MELBOURNE TO TASMANIA AND SYDNEY: A SELF GUIDED MOTORCYCLE TOUR





















ESI BIKES



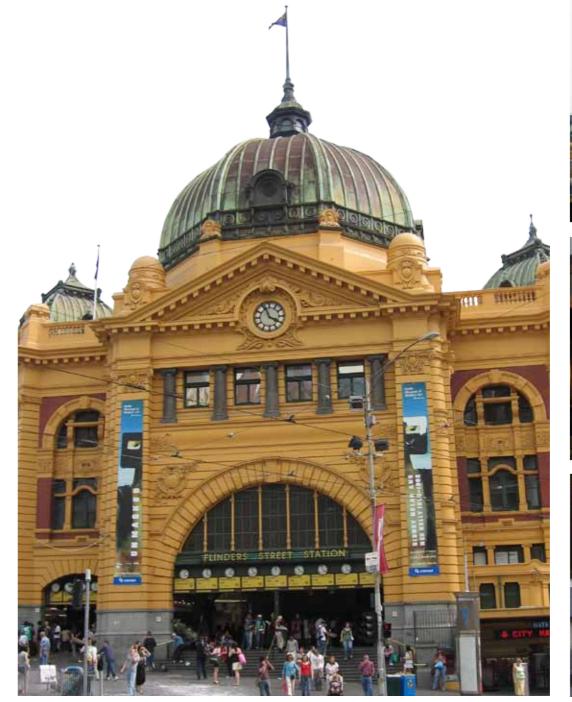
Melbourne

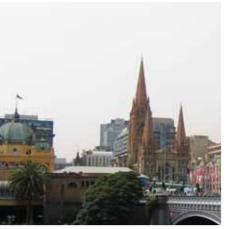
capital city of Victoria and the second most populace city in Australia, Melbourne has a brilliant mix of vibrant energy, cosmopolitan charm and friendly, relaxed locals.

Cultural hub of Australia, Melbourne can be credited as the birthplace of Australian film, is a major centre for Australian music and was even ranked as the world's most liveable city in 2011. In short, why haven't you visited already?

Take time out off the bike to wander the fascinating streets, browse through the eclectic mix of small boutiques and larger stores, jump on one of the famous trams and see the sights, or simply kick back and relax in one of the many parks or with a coffee on the banks of the Yarra River.

Contemporary, vibrant, and in places, as relaxing as you want.



