

2015/16



# MELBOURNE & VICTORIA



*For the best times of your life!*





Marysville, Victoria's High Country

### See Melbourne & Victoria – the Sunlover Holidays way!

It takes a lifetime of experience to create the experience of a lifetime and for over 30 years, Sunlover Holidays has been creating great holiday experiences for families, for couples, for friends and for adventurers right around Australia.

From Cape York to Kangaroo Island, from the Gold Coast to Margaret River, from the Kimberley to Hobart and everywhere in between our travel experts are here to help design and book your perfect holiday.

Our fourteen Sunlover Holidays brochures have something to suit all tastes and budgets and are the perfect planning tool for your next family holiday, romantic getaway, self-drive adventure or island escape.

Inside you'll find our 'Essential Experiences' with 'Must Do' activities plus 'Our Local Secrets' section designed to enhance your holiday experience. Our Free Wi-Fi feature makes it easy to stay connected on holiday, just look for the properties displaying the Free Wi-Fi symbol.

We have a huge range of stay/pay and other special deals to make your holiday dollar go further as well as a fabulous selection of value add offers which are listed throughout the brochure.

Use this brochure for inspiration, then let our travel experts assist you to experience Australia your way – happy travelling!

**Andrew Burnes**  
CEO, Sunlover Holidays



Above Photo: Twelve Apostles, Great Ocean Road  
Cover Photo: Hosier Lane, Melbourne



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# Planning your Holiday

The information on the following pages is designed to help you plan your dream getaway. You'll find in-depth Travel Tips as well as a Calendar of Events on page 6. We've detailed our Essential Experiences on page 8 and share 'Our Local Secrets' on page 9.

## The Sunlover Holidays Difference

Fantastic prices, a diverse range of Australian holiday destinations, the widest choice of products and unmatched service, combined with over 30 years experience – that's the Sunlover Holidays difference!

We're committed to offering an extensive range of holiday options and our team of product experts regularly travel throughout Australia to bring you the very best holiday experiences. They are passionate about Australia and personally select each product, providing you with the greatest choice at the most competitive price.

Our team of travel experts are here to help, offering advice and information. They can tailor-make your dream holiday from hundreds of fantastic hotels, apartments and resorts as well as flights, cruises, car and campervan hire, extended touring, self drive holidays and a huge range of sightseeing tours and attractions.

## 100% Australian Owned

Sunlover Holidays is a division of The AOT Group, one of Australia's largest travel companies. We are 100% Australian owned and proud to employ over 300 staff located in our

offices in Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane. A booking with Sunlover Holidays ensures your dollar stays in Australia and helps generate jobs for Australians!

## 24 Hour Service

We know your holiday experience doesn't end until you are safely home. That's why our Customer Care Team is on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week, should you require any assistance during your Sunlover holiday. All the necessary information will be provided with your travel documentation and you can contact the team at any time during your holiday. We're with you on the journey.

## Offering You Value for Money

Throughout this brochure you'll find amazing offers including free nights, room upgrades and food and beverage credits to name a few. Just look for the 'Bonus Offer' box.

We have also put together some fabulous Holiday Packages starting on page 10, which offer exceptional value for money. These packages include a choice of accommodation options to suit all budgets together with 'must do' tours and attractions, exclusive to Sunlover Holidays.

Our product team is always sourcing special deals throughout the year, so make sure you ask your travel agent for the latest Sunlover Holidays specials when making your booking.

## Exclusively For You

We're always on the look out for ways to enhance your holiday experience. Throughout this brochure, you'll find deals marked **Exclusively For You**. These are free bonus offers exclusive to Sunlover Holidays customers.

## TripAdvisor

This brochure is a great source of advice and has all the information you'll need to create your dream holiday. We are now partnering with TripAdvisor to offer you (where available) hotel reviews. TripAdvisor rates real travellers' experiences, giving you an unbiased and impartial point of view on the product we feature to assist you with your holiday planning. TripAdvisor ratings and reviews are available to view on our website at [www.sunloverholidays.com.au](http://www.sunloverholidays.com.au).

LET SUNLOVER HOLIDAYS INSPIRE YOU TO DISCOVER MORE OF THESE FANTASTIC DESTINATIONS.

