



## Great Ocean Walk – 3-Day Watharong, Gadabanud & Girai-Wurrung

**3 DAYS | 34.5 KMs | Track grading: 2-3, Easy to Moderate**

Join us for a curated journey walking some of the highlights of the iconic Great Ocean Walk from Apollo Bay to Port Campbell. This tour will immerse you in the wonderful and varied habitats of this iconic region.



### What to expect on this walking experience

Park Trek has curated a spectacular fully guided walk that brings together the highlights of the Great Ocean Walk over three spectacular days. Enjoy this 3-day guided walking experience, doing something positive for your body, mind and soul while exploring this iconic and historical coastline. In the evenings you will relax in our comfortable accommodation with new friends and exchange stories and experiences. You will walk around 40kms, exploring the diverse habitats and landscapes of this truly beautiful region. There are beaches, coves, spectacular cliff top vistas, rainforest and mountain ash forests along this spectacular 105km coastal trail, that is also rich with history of the infamous “Shipwreck Coast”. Throughout your walk you’ll only carry a day pack, and this walk is perfectly suited to new walkers or experienced walkers simply looking to unwind and immerse in a beautiful and diverse landscape

### Our accommodation

Throughout your walk you will stay with either of our preferred sustainable accommodation partners, being Cape Otway Lightstation Cottages, or Bimbi Park in Cape Otway. Both offer spectacular, albeit different coastal or bush settings, with their own unique benefits and enchanting features. Rooms are cabin style and may have shared bathroom facilities. There are limited single supplements available.



### A note to nature

All our tours are subject to the forces of nature, which can at times be unpredictable. As such, our guides may choose, or be required, to alter our proposed itinerary if considered necessary having regard to prevailing weather and safety considerations. Our guides will however always strive to provide the most scenic and enjoyable walks having regard to the prevailing weather. Please refer to the [Australian Walking Track Grading System](#) for further details around grading of all walks on this tour.

### **Acknowledgement to Traditional Owners**

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of Country and recognize their continuing connection to land, water, skies and culture. We are privileged to learn from them, and we pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging. We support the Uluru Statement from the Heart.

## **DAY ONE**

### **Parker River to Cape Otway Lightstation**

**Distance: 11 kms | 5 hrs | Grade: 2-3, Easy**

We head off from Melbourne on the iconic Great Ocean Road stopping en-route at Anglesea for morning tea. We arrive in Apollo Bay around 11am where we prepare for today's walk. The guides will also show you where you can purchase your own alcohol for the two night's we are staying at either the Cape Otway Lightstation or Bimbi Park.

Today's walk is a delightful 11 kilometre walk of moderately undulating terrain exploring the coast of the Cape Otway area encompassing Parker River Inlet, Point Franklin and Crayfish Bay. Your Park Trek guide will lead you and along the way explain some of the local history. This is a delightful section, truly spectacular with the chance to see Koalas lazily grazing in the eucalypt forest. We finish today's walk at the iconic Cape Otway Lightstation, one of the region's most famous landmarks. We will go to the top of the lighthouse.

From the lighthouse you can see over a vast area and enjoy the most spectacular scenery where waves crash over reefs and where the notorious Bass Strait meets the great Southern Ocean. The lighthouse is manned by a trained guide, who will greet you at the top of the tower.

Guides will recount stories of the Cape's traditional owners, shipwrecks, the trials and tribulations of the colourful lighthouse keepers, the working of the light, World War II history, fascinating stories of the Telegraph Station, one of Australia's most intriguing UFO mysteries, and much more.

We head back to our accommodation for pre-dinner nibbles and a delicious 2-course guide prepared meal.



## **DAY TWO**

### **Milanesia Gate to Moonlight Head**

**Distance: 15 kms | 8 hrs | Grade: 3, Moderate**

After breakfast and lunch making we head off on the days' walk. From Milanesia Gate we descend to a beautiful and remote beach.

Isolated, rugged and hidden, Milanesia Beach receives few visitors and is all the more special for it. Look for the "beachcomber's cottage" when you reach the beach.