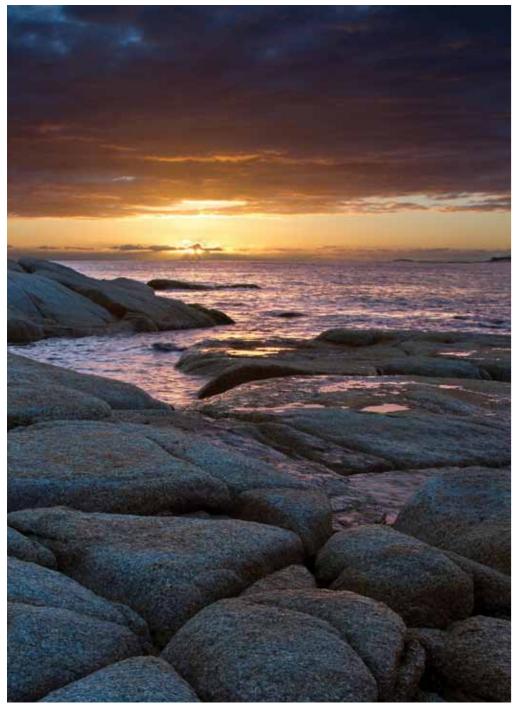
















The Bay of Fires

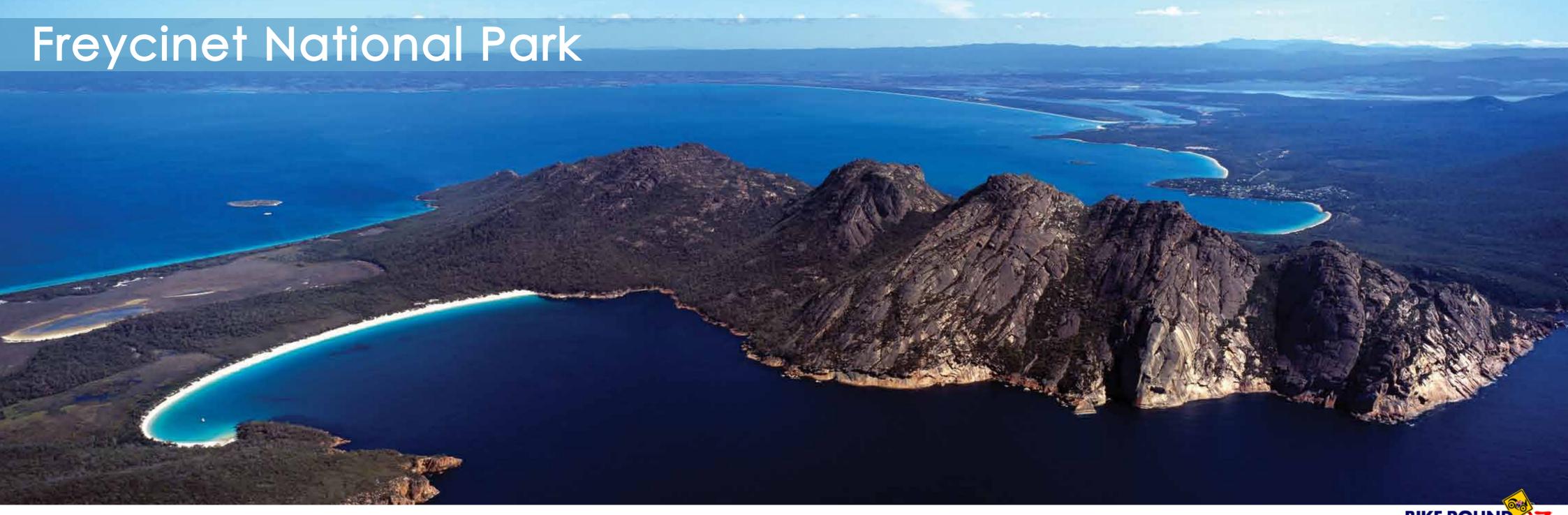
The Bay of Fires was thusly named by Captain Tobias Furneaux in 1773, when he spotted numerous fires along the coast which led him to believe the country was more densely populated than it actually was. These days it's more likely to be referred to as the Bay of Barbecues, as the prevalence of pristine, almost eye-wateringly white beaches, turquoise ocean and soothing climate, make this the ideal spot to relax, cook up some food and savour the atmosphere.

Boating, bird watching, camping, swimming, snorkelling and a wide range of other activities mean there's plenty to see and do along with revelling in the beach lifestyle. It makes for one fantastic coastline to ride along too.



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Freycinet National Park

Mid way up the east coast is this easily overlooked sliver of Tasmania, if it weren't for the thin isthmus of land connecting it to the rest of Tassie, Freycinet would be an island by now. Whilst it would be easy to shoot straight past whilst revelling in the fantastic riding offered by the eastern coastal road, a short detour to visit the natural wonder that is Wineglass Bay is well worth it.

The near perfect swath of sand at Wineglass Bay has earned it the accolade of one of the top ten beaches in the world, as voted by several travel authorities and this motorcycle traveller alike. There's plenty of fishing, boating, sea kayaking and rock climbing for those feeling energetic, and the spectacular pink feldspar and granite mountains known as 'The Hazards' provide a pleasant contrast to all the beach on offer.









