

# WHALES, DOLPHINS, HISTORY & THE SAPPHIRE COAST

Sunday 25 to Friday 30 October 2026-6 days/5 nights

#### **Tour Inclusions:**

- Luxury Travel with Daytripper Coach
- Driver/Tour Escort
- 5 nights quality motel accommodation
- 6 Lovely Lunches
- 5 Delicious Dinners

## **Tour Highlights:**

- Raymond Island
- Lakes Entrance
- Mallacoota
- Potoroo Palace
- Pambula
- Merimbula Aquarium
- Narooma
- Tilba
- Bermagui
- Tathra Historic Wharf Museum
- Tura Beach
- Whale Watching Cruise
- Killer Whale Museum
- Seahorse Inn
- Eden Guided Tour
- Quarantine Bay
- Victoria Rose Tearooms
- and 'a heck of a lot of fun together'!









The Sapphire Coast is on the very south of the New South Wales coastline and has a healthy dairy farming industry, boasts natural scenic beauty, has great deep sea commercial fisheries offshore and is on the annual 'Southern Right' whale migration route and In places, it is rugged, unforgiving, treacherous and spectacular, whilst elsewhere, it is tranquil and relaxed with 'olde world' charm with quaint little maritime villages offering a glimpse back to the way early Australian settlers forged through the region. Your adventure will include all these aspects as well as the opportunity to find out what makes this beautiful region tick with local guides and stories. Add some free time to wander and explore, and you have the ingredients for a wonderful short break after winter. This 6-day adventure is designed to be relaxed & casual, yet informative and interesting.

#### Day 1 Sunday - Home to Lakes Entrance

(L/D)

Good morning and welcome aboard! We begin our journey bright and early, travelling east through the rolling landscapes of Gippsland. Along the way, we'll take time to stretch our legs and enjoy a relaxing morning tea. We then continue to the tranquil seaside village of Paynesville, where we board the short ferry ride over to Raymond Island. Keep your cameras ready—this peaceful island is well known for its resident koalas, often spotted dozing in gum trees or munching leaves overhead. Enjoy a gentle wander and the chance to see these iconic Australians up close in their natural habitat. We'll break here for a light lunch, giving you time to take in the calm island atmosphere. Afterwards, we return to the mainland and make our way to Lakes Entrance, our coastal home for the night. Settle into your accommodation and perhaps take in the sea air before we enjoy dinner together in the motel restaurant. Overnight: Glenara Motel, Lakes Entrance (1 night)

### Day 2 Monday – Lakes Entrance to Merimbula

(B/L/D)

After a delightful **breakfast**, we board the coach and begin our journey toward the sparkling Sapphire Coast and the seaside haven of Merimbula. We pause along the way for morning tea before continuing to the charming village of **Mallacoota**, where we enjoy a **light lunch**. The highlight of our visit is a relaxing **sightseeing cruise** on the lakes. Take in the tranquillity of the water, the wilderness landscapes and ever-changing colours. Keep an eye out for the diverse flora and fauna, including the magnificent sea eagles soaring in their natural habitat. This afternoon we travel the final stretch to Merimbula, arriving with time to unpack, settle into our rooms and unwind. This evening, we gather for a warm and relaxed **welcome BBQ dinner** at our motel — the perfect opportunity to settle in and enjoy great company.

Overnight: South Seas Motel, Lakes Entrance (4 nights)



# Day 3 Tuesday - Eden & surrounds

(B/L/D)