# NEW!

2015-16 Signature Collection  
Unique Australian Experiences







Melbourne

## Pricing Guide

Prices featured in accommodation listings are per room for the period specified unless otherwise stated. The "from" price in the property heading has been calculated using the cheapest nightly rate available, ie. in the lead-in room type, in off-peak season using the longest stay (eg. 7 nights). If a free night offer is available, even if for part of a season, this has been included when calculating the "from" price. A minimum stay is generally required. Where prices for more than a one night stay are featured, the prices refer to stays of consecutive nights.

## School Holidays 2015 – 16

Queensland	3 – 19 Apr, 27 Jun – 12 Jul, 19 Sep – 5 Oct, 12 Dec 15 – 24 Jan 16
New South Wales	3 – 20 Apr, 27 Jun – 13 Jul, 19 Sep – 5 Oct, 17 Dec 15 – 26 Jan 16
Victoria	28 Mar – 12 Apr, 27 Jun – 12 Jul, 19 Sep – 4 Oct, 19 Dec 15 – 26 Jan 16
Australian Capital Territory	11 – 26 Apr, 4 – 19 Jul, 26 Sep – 11 Oct, 19 Dec 15 – 31 Jan 16
Tasmania	3 – 19 Apr, 4 – 19 Jul, 26 Sep – 11 Oct, 18 Dec 15 – 1 Feb 16
South Australia	11 – 26 Apr, 4 – 19 Jul, 26 Sep – 11 Oct, 12 Dec 15 – 31 Jan 16
Western Australia	3 – 19 Apr, 4 – 19 Jul, 26 Sep – 11 Oct, 18 Dec 15 – 1 Feb 16
Northern Territory	3 – 12 Apr, 20 Jun – 19 Jul, 26 Sep – 4 Oct, 11 Dec 15 – 24 Jan 16
New Zealand	3 – 19 Apr, 4 – 19 Jul, 26 Sep – 11 Oct, 19 Dec 15 – 31 Jan 16

## Accommodation Ratings

STAR and Diamond ratings are used throughout the brochure to describe the standard of accommodation.

**STAR RATINGS** Properties featuring the Star symbols are independently assessed by Star Ratings Australia (SRA). SRA is a stand-alone accreditation business and a subsidiary of Australian Motoring Services (AMS). The Stars and the Star Ratings are a registered trademark of AMS. We have no input into the assessment process.

**DIAMOND RATINGS** Properties featuring Diamond symbols do not participate in a recognised rating scheme. The rating is supplied by the individual property based on their own assessment. We recommend they be used as a guide only.

★★★	Comfortable standard of accommodation
◆◆◆	
★★★★	Superior standard of accommodation and facilities
◆◆◆◆	
★★★★★	Deluxe standard of accommodation and facilities
◆◆◆◆◆	
☆	Denotes additional half rating
◇	

## Room Images

Room images featured on property listings are the lead-in room type, unless captioned otherwise.

## What the Symbols mean



The property has Free Wi-Fi available in the room/apartment. Free Wi-Fi may or may not be available in public areas. Please refer to the Property Features in the individual accommodation listing for further details.



Day spa facilities are available.



The property has one or more rooms providing wheelchair access with assistance.



A bonus is available if you are celebrating a special occasion (eg. honeymoon). Advise your travel agent when booking. The definition of 'special occasion' and type of bonus offered is at each property's discretion. Conditions may apply.



Product that has been accredited under the second level of the national Ecotourism Certification scheme.

## Apartment Style Accommodation

In general, self-catering apartments feature cooking facilities with a minimum of microwave, hot plates, saucepans, crockery, cutlery and cooking utensils. Laundry facilities will be located either in the apartment, or in a guest laundry within the property. Most apartments are serviced every 7 days and do not provide hotel facilities such as porterage, room service or mini bars. Most apartments provide an initial supply of items such as tea, coffee, toilet paper and soap.

**OPEN DATED TOURS**  
**Buy Now & Book Later!**

Our **OPEN DATED** range of tours offers you the flexibility of pre-paying for your "must do" holiday experiences without having to lock in dates in advance. This means you can pick the day that best suits your needs once your holiday has commenced. Simply include an **OPEN DATED** tour in your itinerary, pay for your entire holiday prior to departure, then call us up to 24 hours in advance to book. **OPEN DATED** gives you the flexibility to buy now and book later! Just look for the **OPEN DATED** symbol on pages 21 and 23 to 25.





