

Your journey starts here

King Island Tour



4 DAY TOUR with Host

4 Day from \$1,899.00*pp | departs Melbourne 28 April 2021

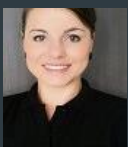
PACKAGE INCLUDES

- Airfares ex Melbourne
- 3 night's accommodation,
- 3 dinners, 2 lunches, 3 Cooked breakfast
- Morning teas from the coach
- Luxury coach travel
- Fully escorted with driver and hostess
- Entries as per itinerary.
- Local pick up

HIGHLIGHTS

With a population of just 1400, King Island is one of Australia's best kept secrets! Its often windswept and rainy but its rugged and very scenic and it has a fascinating history. Around 60 or so offshore wrecks (a legacy of the dangers of trying to cross and pass through Bass Strait in the early days) lie along the reefs just off the 145ks of coastline. Before the arrival of Europeans the island was richly forested but today it has been cleared for farming and the huge trees have been replaced by low lying scrub and ti-trees. In recent times King Island has gained an extraordinary reputation for its beef and dairy products. King Island butters, cheeses and creams (particularly clotted cream) have found their way into fashionable suburban delicatessens on the mainland – made by the King Island Dairy with produce from just 16 dairy farms! Our guide – a long term resident of King Island - is passionate about "all things King Island". He will ensure we enjoy memorable visit!

*Conditions apply. Advertised prices are per person twin share and land only. Prices are correct at time of publication and are subject to availability and change at any time without notification due to fluctuations in charges, taxes and currency. Savings are included in the advertised prices. Third party supplier and other conditions apply. Please contact me for full terms and conditions.. *A minimum of 25 adults is required to guarantee tour departure.



To find out more call **Trish Clowes**
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Your itinerary

King Island 4 Day Tour

Day 1: Melbourne to King Island.

This morning we make our way to Melbourne's Tullamarine Airport our Regional Express flight to King Island at 11.05 am. Our flight arrives into Currie at 12.00 and most people will get a brilliant view as we fly down the coast prior to landing.

On arrival we are met by our local guide who will be with us for the next few days. We will tour the area around Currie today and learn about the shipwreck heritage of King Island – graveyard of at least 60 ships over the past two centuries. Two of these are very close to town, the Netherby (1866) and the British Admiral (1874). We pass by the King Island Golf and Bowling Club on our way to the Kelp Works which are an integral part of the King Island economy. The Kelp industry was established in Currie in the 1970s. Bull Kelp is harvested along the coast line and brought to the Kelp Works to be dried on huge racks. The kelp is then milled into granules and exported to Scotland where it is further processed. During our touring we have some free time to

buy lunch. Later this afternoon we check into our accommodation – the Boomerang by the Sea Motel. This is a good standard country motel with walk in showers and views to the coast from all rooms. The restaurant here is stunning with sensational coastal views, good food and country hospitality. Nearly everything we eat and use every day – cosmetics, sauces, fabric dyes, toothpaste, shampoo, ice cream, beer – all benefit from King Island Bull Kelp! King Islanders are a resilient bunch and have had to live without easy access to the facilities we all enjoy on the mainland. Currie, though a town of only about 500 souls, has a hospital with two doctors and visiting specialists, a combined pre-school, primary school and high school catering for all the Island's kids up to the end of year ten and its own local government.

Day 2: North Coast Tour

Get set for a day of sensational scenery, plentiful wildlife and amazing shipwreck stories as we head along the Northern Road on our way to the

top of King Island at Cape Wickham. We will make a stop at Shag Lagoon just off the main North Road where we will be able to see a variety of waterbirds. Our morning tea stop will be at Reekara if the weather is rough or at Quarantine Bay if the sun is shining. From this stunning beach where we will do some shell hunting, we look out to Christmas and New Year Islands. Here we will hear the story of the Paddlesteamer Shannon which was shipwrecked in the waters off the north coast. Its boiler is still on the beach. Lunch is at Penny's Lagoon – a suspended lake where the water is held by compacted sand and vegetation – one of only 3 in the world! One of the others is on Fraser Island in Queensland (Lake McKenzie). The loss of life in the late 1800s was becoming so great around King Island that the Colonies finally decided to jointly fund Australia's tallest lighthouse – a soaring symmetrical stone tower 47 meters high, completed at Cape Wickham near the Island's northern tip in 1861.



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Your itinerary

King Island 4 Day Tour

Day 2: continued

The Cape Wickham Light still guards the entrance to Bass Strait. We pass by the amazing Cape Wickham Golf Course, rated number one public access golf course in Australia – before heading back towards Currie with a stop at the King Island Dairy. Here is the chance to taste some of King Island's special cheeses and to buy take home packs from the shop. We should be back to the Boomerang by about 4.30pm giving us a chance to relax a little before dinner out at a restaurant in Grassy.

Day 3: Southern Scenic Tour

This morning we take the Scenic South Tour which takes in the hybrid power plant that energises King Island on its own grid, followed by morning tea at Millers Bay, the Ettrick River, the Calcified Forest and the rugged

cliffs off Seal Rocks. After lunch we will head back to Grassy to look over the town, the old mine site and harbour in daylight. This afternoon we will make way our home via the seaside village of Naracoopa.

Day 4: Return to Melbourne

After our breakfast we complete our check out formalities and load the coach. The King Island Museum is housed in the old lighthouse keeper's residence at Currie and is a wealth on memorabilia and history and will keep us busy until morning tea at the Boat House – the restaurant without food! The Boat House is full of art and artefacts, as well as tables, chairs, crockery, cutlery, books and magazines. And if you want to purchase something there is an honesty box for your payment!

The views of the rugged south coast are dramatic. We have free time to purchase an early lunch before the transfer to Currie Airport. We farewell our guide and connect with the 12.20 pm flight to Melbourne. On arrival at Melbourne Tullamarine at 1.35 pm our Southern Star Coach will take us home to complete our 4 day tour.



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