



Goldfields Alumni tour

MARCH 2024 TOUR | ITINERARY

- DAY 1** **Thursday 14 March.** Arrive in Castlemaine (own arrangements). Meet at the Tourist Information Centre at 1pm. From there we take a walking tour of Castlemaine. The walking tour is about 1 kilometre around the central business district of Castlemaine and takes about 90 minutes. We start at the old markets, and walk past historic sites including the Theatre Royal, Burke and Wills Monument (optional – reaching the monument involves a steep 15 minute climb), the Gold Warden's office and lock up, and Agitation Hill.
- Those who arrive early might like to walk around the Castlemaine Botanical Gardens, one of Victoria's oldest botanical gardens. The scale reflects Castlemaine's prosperity during the gold rush.
- At the conclusion of the walking tour you may choose to check in to our accommodation or continue exploring Castlemaine. Historic Buda is an authentic goldfields villa house and garden open every day from 12 – 4pm (\$15 entrance fee per adult).
- Check into Campbell House any time after 3pm. Join us for pre-dinner drinks and nibbles from 6pm. Dinner at 7pm at Campbell House.
- DAY 2** **Friday 15 March.** After breakfast we travel by private vehicle to Broad Road on the outskirts of Castlemaine and walk a loop track taking in part of the Dry Diggings trail, poverty gully, the Eureka loop and Monk track. The walk is approximately 10 kilometres and will take around 3 hours.
- On return to Castlemaine there is free time to relax or to continue to explore Castlemaine. Perhaps browse the books at Stoneman's Bookroom or Mount of Alex. Or maybe visit the gold rush era cemetery, Pennyweight Flat Children's cemetery (off Colles Road).
- We have a booking for dinner at 7 pm at the Railway Hotel (own cost).
- DAY 3** **Saturday 16 March.** After breakfast we travel by private vehicle to Chewton and walk another loop track, this time walking some of the Leanganook track. Along the way we see the massive foundations for the giant Garfield water wheel, the ruins of the Welsh village and its slate quarry and Expedition pass reservoir. The trail is approximately 14 kilometres and takes 3 – 4 hours.
- On return to Chewton we can take a late lunch and refreshments (own cost) at Chewton's historic Red Hill hotel.
- We have free time on return to Castlemaine before dinner at 7 pm at Wild, a wine bar and restaurant in the old fire station.
- DAY 4** **Sunday 17 March.** Our tour ends this morning and check out is at 11:00 am. Anyone not having to rush away might like to potter around the Mill – the Austrian coffee house Das Kaffeehaus is always popular.

See next page for tour price, inclusions and other general information.



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MARCH 2024 TOUR | GENERAL INFORMATION

TOUR PRICE

\$140 per person per night plus \$75 for dinner (excluding drinks) on Saturday 16 March. *

DURATION

3 nights.

Tour Start Date: Thursday 14 March 2024. Tour End Date: Sunday 17 March 2024.

GROUP SIZE

Minimum of 8 and a maximum of 16 participants on a twin share* basis (plus two tour leaders).

TOUR LEADERS

Alison Weber and Carolyn Abbey. In the unlikely event that either Alison and Carolyn, or both, are unable to accompany this tour due to illness or other unforeseen circumstances, we will endeavour to engage a replacement tour leader and will provide details as soon as possible.

DIETARY REQUIREMENTS

If you have dietary restrictions, please contact us to discuss further.

ACCOMMODATION

We stay at historic Campbell House, 31 Campbell Street, Castlemaine for the three nights of this tour. The house has nine queen bedrooms over three levels. Bathrooms are shared and there is a bathroom on each level.

INCLUSIONS

- Twin share* accommodation (shared bathrooms) at Campbell House, Castlemaine.
- Welcome drink on arrival
- Pre-dinner nibbles each evening.
- Breakfast each morning at Campbell House
- Snacks each full day (Days 2 and 3).
- Dinner at Wild restaurant on Day 3 (Saturday 16 March) – drinks not included

* We will invoice you for the number of nights you stay. If you do not stay on Saturday 16 March you will not be charged for dinner at Wild. A limited number of rooms can be provided for single occupancy. Contact us to discuss further.