region of over 55 world class wineries, set amidst a backdrop of mist covered hills. The Yarra Valley region is ideal for a day trip or short break from Melbourne to visit Victoria's famous region of winery tours, farmer's markets, restaurants and boutique accommodations. Please allow about an hour for this 31 mile drive.

### **Chateau Yering**

This heritage listed Victorian mansion on 250 acres, borders the Yarra River and is set amidst established gardens dating from 1854. The luxury period accommodation and award winning Eleonore's Restaurant boast some of the best rural vistas in Victoria, whilst the lounges and sitting room are a showcase for fine paintings and antique furniture.

Chateau Yering  
Meals: B

### **Day 10 Yarra Valley Ballooning & Wine Experience Tour**

Meet at Balgownie Estate half an hour before sunrise. Whilst having a cup of tea or coffee your pilot will give you a short briefing. You will then be transported to the launch site where you may help

with the launch, or stand back and take pictures. Then away you go, drifting gently over the countryside in the beautiful balloon. Let the breeze usher you along the corridors of grape vines and over the Yarra River as you take in the breathtaking views of mountains that surround the valley. Your flight will last for approximately one hour. After making the final landing, pack the balloon away then head back to Balgownie Estate for a light breakfast.

After your balloon flight and breakfast, Global Ballooning will take you to meet up with the Australian Wine Tour Company Tour. Learn how to 'swirl, sniff & slurp', as you taste some of Punt Road's award winning Australian wines. Indulge in guided tasting sessions, and make your selection of wine for lunch and take your complimentary glass of wine to the restaurant with its magnificent vineyard views. Lunch includes main meal, a glass of Balgownie Estate wine & tea or coffee.

After lunch, head to Yering Farm. The old hay shed, situated at the top of the hill overlooking stunning views, has been converted into a charming rustic Cellar Door, oozing with character. The Cellar Door proudly showcases antique cooper tools used by pioneer winemakers over a century ago. A fantastic environment to enjoy superb wines made with traditional winemaking techniques. Finally, a visit to Domaine Chandon. French Champagne company Moet & Chandon's Australian production house Domain Chandon is the perfect way to finish the day with a guided tour through the winery that shows how the wine is made followed by a relaxing glass of Australia's best bubbly with tasty light platters and a view that will leave you in awe.

Chateau Yering  
Meals: B, L

### **Day 11 Yarra Valley to Mornington Peninsula**

Travel through Dandenong and Frankston on to Mornington Peninsula. Stylish Sorrento and Portsea are filled with antique shops, galleries, cafes, and numerous walking trails. Arrive in Mornington, a longtime favorite destination for lazy beachside getaways that come with green hinterlands and wild ocean beaches on the side.

The distance of your trip today is 72 miles and the drive should take you about 2 hours.

### **Jackalope Hotel**

Set on a pristine winery amid the world-renowned Mornington Peninsula wine region, the Jackalope hotel is framed by picturesque Willow Creek Vineyard acreage. Fertile grazing land for over 100 years prior, the 11-hectare Willow Creek Vineyard was planted in 1989 and has become renowned for its single vineyard wines. The Jackalope provides guests with ample opportunity to not only drink in the gorgeous scenery but also taste the Peninsula's best wines, food and pastoral pleasures at the hotel's onsite winery restaurant, the Rare Hare.

Jackalope Hotel  
Meals: B

### **Day 12 Foodies Journey Through the Mornington Peninsula**

Serious food lovers are in for a treat. Prepare to be constantly inspired and delighted by this diverse, boot-shaped region; you are now entering 'Foodie Heaven.' Our hosts own 27 acres of charming farm land with red fertile soil that allows them to grow and produce premium quality olives, grapes, herbs and veggies. They also raise sheep, chickens and fish, and turn amazing produce from local farmers into a range of delectable goodies. You'll get a whole new perspective on the concept of 'Paddock to Plate'.

Spend time in the kitchen with the chef; cooking in a wood fire oven, with wood collected from fallen timber on the property. What you do on the day depends on the season; you may try your hand at curing olives grown on the farm, create handmade sausages in natural skins, make mouth-watering gnocchi, master the art of sourdough bread, learn ways to cook with olives and olive oil, or successfully roast and make great coffee. Later you'll sit back, relax and enjoy the surrounds while eating and drinking some of the finest food and wine the Mornington Peninsula has to offer.

After lunch, take a drive down the road to sample cool climate wines with one of our favorite wine makers, taste freshly made goats cheese from a local dairy or savor succulent strawberries and cherries from the fruit farms in the area.

Jackalope Hotel  
Meals: B, L

### **Day 13 Mornington Peninsula to Melbourne**

Take the Nepean Highway from Mornington through Portsea and Frankston, driving north towards Melbourne. The distance of your trip today is 58 miles and the drive should take you just under 2 hours. Upon arrival, you will drop off your Budget rental vehicle.

### **Crown Towers Hotel**

The five-star Crown Towers hotel is ideally located on the banks of the Yarra River which is a short stroll from the vibrant central business district and arts precinct. With 500 rooms and suites, convention and meeting facilities, business centers and the luxurious Crown Spa, it is the perfect destination for travelers.

Studio rooms feature custom designed linen, original artwork and spacious marble bathrooms, resulting in pure opulence. Each room boasts the latest technology available including a large plasma screen with laptop, iPod docking station and Video on Demand interactive system, creating an environment ideal for relaxation or recreation.

Crown Towers  
Meals: B

### **Day 14 Progressive Degustation Walk**

Set around the shores of Port Phillip Bay, Melbourne is laid out in a large rectangle. She boasts a lively, cosmopolitan pulse, sitting on the northern banks of the Yarra River, about three miles from the bay. Visitors come for its shopping, restaurants and nightlife. Residents stay for its cultural diversity, passion for the arts and enviable sports calendar.

### **Progressive Degustation Walk - Evening Experience**

Passion for food and wine is a tradition in this city; chefs are celebrities, and wine masters are finding a voice. Many of Melbourne's wine focused restaurants are off the main streets, where design of the dining experience is as important as the skills in the kitchen.

Enjoy an early evening walk discovering three unique restaurants and learn of the sommeliers' influences on menu's and cellaring choices. More than a wine tasting, this is a night to indulge in just a few of Melbourne's many epicurean establishments, and explore a relationship with the often-silent heroes of the wine industry. Generous wine samples, food tastings, and special offers included at three venues during the evening.

Crown Towers

Meals: B

**Day 15 Melbourne to USA**

Your driver will meet you near the front lobby area of your accommodation. You will be transferred by private vehicle from the city to Melbourne Airport for your flight to the USA.

Crown Towers

Meals: B