## Travel Tips

Mt Martha, Mornington Peninsula

### Calendar of Events

#### APRIL

International Comedy Festival, Melbourne 25th Mar-19th Apr  
Rip Curl Pro, Bells Beach 15th-26th

#### MAY

Warrnambool May Racing Carnival 5th-7th

#### JULY

Melbourne International Film Festival 30th Jul-16th Aug

#### SEPTEMBER

Spring Racing Carnival, Melbourne 19th Sep-21st Nov

#### OCTOBER

AFL Grand Final, Melbourne 3rd  
Melbourne International Arts Festival 9th-25th  
Australian Motorcycle Grand Prix, Phillip Island 16th-18th  
Wangaratta Festival of Jazz 30th Oct-2nd Nov

#### NOVEMBER

Melbourne Cup 3rd  
V8 Supercar Championship, Phillip Island 20th-22nd

#### JANUARY

Australian Open Tennis Championships, Melbourne 18th-31st

#### FEBRUARY

Melbourne Food and Wine Festival TBC  
White Night Melbourne TBC

#### MARCH

Melbourne International Flower Show TBC  
Melbourne Fashion Festival TBC  
Formula 1 Australian Grand Prix TBC

TBC – Dates for this event were yet to be confirmed at the time of printing.

### How to Get There

**BY AIR** Virgin Australia, Qantas and Jetstar service Melbourne from capital cities throughout Australia. In addition Jetstar flies into Avalon Airport, located 45 minutes from Melbourne CBD. QantasLink and Rex offer services throughout regional Victoria and across New South Wales and South Australia.

FROM / TO	MELBOURNE
Sydney	1 hr 25 mins
Adelaide	1 hr 15 mins
Brisbane	2 hrs 10 mins
Cairns	3 hrs 25 mins
Perth	3 hrs 40 mins
Darwin	4 hrs 15 mins
Alice Springs	2 hrs 35 mins
Hobart	1 hr 15 mins
Mildura	1 hr 5 mins

The above table shows flight durations for direct flights only. Connecting flights from other destinations are also available. Times are a guide only and subject to change.

**BY CAR** Take the time to explore and discover as you make your way through Victoria by road. Whether it's getting there or getting around we recommend Avis car hire. See page 14 for details or ask your travel agent about the great specials Avis has to offer.

We offer a selection of suggested driving itineraries, providing you with the freedom to discover some of the highlights of Victoria at your own pace. Refer to the Self Drive Holidays starting on page 12 for more details.

### Beach Safety

Australia has some of the world's best beaches, however care and caution should be exercised at all times. Please remember to swim between the red and yellow flags and listen to instructions from lifesavers and lifeguards.

### Weather Guide

TEMPERATURE AVERAGE in Melbourne

Summer	14°C to 25°C
Autumn	11°C to 20°C
Winter	6°C to 14°C
Spring	9°C to 19°C

### DISTANCES BY ROAD (KM)

MELBOURNE												
327	ALBURY											
115	396	BALLARAT										
281	308	393	BAIRNSDALE									
152	296	121	435	BENDIGO								
214	241	211	506	93	ECHUCA							
74	388	89	355	189	282	GEELONG						
292	590	179	571	273	364	233	HAMILTON					
542	612	449	826	403	377	550	439	MILDURA				
189	175	282	403	122	71	250	455	446	SHEPPARTON			
341	397	290	622	188	154	378	363	221	225	SWAN HILL		
164	490	276	119	317	385	235	464	707	355	506	TRARALGON	
265	577	172	543	292	392	189	100	537	441	399	425	WARRNAMBOOL

Distances should be used as a guide only.





### MELBOURNE AND SURROUNDS

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### YARRA VALLEY

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55 to 57



### GREAT OCEAN ROAD

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52 to 54



### PHILLIP ISLAND AND MORNINGTON PENINSULA

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58 to 61








### REGIONAL VICTORIA

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### ST KILDA

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-  INTERNATIONAL AIRPORTS
-  REGIONAL AIRPORTS
-  NATIONAL PARKS
-  RAIL
-  MAIN ROADS



# Essential Experiences



**10** Werribee Open Range Zoo



**1**

## 1. Shopping

Melbourne is undoubtedly the nation's fashion and style capital. Visit the largest and most fashionable shopping destination in the Southern Hemisphere at Chadstone. Chapel Street in South Yarra is a must visit for high-end fashion, while Bridge Road in Richmond is great for factory outlet shopping. Wander through the historic laneways for vintage pieces at one of the many trendy boutiques. (see pages 22 and 68 for details)

