



SPARK TRAVEL



| 6 Day

BRIGHT AUTUMN

(08) 8876 5121

travel@sparktravel.com.au

www.sparktravel.com.au

Suite 1, Ground Floor

29 King William Street

Adelaide, SA 5000

| **Wednesday 01 May 2024**

Fully Escorted From Adelaide

Return Home Transfers

Bright Autumn Festival Gala Day

Ride On The Vintage 'Talking Tram'

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

- **Hughes Home Pick Up Service (zoned area only).**
- **Fully escorted from Adelaide by an experienced Spark Travel Tour Manager.**
- **Tour features 1 night Echuca, 3 nights Albury, 1 night Bendigo.**
- **Bright Autumn Festival Gala Day with monster market, bands, entertainment and highlight of the day, the Gala Day Parade.**
- **At Echuca, Port to Plate Murray River cruise on board the historic PS 'Canberra,' followed by lunch at Bar Lee at the renowned Echuca Distillery.**
- **Bonegilla - the Migrant Experience at Wodonga.**
- **Enjoy a fascinating guided tour of the old gold mining town of Beechworth.**
- **Visit Milawa Mustards.**
- **Wine tasting and share platter lunch at Brown Bros Winery, set in the stunning King Valley in the foothills of the Alpine National Park.**
- **At Benalla, see fascinating wall art, visit the Benalla Botanic Gardens and view the iconic Sir Edward 'Weary' Dunlop Statue.**
- **At Bendigo enjoy a ride on the famous vintage 'Talking Tram.'**
- **Stunning Arkona silo art at Dimboola.**



NOTES:

****Health and Fitness:** To assist us when booking, please advise your Spark Travel consultant if you have any special needs such as mobility, dietary etc. A minimum level of fitness is required in order to be able to participate. You will need to be able to walk up a flight of stairs and manage coach steps unaided and you must inform us before the commencement of the tour of any medical condition which may affect your ability to participate in the tour. If you are unable to manage on your own, it will be necessary to be accompanied by another person who is fit and able to assist you in day to day tasks and capable of providing the assistance required. Dietary requests must be accompanied by the appropriate dietary information in writing.

****Tour extensions** subject to availability and extension booking criteria.

****It should be noted** that to be fair to all passengers, specific coach seats cannot be reserved.

HUGHES TRANSFERS TO AND FROM YOUR HOME:

Hughes transfers apply in the zoned area. These transfers may be available at additional cost to passengers who live outside the zoned area - please ask your Spark Travel consultant.

'HUGHES HOME PICK UP SERVICE' will call you **two (2) days** before the commencement of the tour to confirm the time they will be arriving at your home. **If you have missed the call, please contact Spark Travel (08) 8876 5121 a day prior to departure** for your pickup time. **If you reside at a retirement village, please ensure Hughes have clear instructions from you as to means of entry and directions to find your home. Also, if you are out of zone there will be an additional payment due and this should be made at the time of booking.** For safety reasons, suitcases should weigh no more than 20kgs. The Hughes home pick up service only applies to scheduled tour departure and return tour dates. Those passengers wishing to extend their tours will be responsible for their own transfers.

ITINERARY:

DAY 01 - WEDNESDAY, 01 MAY - ADELAIDE/ECHUCA

Depart at 7.30am from the **Adelaide Central Bus Station at 85 Franklin Street** on your luxury air-conditioned and toilet equipped coach, travelling via the Heyden Tunnels, the SE Freeway, Tailum Bend via **Swan Hill** to the historic old river town of Echuca, once Australia's largest inland port.

OVERNIGHT: PHILADELPHIA MOTOR INN, ECHUCA. (D)

DAY 02 - THURSDAY, 02 MAY - ECHUCA/ALBURY - ECHUCA & PORT TO PLATE CRUISE & LUNCH

We begin the day with time for a little 'retail therapy' in the High Street near the port area to enjoy a coffee and explore local art galleries, craft shops, antique markets and boutiques, the choice is yours. Next, down to the famous Echuca 3 tiered Wharf to board **PS 'Canberra'**, an historic 110-year-old paddle steamer with a wood-fired steam engine, where we enjoy a delightful **1 hour cruise** along the majestic **Murray River**. On completion of the cruise we make our way to **Bar Lee** within the nearby **Echuca Distillery**, where we will enjoy **lunch and a complimentary Echuca Distillery spirit** of your choice. Later, head off from Echuca to **Albury**, our home for the next 3 nights.

