



JUNE, 2022

12 best things to do in Geelong , on the Bellarine and Great Ocean Road

Australian Traveller, National

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RICH PICKINGS await those who choose to wander west of Melbourne, tracing the state's *RUGGED COASTLINE*.

PUNCTUATE DAYS spent along the Great Ocean Road, Geelong and the Bellarine Peninsula with world-renowned restaurants, show-stopping coastal wineries, ancient UNESCO World Heritage-listed sites and iconic Australian beaches.

GEELONG / BELLARINE



1 GREAT FOR FOODIES

Wine and dine with panoramic Port Phillip Bay views

Gorge on king-of-the-castle views and equally impressive modern Australian fare at JACK RABBIT. Specialising in fruit-forward, cool-climate wines, this award-winning Bellarine Peninsula winery, restaurant and cellar door is a triple threat. While away an afternoon on the restaurant deck overlooking navy waters and a sea of vines, and devour seasonal dishes such as smoked kangaroo loin with eucalyptus cream alongside a glass of house shiraz.



2 GREAT FOR ANIMAL LOVERS

SWIM WITH WILD DOLPHINS AND SEALS IN PORT PHILLIP BAY
 Join an underwater playground with SEA ALL DOLPHIN SWIMS. On a half-day tour you'll come snout to face with dolphins and Australian fur seals in the crystalline waters of Port Phillip Bay. Don a snorkel as seals eye you and dolphins dart around.



3 GREAT FOR LITTLE ONES

4

Inspire curious minds in Geelong

LET LITTLE IMAGINATIONS RUN RIOT AT GEELONG'S MoPA. A MUSEUM BUILT FOR KIDS AGED ONE TO SEVEN, MOPA BOASTS EXHIBITS AND INTERACTIVE ART EXPERIENCES THAT HELP ENGAGE AND EDUCATE THROUGH PLAY-BASED LEARNING. EXPECT WATER PLAY EXHIBITS, SOFT PLAY 'MOSH PITS' AND MORE.

5 GREAT FOR BON VIVANTS

INDULGE IN COCKTAILS AND SNACKS AT THE WHISKERY

Come for the gin, stay for the vibe. This Bellarine Peninsula 'distillery door', housed within a farm shed at the foot of three valleys, dishes up lashings of warm country hospitality, as well as live music, small-batch gin and single-malt whisky. Savour a cocktail, gin flight or limited-release whisky, paired with a pizza or platter.



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Plot a day out on Geelong Waterfront

A slice of family-friendly coastline, Geelong Waterfront hosts a glut of merrymaking drawcards: think shark-proof sea bath, an Art Deco-style boardwalk, a scenic reserve with picnic tables and barbecues, a kids' playground and pool, skate park, and an art-smattered trail, not to mention smart cafes and restaurants.



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In partnership with Great Ocean Road

GREAT OCEAN ROAD

GREAT FOR ADVENTUROUS SOULS

Take to the skies above the 12 Apostles
 No visit to the Great Ocean Road is complete without at least a pitstop at its headline act: the 12 Apostles. This hauntingly beautiful cluster of limestone pillars can be gawped at in all manner of ways, but few are more captivating than from above. Drink up sprawling coastline views from the cockpit of a helicopter as you soar over the fabled sea stacks and turbulent Southern Ocean waters.



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GREAT FOR EXPLORERS

Uncover a wildly rich history at Budj Bim Cultural Landscape
 HISTORY BUFFS AND INDIGENOUS CULTURE ENTHUSIASTS REJOICE. CLOCKING IN AT MORE THAN 6600 YEARS OLD, THIS UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE-LISTED SITE IS ONE OF THE OLDEST KNOWN FISH FARMING SITES ON THE PLANET, AND IS RECOGNISED AS ONE OF THE WORLD'S MOST EXTENSIVE AQUACULTURE SYSTEMS. A NEW VISITOR CENTRE IS SCHEDULED TO OPEN IN JUNE 2022.



GREAT FOR THRILL-SEEKERS

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Discover Australia's most extreme zipline

Ziplining, but make it extreme: LIVE WIRE PARK is home to a 'zip coaster' that sends participants careening around a 525-metre circuit of curlicue bends amid lofty native blue gums. This off-grid adventure park is also home to an elevated trampolining net park and ropes courses.



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GREAT FOR GOURMANDS

FEAST ON SEASONAL FLAVOURS AT AN AUSSIE IDOL
 Provenance is paramount at BRAE, where celebrated chef Dan Hunter is at the helm. This degustation diner, located in the Otways, exploits the fertile volcanic soils and houses a working organic farm. Named one of the World's 50 Best Restaurants in 2017, you'll need to book well in advance.



Have a swell time in Torquay
 ARGUABLY THE SPIRITUAL HOME OF SURFING IN AUSTRALIA, THE CURVY CONTOURS OF TORQUAY'S COASTLINE FEATURES DRAMATIC SCENERY AND NOTEWORTHY BREAKS. DIVE INTO THE AQUAMARINE WATERS FOR A SUMMER DIP. PAY HOMAGE TO THE SPORT AT THE Australian National Surfing Museum, LOSE YOUR BREATH WHILE TACKLING THE SWELLS AT ICONIC BELLS BEACH, OR FIND YOUR FEET AT A LOCAL SURF ACADEMY.



GREAT FOR WATER BABIES

GREAT FOR OUTDOORSY TYPES

Go bush at Tower Hill
 Commune with nature, marvel at volcanic landscapes and explore the culture of the Gunditjmara, the land's Traditional Custodians, at Tower Hill. Victoria's first national park is alive with flora and fauna: spot emus, koalas, kangaroos and echidnas on a two-hour tour.



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For more information, visit:
visitgreatoceanroad.org.au
visitgeelongbellarine.com.au