

5 Day

MELBOURNE featuring 'THE TESSELAAR TULIP FESTIVAL' 'MELBOURNE WINTER MASTERPIECES'

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(08) 8876 5121

Thursday 19 September 2024

Fully Escorted From Adelaide Return Home Transfers Return Overland Train Red Premium Service Seats 'Puffing Billy' Steam Train

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

- Hughes Home Pick Up Service (zoned area only).
- Red Service Premium seats on board The Overland from Adelaide to Melbourne including breakfast, lunch and afternoon tea.
- 4 nights' in Melbourne at the Best Western Plus Travel Inn, Carlton.
- Entry and Safari at Werribee Open Range Zoo.
- Explore the Victoria State Rose Garden and enjoy a delightful High Tea and glass of 'bubbly' at 'Garden Feast.'
- Beautiful Dandenongs visit superb Cloudehill Garden and enjoy all the fun of the colourful Tesselaar Tulip Festival at Silvan.
- Ride the 'Puffing Billy' steam train through the tall forests of the Dandenongs.
- Melbourne Winter Masterpieces at the National Gallery of Victoria this year will be 'Pharaoh,' a landmark exhibition which celebrates 3,000 years of ancient Egypt and Culture.
- Melbourne sights tour and the famous Queen Victoria Markets.

'PHARAOH' AT THE NATIONAL GALLERY OF VICTORIA

In 2024 the NGV has partnered with the British Museum to present 'Pharaoh,' a landmark exhibition which celebrates 3,000 years of ancient Egyptian art and culture. Through more than 500 works, including monumental sculpture, architecture, temple statuary, exquisite jewellery, papyri, coffins and a rich array of funerary objects, the exhibition will display the phenomenon of the pharaoh, those all-powerful kings claiming a divine origin.



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 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.

**Please note that on tours where flights are involved, the seating within the confines of the group is computer allocated alphabetically by the airlines concerned and beyond the control of Spark Travel.

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.

ABOUT OUR TRAIN JOURNEY:

We travel to Melbourne and return on The Overland in comfortable Red Service Premium seats. You will be seated in either a 2 or 1 seat configuration with only a maximum of 36 seats in the carriage. Your fare includes complimentary breakfast, lunch and afternoon tea.

ITINERARY:

DAY 01 - THURSDAY - THE OVERLAND - ADELAIDE/MELBOURNE

This morning arrive at Adelaide Parklands Terminal (formerly Keswick Station). MEET THE SPARK TRAVEL REPRESENTATIVE IN THE DEPARTURE LOUNGE.

Your Tour Manager will assist with check in and accompany you to The Overland which departs Adelaide at 06.55am. Newly refurbished, The Overland is about letting you enjoy the journey. Sit back and relax in a comfortable Red Service Premium seat with ample leg room and watch the ever changing scenery pass by as we travel from South Australia and on into Victoria. A complimentary breakfast, lunch and afternoon tea will be served to your seat today.

We arrive **Melbourne Southern Cross Station at 6.50pm**, then head off to our hotel for the next 4 nights.

Note: A suitcase with wheels is essential as everyone is responsible for their own baggage. Dinner will be provided tonight.

OVERNIGHT: BEST WESTERN PLUS TRAVEL INN, MELBOURNE. (B,L,A,D)

DAY 02 - FRIDAY - IN MELBOURNE - WERRIBEE OPEN RANGE ZOO, VICTORIA STATE ROSE GARDEN, DELIGHTFUL HIGH TEA AT 'GARDEN FEAST'

After breakfast, we head off to **Werribee Open Range Zoo**. Here enjoy a **morning safari ride**, viewing rhinos, giraffes, zebras, antelopes and more, and maybe purchase lunch in the Meerkat Cafe as you watch the entertaining Meerkats at play. There is also an excellent shop with gifts to take home.

Later, we depart for **Werribee Park** where there will be time to stroll the lovely **Victoria State Rose Garden** with over 5,000 roses, awarded the International Garden of Excellence in 2003 by the World Federation of Rose Societies.

To end the day, we then head off to nearby 'Garden Feast' for a delightful High Tea and glass of 'bubbly,' and an opportunity to browse the beautiful plant nursery and gift shop.

Dinner supplied tonight.

