

VILLAGE VIBES & TOWNS *that hum*



LOCH

- Loch stirs hearts with picture-perfect streetscapes, cradled by South Gippsland's green hills.
- ✔ Enjoy the inviting cafés, freshly baked cakes and deli delights.
 - ✔ Stumble across cellar doors for wine, whiskey or gin tastings.
 - ✔ Stroll over the suspension bridge crossing the leafy gully at Loch Memorial Reserve.
 - ✔ Forage for antiques, collectables, art, homewares and gifts.



KORUMBURRA

- A hamlet in the hills, Korumburra is nestled amongst the Strzelecki Ranges.
- ✔ Embrace the rich history of South Gippsland — first stop the Railway Station, and then continue on to Coal Creek.
 - ✔ Treat yourself in one of the local eateries or with a craft ale.
 - ✔ Enjoy the serenity at Korumburra Botanic Park.



FISH CREEK

- Art galleries, studios and craft stores sit shoulder-to-shoulder in this bite-sized village. The main street boasts a collection of impossibly cute weatherboard shopfronts.
- ✔ Browse the specialty stores for art, homewares, books, photography and unique, handcrafted gifts. You may even get to see some artists at work in their studios.
 - ✔ Enjoy country hospitality, classic pub fare or find a nook in a cosy café.
 - ✔ Just out of town toward Foster, admire the views from Mt Nicoll Lookout.



FOSTER

- Set amongst rolling green hills, Foster is a great stop on the way to enjoying South Gippsland's pristine coastline.
- ✔ You'll have your pick of places for a meal, from classic pub fare, café brunches, fish and chips or bakery goods.
 - ✔ Shop at one of the many boutique stores in town.
 - ✔ From clothing and footwear to gifts and homewares.
 - ✔ Discover Pearl Park, a leafy oasis with its charming bridge crossing Stockyard Creek.
 - ✔ Visit the Foster Flora Reserve, a base for a number of short walks.



TOORA

- The tranquil town of Toora hugs the South Gippsland coastline, nestled into the foothills of the Strzelecki Ranges.
- ✔ Home to internationally significant wetlands, you can spot spoonbills, egrets and pelicans from the Toora Bird Hide.
 - ✔ Take in the streetscape on the Toora Heritage Walk, dotted with interpretation boards celebrating the town's history.
 - ✔ Grab a bite to eat or browse for gifts and homewares.



LEONGATHA

- The heartland of dairy country, Leongatha is the region's commercial centre. Heritage buildings surround the streets, and the town boasts an abundance of leafy parks and green spaces.
- ✔ You're spoilt for choice with cosy brunch nooks and eateries.
 - ✔ Wander the streets and browse the boutique stores.
 - ✔ Find the statue of Lennie Gwyther and his pony Ginger Mick, and learn about their incredible journey.

FOOD *and drink*

South Gippsland is blessed with rich chocolatey soil, frequent rainfall and a cool climate. Cows and sheep love it here too. So much so in fact, that the region is one of Australia's foremost dairy producers. Expect to find creamy cheeses, crisp snow peas, premium beef and free range eggs at farm gates, markets and gracing the menus of local cafés and restaurants.



WHATEVER ALES YOU

- ✔ Higher-than-average rainfall and gently sunbathed slopes have created supreme conditions for growing cool climate wines. You can sip your way around the South Gippsland Drink Trail for pinot perfection and shining shiraz.
- ✔ If wine isn't your thing, explore craft ales, traditional English cider or whiskey by talented makers and distillers.

CULINARY ADVENTURES

- ✔ Seasonal and locally grown farm-fresh produce is driving menus of cafés and eateries.
- ✔ South Gippsland is lavished with warm country kitchens and honest pubs, sure to fill your belly and put a smile on your face.



SIX BEACHES *you have to see to believe*

✔ SQUEAKY BEACH

CLAIM TO FAME: Squeaky-clean white sand (that literally squeaks). A beach of white quartz sand can be thanked for the crystal clear water at Squeaky Beach. Where you can run playfully around a clump of granite boulders at the ocean's edge. The surf can be strong, but you'll have plenty to see with the mountains behind you and the hypnotising waters.

✔ SANDY POINT

CLAIM TO FAME: Long-standing family favourite. Patrolled over the summer, this beach boasts some good swells on the wide and sandy shore. The pristine beach is set behind sand dunes, with the looming mountains of Wilsons Promontory in clear view.

✔ LITTLE WATERLOO BAY

CLAIM TO FAME: Off-the-radar turquoise paradise. Discover almost-iridescent blue waters at this small but incredibly beautiful bay. Its remoteness is part of its charm. If you can't BYO boat, you'll have to get there by foot, a 12km hike from Telegraph Saddle (one way). Your efforts are rewarded with snow white sand and azure waters, framed by forested mountain slopes. Pitch a tent in the campground and enjoy a night in paradise under a star-filled dome.



