Proud Mary Boutique Riverboat Murray River Cruise & Monarto Safari Park

Thu 2 to Thu 9 September 2027- 8 days / 7 nights

Tour Inclusions

- Home Pick Up & Return (t&c's apply)
- Luxury coach travel
- 2 nights aboard the Proud Mary Boutique Riverboat
- 5 nights quality motel accommodation
- Most Meals as per the itinerary
- All touring and Entrance Fees as per itinerary

Tour Highlights

- Proud Mary Guided River Cruise Experience
- Guided Small-Boat Murray River Excursion
- Australian BBQ Under the Stars
- Monarto Safari Park Guided Tour
- Historic Mannum
- Mannum Dock Museum visit
- Kaniva Silo Art & Memorial Wall visit
- Coonalpyn Silo Art visit
- Dimboola Pink Lake visit
- Gum San Chinese Heritage Centre
- Old Tailem Town Pioneer Village
- Wellington Ferry Crossing
- Murray Bridge Bunyip
- Mary MacKillop Interpretive Centre
- Queenscliff–Sorrento Ferry

and much, much more

Daytripper Tours & Charters
PO Box 2113, Mornington VIC 3931
P. 1300 274 880 **E.** info@daytripper.com.au **W:** www.daytripper.com.au

From the tranquil waters of the Murray River to the extraordinary wildlife of Monarto Safari Park, this tour offers a delightful blend of relaxation, history, nature and country hospitality. With fascinating attractions, scenic coach travel and memorable dining experiences, it's a wonderful opportunity to explore South Australia and beyond in the friendly company of fellow Daytrippers. We look forward to welcoming you aboard!

Day 1 – Thursday 2 September - Horsham via Ararat
Our adventure begins as we travel west through Victoria's countryside, enjoying a morning tea stop along the way. Arriving in **Ararat**, we'll enjoy lunch before visiting the **Gum San Chinese Heritage Centre**. This fascinating museum tells the story of the Chinese miners who came to the Victorian goldfields during the 1850s gold rush, offering an insight into their lives, culture and contribution to Australia's history. After our visit, we'll continue to **Horsham**, where we'll settle into our accommodation. This evening, enjoy a two-course dinner at the motel and relax before our journey continues tomorrow.
Overnight: Best Westlander Motor Inn, Horsham
Meals included: Lunch and dinner

Day 2 – Friday 3 September - Horsham to Murray Bridge
After breakfast, we'll farewell Horsham and head towards South Australia, with a stop to admire the unusual colours of **Dimboola Pink Lake**. The lake's hues can vary depending on weather and environmental conditions, making this an interesting natural feature of the region. Continuing west, we'll visit **Kaniva**, a welcoming country town known for its impressive **silo art and memorial wall**. There'll be an opportunity to enjoy morning tea before we continue our journey across the border. Our travels take us through the South Australian countryside to **Coonalpyn**, home to the spectacular Coonalpyn **Silo Art**. This remarkable mural transformed five towering grain silos into a striking public artwork celebrating rural life and the local community. We'll make a final stop at **Murray Bridge** for any last-minute purchases before boarding our home for the next two nights, the magnificent **Proud Mary**. Settle into your cabin, become acquainted with the vessel and enjoy a buffet hot supper on board as we prepare for our Murray River adventure.
Overnight: Proud Mary Riverboat
Meals included: Breakfast, lunch and hot supper

Day 3 – Saturday 4 September - Cruising the magnificent Murray River

Wake to the peaceful surroundings of the **Murray River** and enjoy breakfast on board as the Proud Mary continues upstream through some of the river system's most beautiful scenery. Watch the riverbanks unfold, with towering trees, tranquil lagoons and abundant birdlife providing plenty to admire. This area is home to a remarkable variety of bird species, and our **knowledgeable guide** will help bring the natural environment to life. We'll visit the historic riverside township of **Mannum**, where you'll have time to explore the main street, enjoy a coffee or take a gentle stroll and appreciate the town's rich riverboat heritage. Back on board, enjoy a delicious lunch prepared by the Proud Mary's chefs as we cruise through the picturesque stretches of **Younghusband and Teal Flat**. A special highlight awaits at Teal Flat, where we'll join a **guided small-boat excursion** through the shallows and beneath the towering cliffs of the Murray River. With an expert ecologist sharing insights into the river's wildlife, landscape and ecology, this is a wonderful opportunity to experience the Murray at close range. As the day draws to a close, relax with a drink beside the river before enjoying a traditional **Australian barbecue under the stars**. With the sounds of the river nearby, a **campfire glowing** and **live musical entertainment** to round off the evening, this promises to be a memorable night in the Australian outdoors.