From here the trail continues along the high sea cliffs to Ryan's Den with breathtaking views all the way back to Cape Otway, and west to Cape Volney. This is our lunch spot and it is one of the most scenic locations along the walk. There are also toilets here.

From Ryan's Den the track continues through coastal forests that lead over Cape Volney to Moonlight Head (named by Matthew Flinders during a break in showery weather at night in April 1802).

After today's walk, we head back to our accommodation for pre-dinner nibbles and your guides will prepare a fabulous two-course dinner.





## **DAY THREE**

### **Princetown to Gibson's Steps / Twelve Apostles**

**Distance: 8.5 kms | 2.5-3hrs | Grade: 2-3, Easy-Mod**

After breakfast and lunch making we head out for our last day of walking.

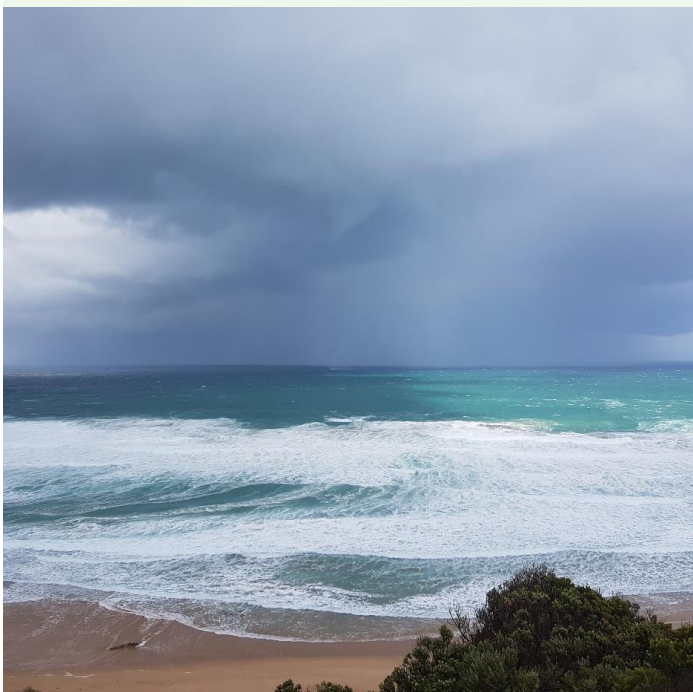
Our walk today starts above the wetlands around Princetown which support a wide variety of bird life. We'll walk down through the Gellibrand River Estuary and reconnect with the Great Ocean Walk.

We are now on the home stretch into Port Campbell National Park and the world famous Twelve Apostles soon come into sight.

At Gibson's Beach Car Park, we recommend, tides allowing, you descend Gibson's Steps to view Gog and Magog (not strictly counted as two of The Twelve Apostles) up close from sea level.

The last kilometre of the Great Ocean Walk takes you through to the Twelve Apostles Visitor Centre where you can view The Apostles up close. We'll have our lunch here.

We then head back to Melbourne via Colac where we stop at a local café for a coffee/tea before arriving back in the city at the National Gallery of Victoria on St Kilda Road approximately 5pm.