OVERNIGHT: BEST WESTERN PLUS TRAVEL INN, MELBOURNE. (B,HT,D)

DAY 03 - SATURDAY - IN MELBOURNE - DANDENONGS - CLOUDEHILL GARDEN, TESSELAAR TULIP FESTIVAL, 'PUFFING BILLY'

Today, enjoy some marvellous sights. We begin with a visit to Jeremy Francis' Cloudehill Garden. Enjoy the magnificent formal gardens divided into 20 different components surrounded by a glorious backdrop of mature Beech, Maple, Rhododendron and Magnolia and an opportunity to explore the Diggers garden shop. Our journey then takes us on to the famous Tesselaar Tulip Festival at Silvan. We can stroll at leisure amongst the acres of blazing colours of the tulips, daffodils, freesias, hyacinths and iris and enjoy a ride around the property on board the Tractor Train. This is a 'little piece of Holland' in the hills, with traditional dress, windmills, wishing well, and Dutch music. Refreshments are available for purchase. Later, we will board the famous 'Puffing Billy' steam train for an exciting ride through the magnificent giant trees of the Dandenongs, then later rejoin our coach for the journey back to our hotel in Melbourne.

Dinner at the hotel tonight.

OVERNIGHT: BEST WESTERN PLUS TRAVEL INN, MELBOURNE. (B,D)

DAY 04 - SUNDAY - IN MELBOURNE NGV & WINTER MASTERPIECES, SIGHTS TOUR & QUEEN VICTORIA MARKETS

This morning, after breakfast at the hotel, we transfer to the **National Gallery of Victoria** for the fabulous **Winter Masterpieces – 'Pharaoh.'** There will also be time to explore other exhibitions at the NGV.

Later, enjoy a sights tour of **Melbourne** including a visit to the beautiful **Fitzroy Gardens** with superb avenues of huge English elms planted along gently contoured lawns including one of Melbourne's favourite attractions, the **Conservatory**, with its spectacular floral displays and explore the delights of the famous **Queen Victoria Markets**.

Dinner at the hotel tonight.

OVERNIGHT: BEST WESTERN PLUS TRAVEL INN, MELBOURNE. (B,D)

DAY 05 - MONDAY - THE OVERLAND MELBOURNE/ADELAIDE

This morning, early transfer to Melbourne Southern Cross Station. Depart Melbourne on board The Overland at 08.05am. A complimentary breakfast, lunch and afternoon tea will be served to your seat today. Relax in your comfortable Red Premium seat as the train speeds through the countryside and over the border from Victoria and back into South Australia, arriving Adelaide Parklands Terminal at 6.00pm. (B,L,A)

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

TOUR COST: Double/twin share: \$2598.00 per person

Single supplement: \$359.00 per person

MEALS: (B) - Breakfast (L) - Lunch (A) - Afternoon Tea

(HT) – High Tea (D) – Dinner

TOUR INCLUDES:

- Hughes transfers from/to your home (zoned area only).
- Escorted from Adelaide by an experienced Spark Travel Tour Manager.
- Travel Adelaide/Melbourne on board The Overland in Red Service Premium seats including breakfast, lunch and afternoon tea.
- 5 star touring coach.
- 4 nights' accommodation in Melbourne with private facilities.
- 5 full breakfasts, 2 lunches, 2 afternoon tea, 1 High Tea, 4 dinners
- Take a Safari at Werribee Open Range Zoo, walk around the Victoria State Rose Garden and end the day with a delightful High Tea including a glass of 'bubbly' at 'Garden Feast.'
- A day in the beautiful Dandenongs including the fabulous Tesselaar Tulip Festival, Jeremy Francis' Cloudehill Garden and ride the Puffing Billy steam train.
- Entry to Melbourne Winter Masterpieces at the NGV.
- Good and Services Tax.

NOT INCLUDED:

- Meals, morning and afternoon teas, drinks other than indicated in the itinerary.
- Porterage. A suitcase with wheels is recommended max weight 20kgs plus a small cabin bag maximum 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, Journey Beyond or our coach company.

Conditions Apply

DOMESTIC TOUR BOOKING CONDITIONS

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 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 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. Dietarty 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 60 days prior to departure, or in the case of bookings made within that 60 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