OVERNIGHT: MERCURE ALBURY, ALBURY. (B,L,D)

DAY 03 - FRIDAY, 03 MAY - AT ALBURY - BONEGILLA - THE MIGRANT EXPERIENCE, BEECHWORTH

This morning we travel to nearby **Wondonga** and **Block 19 Bonegilla - the Migrant Experience**. See what life was like for new arrivals to Australia at Bonegilla back in the 50's and 60's. Block 19 has been assessed as having outstanding heritage value to the nation and is included on the National Heritage list. From Bonegilla our route takes us via the delightful early pioneer National Trust town of **Yakandandah**, nestled in the foothills of the Stanley State Forest, and on to the old gold mining town of **Beechworth**, Victoria's best preserved and probably the most beautiful old gold-mining town. After our lunch break (own cost), enjoy a **guided tour of Beechworth** with its many arts and craft shops and historical buildings.

OVERNIGHT: MERCURE ALBURY, ALBURY. (B,D)

DAY 04 – SATURDAY, 04 MAY - AT ALBURY – BRIGHT AUTUMN FESTIVAL GALA DAY

Today we travel to **Bright** for the **Bright Autumn Festival Gala Day**. Bright, in the heart of the High Country, is nestled in the beautiful **Ovens Valley**, which at this time of year is a blaze of gold, orange and yellow, a truly magnificent sight. Travelling under the tall trees on the Great Alpine Road, we head off into **Bright** where there will be free time to explore the **monster market, enjoy bands and entertainment**, followed by the **Gala Day Parade** in the afternoon. You may also wish to visit the Bright Art Gallery and Cultural Centre Annual Autumn Art Exhibition – regional Victoria's largest exhibition and sale of over 900 quality paintings from top artists Australia-wide (entry own cost). Later, leaving Bright, we travel back to Albury via **Tawonga Gap**, following the Kiewa River along the Kiewa Valley Highway.

OVERNIGHT: MERCURE ALBURY, ALBURY. (B,D)

DAY 05 – SUNDAY, 05 MAY - BRIGHT/BENDIGO VIA BENALLA – MILAWA MUSTARDS, BROWN BROS WINERY, BENALLA BOTANIC GARDENS, BENDIGO 'TALKING TRAM' RIDE

After breakfast, we regretfully say farewell to our hosts at the Mercure Albury, departing for **Bendigo** for the last night of the tour. Our first stop for the day will be at **Milawa** located in the stunning **King Valley** in the foothills of the Alpine National Park, where we visit **Milawa Mustards** for an opportunity to purchase quality home-made products. Then onto **Brown Bros Winery**, one of Australia's oldest wineries for a **wine tasting and a light share platter lunch**. After lunch, we head off to **Benalla** to explore the beautiful **Benalla Botanic Gardens** on the shores of tranquil Lake Benalla. These 19th century gardens feature the stunning **Benalla Rose Garden**, rare and mature tree specimens and ornamental plantings. Stop to view the moving statue erected in tribute to a 'son' of Benalla, the famous surgeon **Sir Edward 'Weary' Dunlop**, then onto **Bendigo**. Built on one of the world's richest goldfields, Bendigo's Victorian-era architecture is truly unique. Before checking into our hotel, we will take a ride on the famous vintage **'Talking Tram'** to learn about this fascinating city and its early Chinese gold-mining heritage.

OVERNIGHT: QUALITY HOTEL LAKESIDE, BENDIGO. (B,L,D)

DAY 06 – MONDAY, 06 MAY - BENDIGO/ADELAIDE – ARKONA SILO ART AT DIMBOOLA

This morning after breakfast we depart homewards, travelling via Horsham and Dimboola with refreshment stops en route (own cost). At Dimboola we will pause to view the stunning **Arkona silo art** by internationally renowned street artist **Sam Bates (Smug)**. Continuing via Bordertown and Tailem Bend, we arrive back at **Adelaide Central Bus Station** at approximately 7.30pm. **(B)**

AT THE END OF YOUR TOUR A HUGHES CAR WILL DRIVE YOU HOME

TOUR COST:**Double/twin share: \$2498.00 per person****Single supplement: \$495.00 per person****MEALS:****(B) – Breakfast****(L) - Lunch****(D) – Dinner****TOUR INCLUDES:**

- Hughes transfers from/to your home (zoned area only).
- Escorted from Adelaide by an experienced Spark Travel Tour Manager.
- Luxury air-conditioned and restroom equipped touring coach.
- All motel accommodation with private facilities.
- 5 full breakfasts, 5 dinners, 2 lunches.
- Bright Autumn Festival Gala Day.
- Entry to: Murray River PS 'Canberra' Cruise including lunch, Bonegilla – the Migrant Experience, guided tour of Beechworth, Milawa Mustards, wine tasting and share platter lunch at Brown Bros Winery, Bendigo 'Talking Tram' ride.
- Touring as detailed in the itinerary.
- Goods and Services Tax.