✔ VENUS BAY

CLAIM TO FAME: Wild ocean swells ripe for surfing and wind-surfing. This vast surf beach stretches for 24km, flat and wide with golden sands. Beach No.1 is patrolled over the summer. Swimmers can enjoy the ocean swells, or head around the spit to the calmer waters of Anderson Inlet, a favourite spot for boating and fishing. Don't forget to grab a bite to eat at this popular seaside town.

✔ WALKERVILLE SOUTH

CLAIM TO FAME: A little magic, a dash of heritage and a smattering of rock pools. The beautiful beach is great for swimming, especially with young kids, thanks to a protected bay with gentle waves. The half-moon bay is bookended by rock formations, creating an abundance of rock pools and caves. Remnants of the historic lime kilns can be seen from a walk along the beach towards Walkerville North. This beach was the inspiration for the classic children's book, Magic Beach, by Alison Lester.

✔ WARATAH BAY

CLAIM TO FAME: A slice of paradise all to yourself. Without a major town servicing this patch of the coast, this pristine beach is steeped in serenity. The undiscovered gem boasts clear, shallow waters with some surf, and a vast, wide crescent of golden sand.



ARTS *and culture*



- ✔ Road trip through creative villages, making a playlist of the studios, galleries and handcrafted goods from across the region.
- ✔ Immerse yourself in the history of South Gippsland at Coal Creek, Foster Museum or Port Welshpool Maritime Museum, retracing the steps of settlers and learning about our historic industries.
- ✔ A stellar line up of musicians have made a beeline to perform at the Meeniyar Town Hall for its intimate venue.
- ✔ Spotted something colourful? They could be the ArtCubes, unique creative spaces that move across the region. Check out the latest exhibition.



MAKING *tracks and footprints*



LOADER WALK (MOUNT NICOLL)

walk

Start/ Finish: Mount Nicoll Car Park (approx. 7km from Fish Creek along the Fish Creek-Foster Rd)
Length: approx 3km return

Climbing to a height of 200m above sea level, your efforts will be rewarded with jaw-dropping views across the Strzelecki Ranges to the turquoise coastline of Wilsons Promontory. The trail is rugged in places but enjoyable. The road to the car park is quite steep, unmade and generally not suitable for caravans.



POINT SMYTHE NATURE TRAIL

walk

Start/Finish: End of Lees Rd, Venus Bay
Length: 6km

Nestled within the beauty of the Cape Liptrap Coastal Park, this loop walk weaves through the protected coastal vegetation on the point between Anderson Inlet and the ocean beaches of Venus Bay. Three distinct loops dip through tea tree and banksia woodlands on a wide, sandy path. Visit the vast and beautiful Point Smythe Beach, accessible only from this walk.



LYREBIRD FOREST WALK

walk

Start/ Finish: Lyrebird Forest Walk Carpark, off Strzelecki Highway
Length: 4.8km return

Wander through eucalypt-scented forest and fern gullies on this peaceful loop walk, alongside the gently flowing Morwell River. Sun filters through the tall trees, as the track takes in native bush and farmland against a background track of the river and lyrebird calls. If you don't spot a shy lyrebird, you are likely to encounter other beauties in the area including white-throated treecreepers, cockatoos, robins, brown thornbills, thrushes, laughing kookaburras and crimson rosellas.



GRAND RIDGE RAIL TRAIL

walk, ride, horse

Start: Behind the Grand Ridge Brewery, Mirboo North
Finish: Railway Park, Boolarra
Length: 13km one-way

This gently descending trail, complete with two arch bridges, makes for a peaceful bushland ride. Start your journey by fuelling-up at one of Mirboo North's cafés, relax in leafy

Baromi Park, admire the town's colourful murals or browse the specialty stores.

The gentle descent through forest regrowth ensures a scenic ride. The halfway point at Darlimurla has an information shelter with a trail map and the Big Tree, a remnant of the exquisite tall trees that used to grow in the area. Enjoy the downhill ride and river crossings over arch bridges before arriving in Boolarra.



GREAT SOUTHERN RAIL TRAIL

walk, ride, horse

Start: Railway Precinct, Nyora
Finish: Port Welshpool
Length: 108km one-way

This epic trail is Gippsland's longest. Start in Nyora, making your way through patchwork fields heading east into the enchanting hillsides of the Strzelecki Ranges. Your hilltop adventure takes in the towns and villages of Loch, Korumburra, Leongatha, Koonwarra and Meeniyar, bursting with cafés, delicatessens and boutique stores.

The section between Fish Creek and Foster offers picturesque views towards Wilsons Promontory, and then a relatively flat section takes you to the end-point at the relaxed town of Port Welshpool.

*From early 2024 the Great Southern Rail Trail will extend from Welshpool to Yarram, an additional 26km.