Port Arthur

Port Arthur is an almost absurdly appropriate place for a penitentiary. The peninsula where the settlement is located, is only attached to the mainland by a 30m wide stretch of land known as Eaglehawk Neck. A formidable speed bump in any escape plans, but a great route to ride in on!

The guards and convicts may be long gone, but the atmosphere and fascinating history linger. The museum, historic buildings, informative displays, harbour cruise to the 'Isle of the Dead' and simply the setting itself, all provide an intriguing insight into what life must have been like for those convicts and soldiers alike, unlucky enough to be sent there.







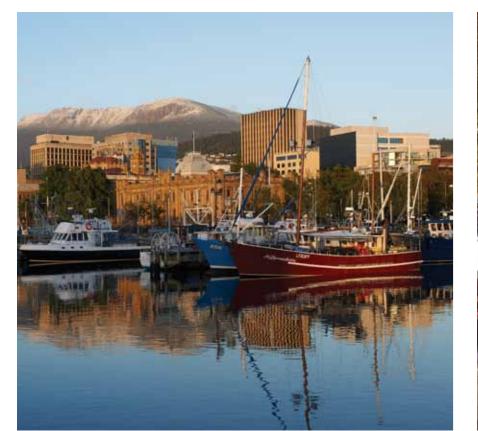


Hobart

S tate capital of Tasmania and second oldest city in Australia, Hobart is strongly influenced by its maritime roots. It boasts a waterfront location to rival that of Sydney, with the Tasman Bridge playing the part of the Harbour Bridge considerable aplomb.

Dominating every view of the skyline from within the city is Mount Wellington, towering to 1,271m above sea level it casts a watchful eye over the city below. The many hiking trails in the area provide an opportunity to get off the bike and stretch the legs, if you're feeling up to that thousand or so metres of course!

There's always something going on in Hobart, so much so that you might find it hard to drag yourself away but trust us, there's plenty more to experience on this tour.