NOT INCLUDED:

- Meals, morning and afternoon teas, drinks, other than those specified in the itinerary.
- Porterage. A suitcase with wheels is recommended, max weight 20kgs. A small overnight bag may be taken on board the coach, max weight 7kgs.
- Items of a personal nature.

COVID-19:

No responsibility is taken by Spark Travel or the Event Organisers in regard to Covid-19. It is highly recommended that visitors wear a mask on board flights and whilst in enclosed spaces and we also recommend full vaccination against Covid-19.

IMPORTANT:

Due to OSH requirements, baggage weighing more than 20kgs will **not** be carried by Hughes or our coach company.

****Conditions Apply****

TRAVEL INSURANCE:

Travel insurance is strongly recommended. Please ask your consultant for details. Please note that the majority of insurance policies do not cover Pandemics such as Covid-19.

EVENTS BEYOND THE CONTROL OF SPARK TRAVEL:

Should an event occur which is beyond the control of Spark Travel, ie: delays to ship, aircraft, train, coach thereby incurring extra expenses, these additional costs are borne by the passenger at the time of the event. A travel insurance claim for reimbursement should be submitted to the insurance company upon return home. Please keep any receipts. It should be understood that neither Spark Travel nor any subsidiary company or representative shall be liable for any loss, injury or damage arising from our services.

ITINERARIES:

Itineraries are subject to change and no responsibility can be accepted. Coach operator and size of coach may be changed at the discretion of Spark Travel without notice. Where a tour does not meet minimum numbers travelling together on the outward journey a cost surcharge will apply. If group numbers fall below 15 adult paying passengers no tour leader will be provided. No itemisation of tour arrangements can be given and no refund for any portion of a tour not taken. Flora and fauna as described in an itinerary is nature and as such cannot be guaranteed.

ACCOMMODATION:

Spark Travel reserves the right to alter hotel/motel accommodation and to substitute a suitable alternative. Where accommodation is booked on a 'will share basis,' at the time of finalisation if there is nobody suitable to share with, it may be necessary to pay the appropriate single supplement. Spark Travel does not accept any responsibility for the non-compatibility of 'sharing' clients. If by choice a single room is requested and booked a single room surcharge will apply.

HEALTH AND FITNESS:

A minimum level of fitness is required in order to be able to participate. As a minimum you will need to be able to walk up a flight of stairs and manage coach steps unaided. You must inform us before the commencement of the tour of any medical condition which may affect your ability to participate in the tour. Dietary requests must be accompanied by the appropriate dietary information. It is recommended masks be worn on flights and in crowded or inside spaces. To protect yourself and fellow travellers, vaccination against Covid-19 is recommended.

FUEL SURCHARGES AND TAXES:

All bookings may attract additional fuel surcharges and taxes which can be levied up to and including the date of departure even if final payment has been made. Booking is subject to final audit.

SECURITY DEPOSIT:

A non-refundable security deposit of **\$675.00 per person (inc GST)** is required within five (5 days) of booking.

FINAL PAYMENTS:

The security deposit forms part of the total price, the balance of which is due 30 days prior to departure, or in the case of bookings made within that 30 day period, the final payment is due as soon as the booking is confirmed.

LATE BOOKINGS AND AMENDMENTS:

Bookings made within 7 days inclusive of departure will incur a **late booking fee of \$75.00 per person**. Late bookings subject to availability. Once a booking has been made a **\$75.00 per person amendment fee** will apply for any alterations on selected departures only, and if applicable, one (1) change only to that booking. Transfers to other tours not permitted.

CREDIT CARDS:

If paying by credit card, a surcharge applies of 2% for Visa and Mastercard and 3.5% for Amex and Diners cards.

CANCELLATION CONDITIONS:

- i) We act as an Agent; and
- ii) That our Terms and Conditions are in addition to the Terms and Conditions of each Travel supplier listed on the quote itinerary; and
- iii) That it is the Terms and Conditions of the Travel supplier that determine the terms of cancellation and refunds, if any.

BOOKINGS CANCELLED AFTER THE FINAL PAYMENT HAS BEEN MADE:

- (a) Bookings cancelled 61 days or earlier, full refund less deposit and booking fee and any other non-refundable services or products.
- (b) Bookings cancelled 60 days or less prior to departure will incur a cancellation fee of 100% of the tour cost.
- (c) No refund can be given for any portion of the tour not taken and no refund after the tour has commenced.

Travel Insurance

Travel insurance is strongly recommended for all travel including domestic.

Travel insurance is available to cover you for cancellation including COVID-19.

Please ask your consultant for a quote.

Spark Travel Pty Ltd

ABN: 50 661 651 752

ATAS Accreditation No: A18651

Accreditation

