



Bushfire Recovery Tour - East Gippsland & SE NSW

Mon 15 – Sat 20 March 2021

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 indicated in Itinerary)
- **Door to Door Pick Up & Return** (t&c's apply)



Tour Highlights:

- Port Albert
- Gippsland Regional Maritime Museum
- Paynesville
- Raymond Island
- Buchan (incl donation to Buchan CFA)
- Mallacoota (incl donation to Mallacoota Wildlife Shelter)
- M.V. Loch-Ard Cruise
- Cobargo (incl donation to Cobargo Rural Fire Brigade)
- Batemans Bay
- Mogo Wildlife Park
- Bermagui
- Blue Wave Seafood
- Bermagui Gelati Clinic
- Tura Beach
- Marlo Hotel
- Victoria Rose Tearooms Rosedale



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 and the East Coast of NSW was amongst the worst hit by these devastating bushfires with many towns folk and tourists forced to flee. As tourist destinations the effects of the pandemic and the countries need to shut down to save lives have also impacted these towns economically. The purpose of this tour is to visit many of the towns in the fire affected areas showing our support by increasing tourism in the area and making some direct donations to a few of the smaller towns.

Day 1: HOME to PAYNESVILLE:

(D)

Welcome on-board. We hope you enjoyed the convenience of being collected from your door this morning. Today we make our way towards **Gippsland**, the region was devastated by fire earlier in the year 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. There should be some frolicking spring lambs on the property whilst we're here – such lively little joyous beings! 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 tonight. There will be plenty of time to freshen up before we head out for dinner at the local hotel.

Overnight: Mariners Cove Resort, Paynesville



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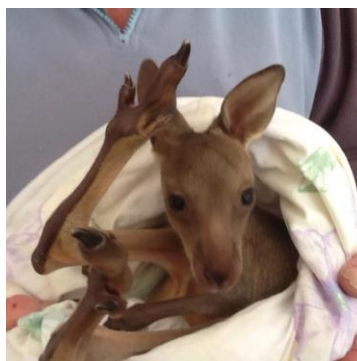


Day 2: PAYNESVILLE to MALLACOOTA

(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 Mallacoota, stopping at 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**. After our leisurely lunch we head towards **Cabbage Tree Creek**. We'll take a relaxing walk around the Cabbage Tree Palms and time permitting stop at the General Store and Bushware Café – a chance to **grab a cuppa** and browse the local goods on offer. 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 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 years 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 is **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 the **donation** to Sue & Lou to assist them to continue with the marvellous **care of our native wildlife**. Sleep well tonight!

Overnight: Mallacoota Hotel / Motel





Day 3: MALLACOOTA TO BATEMANS BAY

(B/L/D)

This morning after a hearty brekky we head off to enjoy a relaxing **cruise aboard the M.V. Lochard** – undoubtedly the best way to see the beautiful scenery of Mallacoota and the surrounding areas. Whilst on board please do enjoy your morning tea. Next, we make our way to **Cobargo** – a village in the South East of New South Wales that was heavily impacted by bushfires with many of the historic main street buildings being destroyed. We will spend some time exploring the village (please do spend some money and inject some fund into this little community) with **lunch at the Cobargo Hotel** where many of the locals and their animals took refuge. We will deliver a **donation to the Cobargo RFS** before making our way towards **Lincoln Downs Resort** at Batemans Bay – home for the next 2 nights. Take some time to relax and enjoy the surrounds. We meet up again for our lovely 2 course dinner at the resorts Briars Restaurant.

Overnight: Lincoln Downs Resort, Batemans Bay (2 Nights)

Day 4: MOGO WILDLIFE PARK

(B/D)

This morning after another delicious cooked breakfast we make our way to the **Mogo Wildlife Park**. On New Years Eve, staff of the wildlife park battled the surrounding bushfires to save the hundreds of animals including **Lions, Tigers, Orangutans and Zebras**. Smaller animals such as **Monkeys and Red Pandas** sheltered at one of the staff members homes. Residents of Mogo were advised to evacuate but 16 staff from the park decided to go the park to protect around 200 exotic animals and none were lost 😊 We will spend the day at the Park and enjoy some of the **keepers talks**. There is a **café on site** if you would like coffee and to grab yourself something yummy for lunch. For those interested there are some up and personal encounters available - feed a **Tiger, Lion, Red Panda**, or meet the **Meercats, Squirrel Monkeys, Rhinos** and **Emperor Tamarins** – or go on a cruise and get up close & personal with the Primates on Primate Island - this includes hand feeding the **Cotton Top Tamarins** and **Ring Tailed Lemurs** (these encounters start at around \$100pp) or you might like to participate in the **Giraffe Feeding** - approx.\$15pp. After our time at the Wildlife Park, if time permits, we'll head into **Batemans Bay** for a chance to look around the town before heading back to our Resort for another lovely 2 course dinner before some much needed shut eye.

Overnight: Lincoln Downs Resort, Batemans Bay



Day 5: BATESMAN BAY to MALLACOOTA

(B/L/D)

This morning after another hearty breakfast we begin to travel southbound, slowly making our way towards home. You might want to pop your **togs** (bathers, cozzie, swimmers) and a towel in a daypack to take onboard the bus as we may stop along this **amazing coastline** for a **quick dip**. We visit for a while at **Bermagui**. A small, vibrant seaside town recognised for its breathtaking scenery. Here we will enjoy lunch at **Blue Wave Seafood** and a refreshing gelati at the **Bermagui Gelati Clinic** as well as taking in some of the fabulous scenery offered by this great little seaside town. After a few hours here we make our way again to Mallacoota, stopping in the town centre for a chance **to browse the local shops**. Dinner and accommodation tonight will be at the Mallacoota Hotel Motel.

Overnight: Mallacoota Hotel / Motel

Day 5: HOMEWARD BOUND

(B/L)

This morning we pack up the bus and head off the **Croajingolong Café** to soak in the glorious views and enjoy a lovely breakfast before we make our way further southward back home. On our travels we stop at the **Marlo Hotel** for a **relaxing bite** to eat on the huge **deck overlooking the magnificent Snowy River Estuary**. **Great photo opportunity!!** Leaving Marlo, we head towards Rosedale and the quaint **Victoria Rose Tearooms** for some afternoon tea. We motor our way back towards home, arriving early evening. We do hope you have enjoyed our first Bushfire Recovery Tour bringing home **many memories** and some local souvenirs of the fabulous places we have been fortunate to visit. **Relax as we return you to your door** and we look forward to touring with you again very soon!!



**Tour Cost from: \$1899.00 per person Twin Share
\$325.00 single supplement**

(includes donation to 2 Fire Services & a Wildlife Shelter)

***Balance is due 2 months prior to departure date
(due to supplier terms)***

*Tour Price is Valid for Travel during 2021
Minimum numbers apply*

Please send \$200pp deposit & Booking Form provided 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.