## 2. The Great Ocean Road

Drive the Great Ocean Road, which stretches across kilometres of rugged cliffs and golden beaches. Marvel at the limestone stack formations of the Twelve Apostles and see why it is one of the most famous attractions in Australia. (see pages 11, 12, 15, 16, 24, 25, 53 and 54 for details)

## 3. Events, Arts and Culture

Fill your holiday calendar with sport or arts and cultural events held throughout the year. Sports fans will get a kick out of Aussie Rules football. Petrol heads flock to the motor races and everyone gets dressed up for the quintessential Melbourne event, the Spring Racing Carnival. Witness the world's greatest tennis players determined to take out the first Grand Slam of the year. Take your pick of dozens of stage productions in Melbourne each week. Wander through the many art galleries and museums.

## 4. Yarra Valley

The Yarra Valley is a definite must see in Victoria and is under an hour's drive from Melbourne. Indulge in wine tasting, while admiring the lush greenery and picturesque landscapes. (see pages 24, 56 and 57 for details)

## 5. Wining and Dining

Victoria's passion for food and wine is evident in its array of bars, restaurants, vineyards and local produce. Dine in one of the many Italian restaurants along Lygon Street. Victoria has over 850 wineries across more than 21 wine regions and five of the regions are within 90 minutes of Melbourne! (see pages 22, 56 and 59 for details)

## 6. Phillip Island

Watch the Little penguins on their nightly parade at Phillip Island as they line up and come from the ocean on to the beach into their burrows. Line the observation boardwalks to see the parade, which draws thousands of visitors from around the world each year. (see pages 11, 12, 15, 16, 23 and 59 for details)

## 7. Spa Treatments

Visit the Spa Country of Hepburn Springs. Indulge in a spa treatment and immerse yourself completely at the naturally occurring mineral springs that flow through Hepburn Springs. (see page 64 for details)

## 8. The Grampians

Nature lovers will love the Grampians. Explore Aboriginal rock art sites, hike the many walking tracks, see rugged mountains, unique native animals and stunning waterfalls in Grampian National Park. (see pages 15 and 25 for details)

## 9. Ballarat

Step back in time at Sovereign Hill in Ballarat. Pan for real gold at the Red Hill Gully Diggings. Visit 1850's style shops, schools and hotels. Enjoy a two course dinner before experiencing the incredible sound and light show 'Blood on the Southern Cross'. (see page 64 for details)

## 10. Animal Encounters

See animals from around the world at the Melbourne Zoo. Witness Australian wildlife in their natural habitat at Healesville Sanctuary located in the heart of the Yarra Valley. Head out on safari at the Werribee Open Range Zoo. Don't miss out on the 360 degree Oceanarium at the Melbourne Aquarium. (see pages 21 and 26 for details)



**5** Melbourne Laneways





White Night, Flinders Street Station



6 Phillip Island



2 The Great Ocean Road



8 Mount William Summit, Grampians



4 De Bortoli Yarra Valley Estate

## OUR LOCAL SECRETS

### *For the best way to end the day...*

Head to Rooftop Bar in Swanston Street and enjoy breathtaking views over Melbourne city. Stick around into the evening and watch a movie in the open air cinema.

### *Take the family to...*

Black light mini golf at Docklands. Enjoy a good old fashioned game of mini golf in an amazing glow in the dark environment.

### *A great place to go for a drink is...*

Déjà vu Bar and Lounge located on Lonsdale Street. With local and international craft beers rotating regularly, no two nights are the same.

### *For lovers of coffee...*

Try Sensory Lab on Little Collins Street. Part café, part science lab, it's a coffee lovers nirvana.

### *Got a sweet tooth?*

Make sure you visit Panny's Chocolate Factory on Phillip Island. With a vast range of truffles, bars and clusters, there's something for everyone.

### *For great fun for the whole family...*

Visit the Enchanted Adventure Garden on the Mornington Peninsula. Have fun tree surfing, ride the tube slides or lose yourself in the indoor maze.

### *For a unique dining experience...*

Go to Prix Fixe, a funky restaurant that offers a monthly rotating menu based on theatrical shows and literature.