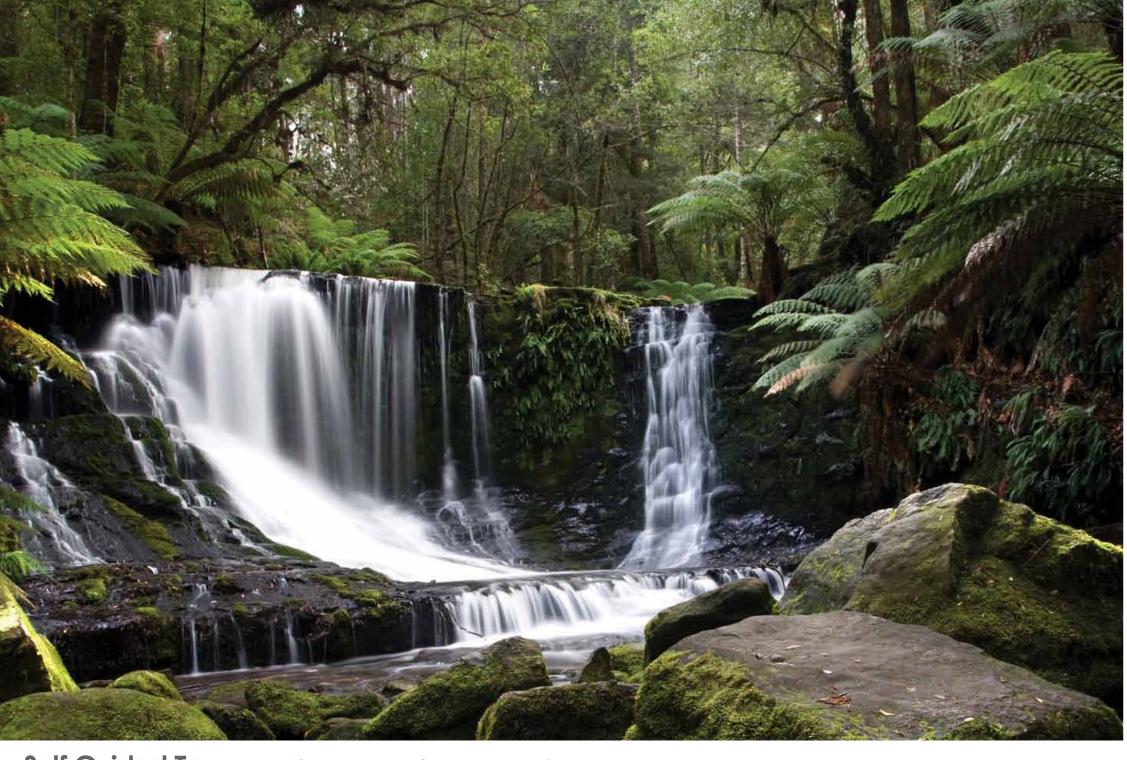












Mount Field National Park

Lounded in 1916 this is Tasmania's oldest national park, and was the last refuge of the now reportedly extinct Tasmanian Tiger or Thylacine. Reportedly extinct because, well, there are so many places to hide in Tasmania's lush wilderness and more remote areas, that you never really know what you might happen across on a motorbike tour!

Easy access to some spectacular waterfalls, rainforest and great camping makes this a popular day stop on the way to the town of Strahan.















Cradle Mountain - Lake St Claire National Park

Cradle Mountain is the place you've probably heard of before, the place everyone wants to see, and for good reason.

Iconic is one word that aptly describes the national park, the area literally embodies the state of Tasmania in one easily absorbed visit. Cradle Mountain itself, rising up from behind Dove Lake with its unmistakable outline, forms the epicentre in the astounding collection of natural wonders on offer.

Explore the pristine alpine landscape and encounter some of the many endemic varieties of animals that call the park their home, wallabies, quolls, wombats, possums, echidnas and the infamous Tasmanian Devil can all be found within the confines of the park; if you're lucky you might just spot some.





The Great Ocean Road

The Great Ocean Road is rightly classified as one of the most scenic coastal drives in the world, words simply can't describe the amazing scenery, or the experience you'll have on this 280km coast road. It's sheer, unadulterated motorcycling bliss.

Stunning ocean views to the south, the Otway Ranges to the north with their temperate rainforest, abundant eucalypts and resident koala populations and an eclectic mix of coastal towns along the way. A superb biking road, twisting and turning as it traces the outline of the Victoria coast and one that every motorcyclist should ride at least once in their life!

The '12 Apostles', 'Loch Ard Gorge' and 'London Bridge' are just a few of the natural marvels to be encountered along the way. It may only be 280km of asphalt, but it'll be an experience to last a lifetime.