# GREAT OCEAN WALK, 3-DAY WALKING TOUR

## WALK OVERVIEW & MAP

**Location:** Victoria

**Duration:** 3 days / 2 nights.

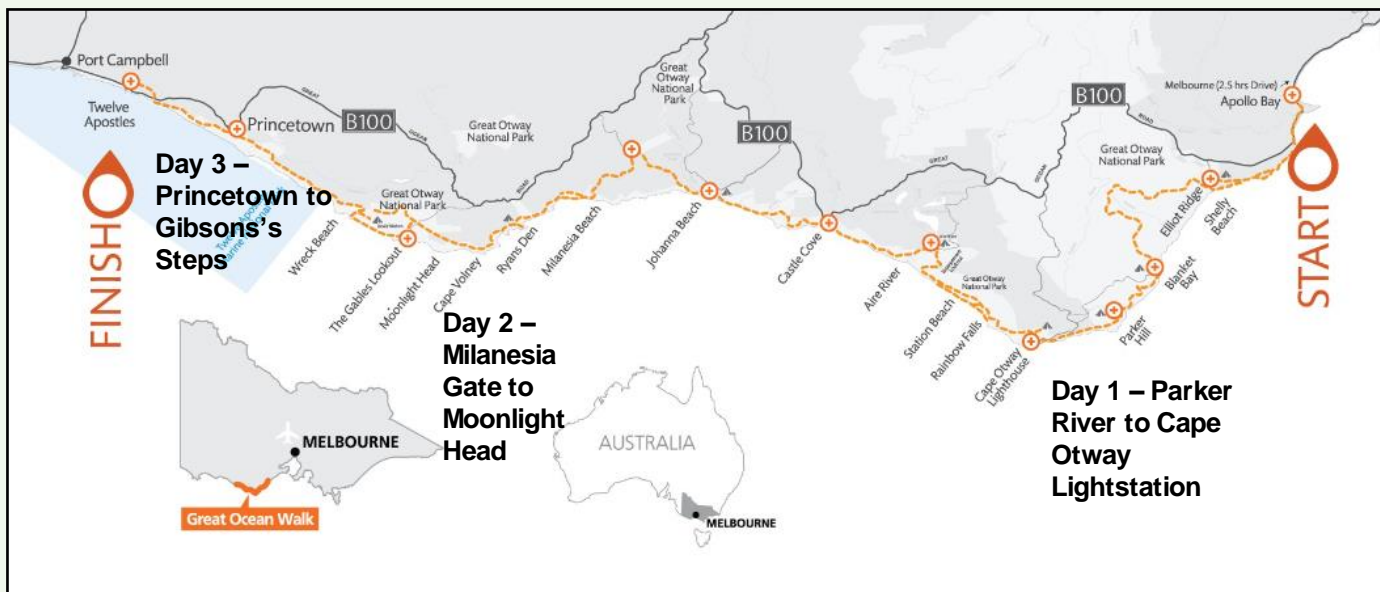
**Total distance:** 34.5 kms, typically 5-6 hrs per day.

**Typical grade:** Generally easy to moderate.

**Group size:** Maximum of 10 guests and 2 guides.

**Accommodation:** Typically, sustainable lodge / cabin style accommodation in twin-share configurations.

**Nature of activity:** Trekking with a day-pack, carrying only your bare essentials and daily lunch.



## OUR COMMITMENTS & OTHER MATTERS

### **Our commitment to sustainable tourism**

We are committed to sustainable travel and 'leave no trace principles', in line with our Ecotourism Australia accreditation among other things. As such we encourage guests recommend that you bring along your own food containers (medium size for lunch, and small for trail mix), beeswax lunch wrap, keep cup etc. if you have them. However, please do not buy any of these items if you don't have them as we can supply containers for lunches.

### **Our commitment to reconciliation**

Park Trek acknowledges the Traditional Owners of Country and recognizes their continuing connection to land, water, skies and culture. We pay our respects to their elders past, present and emerging. We support the Uluru Statement from the Heart, and through our Reconciliation Action Plan, among other things, we are committed to reconciliation.

### **Travel insurance and other matters**

Park Trek strongly recommends travel insurance, please check with your individual provider for more information regarding coverage for unforeseen circumstances, e.g. flight delays, illness or Covid-19. Please see our T&C's on our website for more information.

### **The unpredictable forces of nature**

- All our tours are subject to the forces of nature, which can at times be unpredictable. As such, our guides may choose, or be required, to alter our proposed itinerary where considered necessary having regard to prevailing weather and safety considerations. Our guides will however always strive to provide the most scenic and enjoyable walks having regard to the prevailing weather.
- Please refer to the [Australian Walking Track Grading System](#) for further details around grading of all walks on this tour.



## OUR MEALS ON TOUR

The food served on tour is designed to be healthy, hearty and home style. Our menus seek to showcase regional produce, including local cheeses, yoghurt, fruit, vegetables and meats, and to support local farmers and minimise food miles. Our tours can accommodate most dietary needs, however these should be specified at the time of making your tour booking.