Overnight: Proud Mary riverboat

Meals included: Breakfast, lunch and dinner

Day 4 – Sunday 5 September - Mannum history tour and return to Murray Bridge

Enjoy another leisurely breakfast on board before arriving in Mannum, a historic town with a special place in South Australia's riverboat story. We'll join a **guided town tour** exploring Mannum's pioneering past and its importance as an inland port. Discover the story of Captain William Randell, who launched the paddle steamer *Mary Ann* on the Murray River in 1853, helping establish a thriving river trade. Our tour includes a visit to the **Mannum Dock Museum**, where historical memorabilia and exhibits offer a fascinating glimpse into the days when paddle steamers transported goods and passengers along the Murray. Returning to the Proud Mary, we'll continue cruising through the beautiful river landscape, passing riverside communities and peaceful stretches of water. During the afternoon, we'll also learn more about the devastating 1956 Murray River floods through an informative presentation. We'll arrive back in **Murray Bridge** later in the day and transfer to our accommodation at the Bridgeport Hotel. After settling in, enjoy dinner at the hotel's restaurant and reflect on our wonderful river cruise experience.

Overnight: Bridgeport Hotel, Murray Bridge

Meals included: Breakfast, lunch and dinner

Day 5 – Monday 6 September - A wild day at Monarto Safari Park

Today brings one of the highlights of our South Australian adventure as we visit **Monarto Safari Park**, one of the world's largest open-range safari parks. Spanning an expansive natural landscape, Monarto is home to an incredible variety of wildlife, including lions, giraffes, rhinos and many other fascinating animals from around the world. We'll enjoy a **guided safari experience aboard our own coach**, allowing us to explore the park's vast habitats and learn about the animals, their behaviours and the important conservation work being undertaken to protect threatened species. Keep your eyes peeled as we travel through the **open-range enclosures**. You never know which magnificent animal might make an appearance! There'll be time to enjoy lunch at the park's cafe at your own expense before we return to Murray Bridge. The remainder of the day offers an opportunity to relax before enjoying dinner and another comfortable night in our accommodation.

Overnight: Bridgeport Hotel, Murray Bridge

Meals included: Breakfast & Dinner / Lunch: Own expense

Day 6 – Tuesday 7 September - Old Tailem Town, the Wellington Ferry and the Murray Bridge Bunyip

After breakfast, we'll head to **Old Tailem Town Pioneer Village**, an impressive open-air heritage attraction showcasing the history of Australian country life. Wander through a collection of historic buildings, streetscapes and displays that recreate life in an earlier era. With its old-fashioned shops, homes and community buildings, the village offers a fascinating step back in time and plenty of opportunities to discover how Australians once lived and worked. We'll enjoy morning tea during our visit before continuing to Wellington, where we'll cross the Murray River aboard the **Wellington Ferry** — a charming little journey across this mighty waterway. On the other side, we'll stop for lunch at the **Welly Pub** before returning towards Murray Bridge. This afternoon, we'll visit the famous **Murray Bridge Bunyip** at Sturt Reserve. This much-loved local attraction has entertained generations of visitors with its unusual connection to the mythical bunyip of Australian folklore. Returning to our hotel, the evening is yours to relax and enjoy dinner at your leisure.

Overnight: Bridgeport Hotel, Murray Bridge.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Day 7 – Wednesday 8 September - Murray Bridge to Hamilton via Penola

After breakfast, we'll farewell Murray Bridge and begin our journey back towards Victoria, travelling through the scenic countryside of **South Australia's Limestone Coast**. We'll make a morning tea stop before continuing to **Penola**, a charming historic town with a strong connection to one of Australia's most significant religious figures. Enjoy lunch at one of the towns Cafes before visiting the **Mary MacKillop Interpretive Centre**. Here, we'll discover the story of Saint Mary MacKillop, Australia's first saint, and learn about her extraordinary work in education and her dedication to helping children and families in rural communities. The centre offers an engaging insight into her life, her achievements and the legacy she left behind. After our visit, we'll continue across the border into Victoria and travel to **Hamilton,** where we'll settle into the Bandicoot Motor Inn. Enjoy dinner at the motel restaurant and a relaxing evening after another day of discovery.

Overnight: Bandicoot Motor Inn, Hamilton

Meals included: Breakfast, lunch and dinner

Day 8 – Thursday 9 September - Hamilton to home and the Queenscliff Ferry

Our final day begins with breakfast before we set off through the picturesque Western District of Victoria. We'll pause in the country town of **Lismore** for morning tea before continuing towards the coast. At Ocean Grove, we'll enjoy lunch at the Ocean Grove Bowling Club, providing a chance to relax and share stories from our wonderful journey. This afternoon, we'll board the **Queenscliff–Sorrento Ferry** for a scenic crossing of **Port Phillip Bay**. Sit back and enjoy the coastal views as we travel between the Bellarine and Mornington Peninsula, keeping an eye out for seabirds and other marine life along the way. Arriving in Sorrento, our **chauffeurs** will be ready to ensure a **safe and comfortable journey back home**, bringing our eight-day adventure to a close. After a wonderful combination of river cruising, wildlife encounters, heritage discoveries and scenic country travel, we'll return home with plenty of happy memories to share.

Meals included: Breakfast and lunch

Tour Cost from:
$4690-pp
($1350- single supplement)

Minimum numbers required.
Tour Price is Valid for Travel during 2027.

$600pp deposit required to secure your seats….
(non-refundable from 2 January 2027)

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.