

BENDIGO & SURROUNDS

Monday 1st – Friday 5th March 2021

5 days/4 nights

The Tour Price Includes:

- Door to Door Pick Up & Return (T&C's Apply)
- Luxury Daytripper Coach Travel
- Driver/Tour Escort
- 4 Nights Luxury 4.5 Star Motel Accommodation
- 4 x Cooked breakfasts & dinners
- All Tours & Entry Fees as per itinerary



Tour Highlights:

- Castlemaine Mill Market
 - Castlemaine Botanical Gardens
 - Vintage Talking Tram
 - Central Deborah Gold Mine
 - Bendigo Woolen Mills
 - Victorian Goldfields Historic Railway (1st Class carriage)
 - Maldon
 - Kangaroo Hotel
 - Maldon Museum
 - Maldon Village (incl Lolly shop & ice creamery)
 - Golden Dragon Museum
 - Historic Eaglehawk
 - Sandhurst Gaol
 - The Great Stupa of Universal Compassion
 - Bendigo Pottery Tour
 - Bendigo Town Tour
 - Peppergreen Farm
 - Heathcote
 - Winery Visit & Lunch
- plus much, much more....



Bendigo is Victoria's fourth largest city with a rich and prosperous heritage dating back to the days when gold was discovered in the area in the 1850s. Since then, Bendigo has been the second highest producing goldfield in Australia and remains the seventh largest in the world. Bendigo's rich gold history has produced a city of unparalleled opulence and grandeur.

Day 1 – Monday– Home to Bendigo (D)

This morning we welcome everyone on-board as we begin our journey towards the historical town of **Bendigo**. Stopping along the way for **morning tea** we head towards **Castlemaine**, a former gold mining town. Whilst here we head to the **Castlemaine Mill**. This historic site started as the Castlemaine Woollen Mill in 1875 before being transformed into the place for foodies, art admirers and seekers of the collectable and curious. There will be some time to **explore some of the interesting and eclectic businesses** operating here. Please do visit the amazing food hall and purchase yourself some lunch. Those who prefer, are welcome to visit the **Castlemaine Botanical gardens** (one of the earliest of Victoria's many botanic gardens) located just across the road and enjoy a stroll around the native and exotic trees. After we have shopped & strolled, we board the bus and head directly to Bendigo and our lovely motel – home for the next 4 nights. You will have plenty of time to unpack and relax before we head to the **Lakeside restaurant** for a delightful **2 course dinner**.

Overnight: Quality Hotel Lakeside (4 nights)

Day 2 – Tuesday – Eaglehawk (B/L/D)

This morning we enjoy a stunning **cooked breakfast** before we spend the day exploring some of the local area. We will start with a **tour of the town** followed by a visit to **Sandhurst Gaol**. Bendigo's Ulumbarra Theatre rises majestically from within what was once the Sandhurst Gaol. Our knowledgeable guide shares the stories of inhabitants old and new, while exploring this world class performance facility. After a remarkably interesting morning we head to the **Kangaroo Flat Sports Club** to enjoy a lovely lunch. After lunch we make our way to **Eaglehawk** and **The Great Stupa of Universal Compassion**. A stupa (also known as a pagoda) is the most sacred building in Buddhism. We will enjoy a **guided tour** here and learn a little more about the project. We will visit the grounds of the **Peace Park** and view the **Jade Buddha** for Universal Peace. Following our enlightening afternoon, we spend some time in **the lovely town of Eaglehawk** with visits to the **Lock Up, Courthouse and Town Hall**. Heading back towards Bendigo we will stop at **Lake Tom Thumb** for a small stroll and to see if we can spot any birdlife. Once back in Bendigo we will enjoy another 2-course dinner at the Lakeside restaurant.



Day 3 – Wednesday – Maldon & Victorian Goldfields Railway (B/D)

This morning we Journey to **historic Maldon** and experience what life was like during the gold rush era. Wandering past old weatherboard homes, solid stone buildings and decorative shop fronts in this lovingly preserved **Australian gold mining town**. Grab yourself some lunch and a coffee at one of the lovely little sidewalk cafes and **browse the many antique and collectable shops** around town. After lunch we make our way to **Victorian Goldfields Railway** to step back in time and board our **first-class carriage** for our memorable **steam rail trip** through the goldfields of central Victoria back to Castlemaine. Purchase a drink or snack from one of the stewards while you sit back and relax and let the world drift by. What a way to travel!!! Arriving in Castlemaine, Kevin will meet you at the platform and escort you to the bus for a short trip back to Bendigo. With plenty of time to relax we look forward to seeing you at dinner!

Day 4 – Thursday – Bendigo (B/L/D)

After a hearty cooked breakfast, we head out to explore Bendigo a little more. There is no better way to see the sights of Bendigo than aboard one of the iconic **Vintage Talking Trams**. A Vintage Talking Tram Tour is the quickest way to get your bearings and see the city's key landmarks and monuments. We will visit the **Central Deborah Gold Mine, Alexandra Fountain, Bendigo Woolen Mills, The tramways depot & workshop, Lake Weeroona, Tysons Reef and PepperGreen Farm**. The folk here are passionate about growing fresh produce and showcasing the culture and heritage unique to Central Victoria. Whilst here we will enjoy lunch in the farm kitchen that incorporates fresh produce from the garden wherever possible. We'll return back to Central Deborah gold mine to collect the bus before our final stop for the day at the **Golden Dragon Museum**. A full day of exploring this historic city done mostly in the comfort and convenience of the Vintage Talking Tram. Another lovely dinner tonight at the Lakeside restaurant.



Day 5 – Friday – Bendigo to home

(B/L)

After another cooked breakfast we load the bus in readiness for our journey home. But not before a visit to **Australia's oldest working pottery – Bendigo Pottery** – Here we will experience a self-guided tour with an introduction by pottery staff. There will also be a formal demonstration of wheel throwing by one of the experienced potters. A chance to explore the gift shop and grab yourself a coffee and quick bite before we board the bus to make our way towards home. What better thing to do on the way home than stop at a **local winery** and enjoy **lunch with a glass or wine or craft beer**. Just the way to end a lovely holiday. Once home we will ensure you are **escorted to your door** having spent a week in historic Bendigo with Daytripper Tours

**Tour Cost from \$ 1525.00 per person Twin Share
(\$325.00 single supplement)
Minimum numbers required.**

\$200pp deposit required to secure your seats....

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

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.