DRIVES *that aren't just for Sundays*



PENGUINS TO THE PROM DRIVE

Phillip Island — Wilsons Promontory | 210km | 3 hours

Embark on a star-studded journey between two of Victoria's most loved locations. Highlights include Bunurong Coastal Drive, Venus Bay, Tarwin Lower, Cape Liptrap Coastal Park, Walkerville South, and the pristine beaches of Waratah Bay and Sandy Point. Discover Fish Creek, a browser's delight with boutique stores and galleries, nestled amongst rolling green hills before arriving at the splendour of Wilsons Prom.

HINTERLAND DISCOVERY

Nyora — Loch via Poowong | 17km | 15 min

Set off from Nyora through beautiful hilly countryside along the C434 before arriving in Poowong, a small rural township



in the heart of dairy country. In Poowong, visit the historic chapel, hewn from the timber of a single tree or take in magnificent views from the Sculpture Park. Head south along Loch-Poowong Rd to Loch Village and if you are still yearning for more spectacular views, head 2km out of town along Clarence St/Loch-Wonthaggi Rd to Cape Horn Lookout.

STRZELECKI VIEWS

Mirboo North — Meeniyar | 28km | 23 min

With stores worthy of browsing, eateries ready to welcome you, and a stunning nearby walk and cycle path through a eucalypt forest, Mirboo North is a great place to start your scenic drive. Head south along the C455 winding through farmland and lush countryside in the heart of the Strzelecki Ranges, travelling through Dumbalk, before arriving in Meeniyar, a destination in its own right.

HILLS TO THE COAST

Korumburra — Inverloch | 28km | 22 mins

One of the most scenic drives in South Gippsland, from Korumburra, take the C437 Korumburra-Wonthaggi road. A well-made, curved road, you will be driving amongst the spectacular rolling hills, which in the cooler months are a lush green. During summer the hills dry off, giving them a gentle, sun-kissed hue. Approximately 10 minutes from Korumburra, be sure to stop at the scenic lookout where on a clear day, you can see hills for miles and even catch a glimpse of the coastline in the distance.

A little further you will arrive in Kongwak, home to a lively Sunday market. Head out of town along the C441 Inverloch-Kongwak Rd, from here it is approximately 12 minutes until you reach Inverloch.



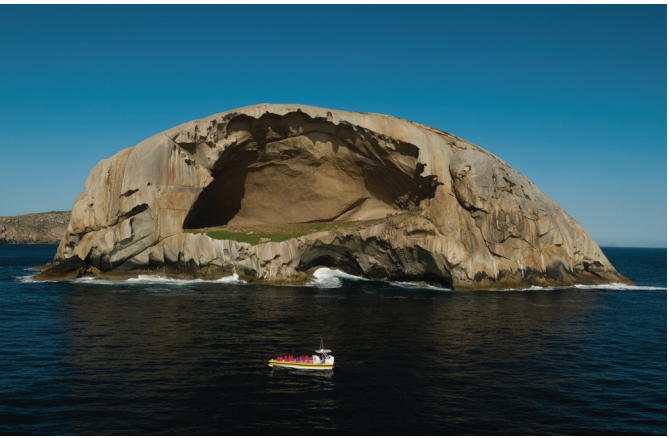
WILSONS PROMONTORY *National Park*



Justifiably famous, Wilsons Promontory National Park is one of Australia's most-loved attractions. Known with affection as “The Prom”. It is a place of wonder, where white sand beaches meet turquoise waters against a backdrop of granite-studded mountains.

FABLED BEACHES

Wilsons Promontory is known for its show-stopping beaches. Discover pure white sand beaches like Squeaky Beach, Whisky Bay and Little Waterloo Bay, enjoy the vast sandy shores of Norman Bay or find dreamy secluded coves like Fairy Cove.



WALKS OF WONDER

The Prom is ideal for those who love to hit the trail. Take a trail weaving alongside the coastline, like Norman Bay to Squeaky Beach Walk, view epic panoramas on the Mt Oberon Summit Walk, or dip through fern gullies on the Lilly Pilly Circuit Walk. Embark on an overnight hiking adventure to discover the remote lighthouse and hard-to-access beaches.

ADORABLE WILDLIFE

The Prom's Australiana fauna reads like a Hollywood cast list. Play kangaroo and emu Spotto on the Airfield shortly after you enter the park. Tidal River Campground is home to resident rosellas and a friendly wombat population. Take a cruise to spot dolphins playing in the waves and seal colonies laying lazily at the base of Skull Rock, or search for the majestic humpback whale during their southerly migration.

ACCOMMODATION

Wilsons Promontory has a range of accommodation including camping, huts, units, cabins and lodges. Advanced bookings are recommended and are essential for peak periods. A range of accommodation is located at the entrance to the park.