**Breakfast** is a continental spread of muesli, fruit, yoghurt, toast and spreads. Coffee and tea are always available.

**Lunch** may vary from day to day, but includes sliced meat, salad, rolls, bread and wraps. Some days might include something different like roasted chicken.

**Dinner** is a casual two-course meal of main and dessert prepared by your guides. The menu changes to suit available fresh produce but could include a classic roast lamb, curry or similar. Dessert may include things like apple crumble, mini pavlovas or seasonal fruit salad.

**Snacks & antipasto** are provided throughout and include fresh fruit for the trail, biscuits and/or fruit cake for tea breaks. Each night we offer cheese, dips and crackers as pre-dinner nibbles and self-serve trail mix selection at the start of each day.

**Alcohol** Our tours do not include alcoholic beverages, however guests are most welcome to bring wine/beer along with them. If you are bringing bottled wine, please pack this well in your main bag to avoid breakages.

...we walk the highlights





## **REQUIRED GEAR FOR YOUR ADVENTURE**

The two most important items to bring with you are (1) a reliable and comfortable pair of walking boots or shoes that are worn in - runners and flat-soled shoes are not recommended except to wear after the day's activities, and (2) a good quality rain jacket as weather may be unpredictable despite weather forecasts pre-tour.

**Your day pack:** We recommend a day pack of at least 20 litre capacity, with a load bearing harness and the ability to carry a water bladder and your required gear. Here is a suggested list of what walkers should wear or have in their day pack:

### **Essential Items**

- Hooded rain jacket - Good quality seam sealed
- Fleece jacket
- Wide-brimmed hat for sunny days
- Beanie or woollen hat & gloves for cold days
- Water bladder and water bottle, 2 litre capacity
- Electrolytes/hydrolytes
- High factor sunscreen and lip balm
- Blister pads and / or tape for rubbing / blisters
- Antiseptic hand gel
- Sunglasses
- Tupperware container to carry your lunch

### **Optional Extras** (personal preferences)

- Walking poles
- Gaiters
- Camera
- Binoculars
- Spare batteries for all devices/charger
- Keep cup for any café stops

**Main bag:** Please bring your gear in a soft (rather than hard) bag to help our guides pack the trailer. Your main bag stays at our accommodation as you only carry your light day pack walking.

- 2 pairs long and/or short pants - preferably loose fitting, lightweight and quick drying
- 2 long sleeve shirts - light, breathable sun cover
- 3 x T-shirts
- Fleece jacket/woollen sweater for warmth
- Swimmers/bathers, lightweight towel for swims
- Walking socks & underwear
- Thermals to keep warm in blustery conditions
- Waterproof, reusable bag for worn clothing
- Comfortable shoes / clothes for evenings
- Toiletries— shampoo/conditioner, deodorant, soap, toothpaste, repellents and personal items
- PPE - Masks, hand sanitiser, rapid antigen tests



## **LIST OF WHAT WE PROVIDE**

### **Our tours are basically all-inclusive**

- Return transfers which includes collection from and return to Melbourne. We use a comfortable 12-seater minibus with a luggage trailer. We also use the minibus for all drop offs and pick ups throughout the tour.
- Two guides who are experienced, accredited and safety gear equipped to guide, drive, cook and facilitate your tour experience. Our guides are story tellers, chefs, and legends in the field!
- 3 night's accommodation on a twin share basis (single supplement available at additional cost, subject to availability).
- Meals and non-alcoholic beverages, including 2 breakfasts, 3 lunches and 2 dinners.
- Snacks throughout, including trail mix, pre-dinner antipasto, fresh fruit, biscuits or cake. On trail thermos tea, coffee or hot chocolate.
- All National Parks fees and passes.

## **PRE- AND POST TOUR INFORMATION**

**Pick up location & time:** We depart from The National Gallery of Victoria, 180 St Kilda Road (just outside the entrance to the gallery and the large pools) meeting at 7:00am for a 7:15-30am departure.

**Drop-off location & time:** We return to the National Gallery of Victoria at around 4:30-5:00pm on the final day of tour.

If flying out that night, we recommend booking a flight at or after 7pm to be on the safe side. In the event of an emergency before tour departure, we can be contacted during business hours on 03 9997 0500.