Following a lovely breakfast, we make our way to the Eden wharf to board our whale-watching **cruise.** This time of year, offers an excellent chance to spot majestic Humpback Whales as they frequent the waters off Eden — sometimes even venturing into Twofold Bay on their southern migration. Eden is one of only a handful of places in the world where whales can be seen lateral lunge feeding, so keep your eyes peeled for this remarkable sight! The ocean is alive with activity, and we may also encounter Common and Bottlenose Dolphins, Australian Fur Seals, penguins, and occasionally sunfish or turtles. Overhead, an array of seabirds including albatross, shearwaters, sea eagles and gannets add to the spectacle. After our delightful cruise, we continue exploring Eden with the guidance of an expert local who joins us on the coach. Our tour provides insight into Eden's history and takes us to **Boydtown**, once imagined as Australia's grand future capital. Benjamin Boyd certainly left behind some colourful stories! We pause for a **light lunch** at the picturesque **Seahorse Inn** overlooking **Twofold Bay**, before returning to Eden to visit the celebrated Killer Whale Museum. Here we hear the fascinating tale of 'Old Tom', whose skeleton is displayed alongside a wealth of artefacts from the region's whaling era. After a full and memorable day, we make our way back to the motel with time to freshen up, before heading to a local restaurant for a relaxed and enjoyable **dinner** together.

## Day 4 Wednesday – NSW South Coast

(B/L/D)

After a lovely **breakfast**, we set off to explore some of the charming villages along the Sapphire Coast. Our first stop is **Tathra**, where we visit the **museum** at the **historic wharf** — a delightful experience offering insight into the region's maritime past. Be sure to enjoy a cuppa from the **wharf café** as you take in the surroundings. Continuing North, we arrive in **Bermagui**, a vibrant seaside town surrounded by breathtaking scenery. **Lunch** today is at the **Fishermen's Wharf**, the perfect spot to savour the coastal atmosphere. We then step back in time as we journey through the picturesque colonial and heritage villages of the **Tilba District**, where history seems to linger in every street and building. Next, we travel to **Narooma**, a stunning town overlooking the jewel-like waters of Wagonga Inlet, with Montague Island just offshore. Enjoy some free time here to wander, take in the views, or simply relax. Our final stop for the day is the **Tura Beach Country Club**, where we unwind over **dinner**. Take in the amazing ocean views and watch the setting sun as we dine. After a lovely meal, and perhaps a little flutter for those who enjoy it, we return to our motel for a restful night's sleep.



## Day 5 Thursday- Merimbula

(B/L/D)

This morning, after a lovely **breakfast**, we enjoy some **free time to explore Merimbula** — perhaps browse the shops, enjoy a coffee, or simply soak up the coastal atmosphere. Midmorning, we head out to **Potoroo Palace**, a not-for-profit wildlife sanctuary just outside town. Here you'll savour the chance to see a koala up close, wander among friendly kangaroos, touch a snake if you're brave, or stroll through the walk-through aviary. You may even like to take a train ride to explore more of the property. While at the sanctuary, we enjoy a delightful **light lunch**. Our afternoon continues with a visit to the **Merimbula Aquarium**, followed by a stop in **Pambula**. The beach here is pristine and just a short, easy walk from the bus — perfect for a gentle wander or simply admiring the scenery. We return to our motel with time to relax before heading to the local **RSL for dinner**, rounding out another lovely day on the Sapphire Coast.

# **Day 6 - Friday – Heading Home**

(B/L)

Today, after **breakfast**, we bid our hosts a fond farewell and set off on our journey homeward, enjoying the beautiful landscapes of Gippsland along the way. We make a few stops en route to stretch our legs and take in the scenery. Lunch today is a delightful **High Tea at Victoria Rose Tearoom** — a truly fabulous way to celebrate the end of a wonderful holiday. We arrive home in the late afternoon / early evening, where our private transfer vehicles will be ready to take us to our door, bringing our memorable journey to a perfect close.

Tour Cost from: \$2359- per person Twin Share (\$450- single supplement)

Minimum numbers required.

Tour Price is Valid for Travel during 2026 / Minimum numbers apply

\$300pp deposit to secure your seats....

Please Note: Merimbula is located on hilly terrain - there are steps with handrails to get into the breakfast area at our accommodation (motel rooms are all accessible by ramps)

## TRAVEL INSURANCE IS NOT COMPULSORY HOWEVER IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

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.