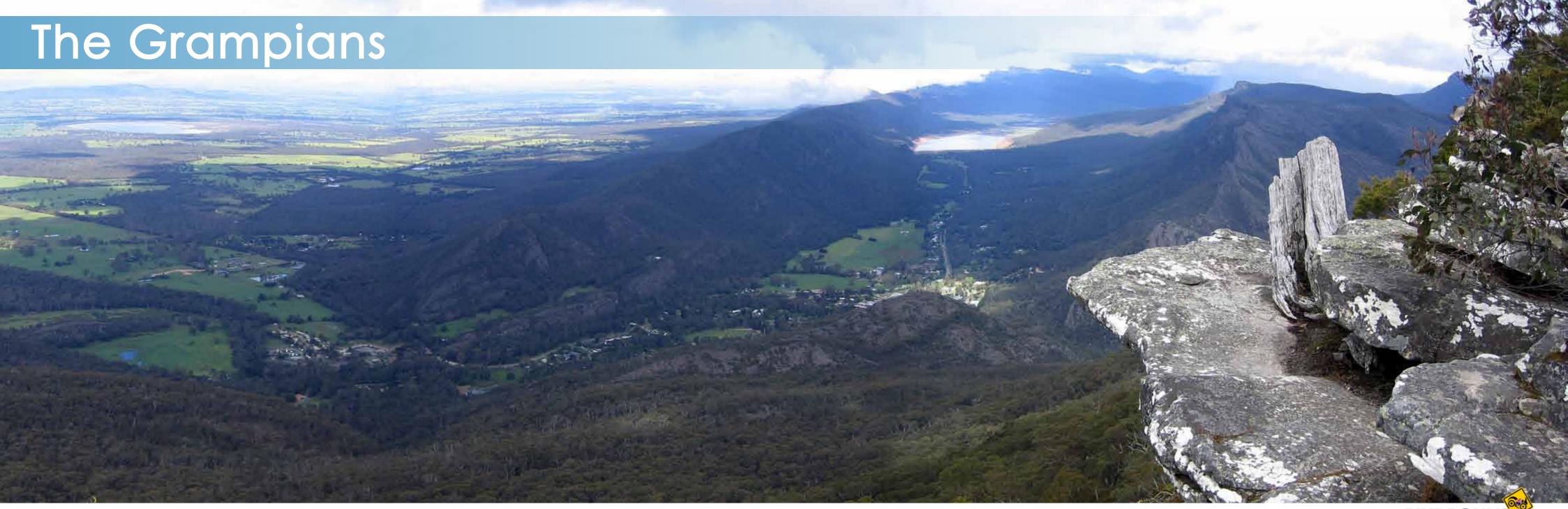










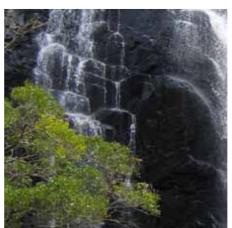


















The Grampians

t's time to breath deeply and savour mother nature at her very best. Discover grand mountain ranges, delicate wildflowers, a wealth of Aboriginal rock art sites and some great biking routes.

This area of granite highlands is jam packed with wildlife, waterfalls and superb lookouts. If you get high enough on a really clear day, you can even see the Great Ocean Road 170km away towards the coast.

A day spent in the Grampians is a day well spent. Wander the trails, experience the serenity or take your bike to some of the further flung corners of the area. Whatever you end up doing, you'll be experiencing one of the finest national parks in Australia.





Victoria Highlands

New South Wales has the Snowy Mountains and Victoria has the Highlands. A more relaxed alpine environment than the 'Snowies', but don't be fooled, there are plenty of thrilling roads to ride and more breathtaking scenery to provide a great backdrop.

Wide open plains framed by rolling hills and jagged mountain peaks, the road stretches far into the distance meandering gently as it weaves through small settlements and tiny communities. With such unrestricted views all around, there's plenty of time to prepare for the corners, revel in the experience and then gaze about at the intricate beauty beyond the perfect ribbon of asphalt you're speeding along.





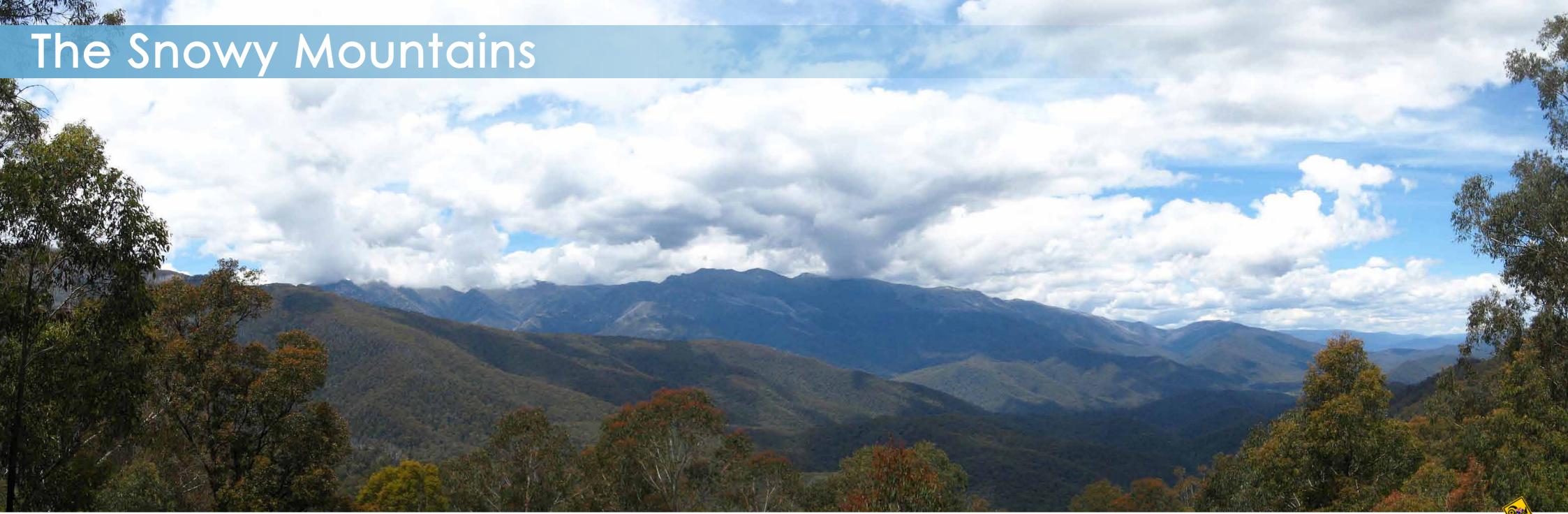


















Snowy Mountains

Epic alpine scenery in Australia? Most people don't realise that Australia has more ski runs than Switzerland, but a ride through this area will soon set the record straight.

Although mostly recognised for its winter sports, 'the Snowies' as the area is affectionately known, is a playground for those looking for something different and adventurous motorcyclists alike.

Twist through the atmospheric alpine forests, sweep along the winding mountain roads and drink in the fantastic scenery. Whilst you're having so much fun, don't forget to stop for lunch at one of the seasonal alpine towns along the way, or pause for a rest on the shores of one of the snow fed lakes.



The New South Wales Coast

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New South Wales Coast

More than 30 national parks are scattered around this region of New South Wales, with marine sanctuaries and nature reserves adding to the already incredible variety. Stretching from the Royal National Park near Sydney to Eden in the south, the unspoilt natural beauty of the region makes it a perfect motorcycling destination.

You'll wind your way around the rugged coast, through the verdant national parks and along the outstanding Seacliff Bridge on the Grand Pacific Drive. It's not possible to ride any closer to the ocean without getting wet!





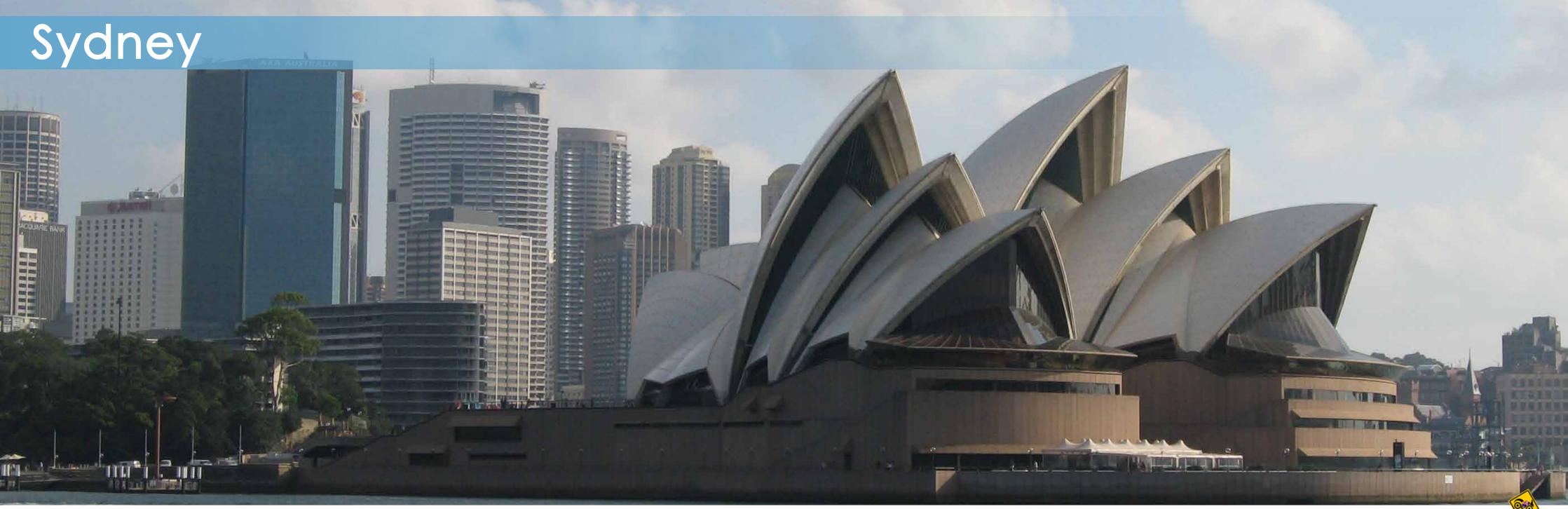














Sydney

Capital city of New South Wales, the site of Australia's first permanent European settlement and one of the world's most beautiful cities. Set on a large harbour it has the natural advantages of walks around the foreshores, spectacular views, bay-side parks, gardens and the architectural magic of the Harbour Bridge and the Opera House.

From this classic starting point in the majestic city, you collect your bikes from our depot before spending the first day riding to, and exploring around the breathtaking New South Wales coastline. A relaxing ride on the first day to ease you into the swing of things, but with plenty to see and do along the way.

Experience the 'Three Sisters', brave the world's steepest railway, tour the valleys and watch the mountains take on their evening hues from the comfort of your balcony back at the accommodation.



HOW THINGS WORK - Self-guided tours

Self-guided tours are designed to make it as easy as possible for you to arrange your motorbike tour in Australia.

We take away all the trouble and time needed to research and plan the tour, so you can be confident that you'll make the most of your time, see the best the route has to offer and have somewhere great to stay each night. It makes for stress free days on the bike and leaves you to simply enjoy the freedom of riding, marvel at the scenery and soak up the atmosphere.

Self-guided tour costs generally include the bike, accommodation in good quality 3.5 to 4 star bed & breakfast/motels/resorts and a very detailed itinerary with maps that will tell you the best biking route and things to see on the way.



We know what works on these trips and the pace has been designed for people that like to make good use of the bike, but also enjoy stopping to admire the spectacular scenery, take short walks to things of interest and enjoy local hospitality with a great coffee or lunch at cafés and restaurants on the way.

A typical day is around 350 km but on some days it might be less and others a little more depending on what there is to see. You won't ride the direct routes between cities and towns as they are fast, straight and have little of interest on the way. They are quick and functional but no fun on a bike! The route we'll take you on has fantastic scenery and you'll twist and wind your way along lesser known back roads through each region along the way.

Prior to the tour you'll be sent a detailed itinerary and briefing pack telling you all about the history of each area and things you'll likely see during the trip. This will mean you can read all about the tour and do any additional research you might like to do before arriving in Australia.

We love Australia and want to show you the best of it. We are confident you'll leave with the same passion for the country as we have.

Thanks for your interest in these tours and we hope to share Australia with you sometime soon!



For more information on this, or any of our other tours please visit: www.bikeroundoz.com or contact us directly at: info@bikeroundoz.com



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