

MELBOURNE TO PERTH IN 24 DAYS: THE GREAT SOUTHERN ROAD TRIP



THE GREAT SOUTHERN ROAD TRIP



Distance
4,792 km



Duration
15-30 Days



Best Time Of Year
Spring

Highlights

- Great Ocean Road
- Grampians National Park
- Stunning Lakes
- Sandy white beaches
- Swimming with Sea Lions
- Wine regions
- Surfing and Snorkeling
- Cross the legendary outback highway

Day 1: Melbourne

Distance: 16.2 Kms **Time:** 23 minutes

- **Morning:** Start your adventure by picking up your motorhome at the Cruisin' Motorhomes Melbourne branch, then head into the CBD to enjoy brunch at one of Melbourne's famous coffee spots.
- **Afternoon:** Spend the afternoon wandering through the iconic **Queen Victoria Market**. Browse fresh produce, artisan goods, quirky souvenirs, and international street food.
- **Evening:** In the evening, join the Hangman's Night Tour at the **Old Melbourne Gaol**, where dark corridors and eerie stories bring the prison's grim past to life.
- **Where to stay:** BIG4 Melbourne Holiday Park, 265 Elizabeth St, Coburg VIC 3058

Day 2: Melbourne to The Great Ocean Road

Distance: 209 Kms **Time:** 3 Hours

- **Morning:** Start your day with breakfast made right in your fully equipped Cruisin' Motorhome. Once you're fuelled up, hit the road and begin the next leg of your journey along the world-famous Great Ocean Road.
- **Afternoon:** By the afternoon, you'll reach the **Twelve Apostles**, the crown jewel of the Great Ocean Road. These towering limestone stacks rise dramatically from the Southern Ocean, sculpted by millions of years of wind and waves
- **Evening:** After a day of exploring, make your way to your campsite and settle in for a relaxed evening. Try your hand at catching some fresh fish — nothing beats a campfire-style dinner you've sourced yourself in the comfort of your motorhome kitchen.
- **Where to stay:** Princetown Recreation Reserve, 93 Old Coach Rd, Princetown VIC 3269

Day 3: The Great Ocean Road

Distance: 82.4 Kms **Time:** 1 Hour 20 Minutes

- **Morning:** Just a short drive from the Twelve Apostles lies **Loch Ard Gorge**, one of the most dramatic and historic spots along the aptly named Shipwreck Coast. Wander the walking trails, soak up the history, or take a refreshing dip in the ocean.
- **Afternoon:** Continue your journey to the laid-back coastal town of Johanna, near Apollo Bay. Known for its wide open beaches, and peaceful atmosphere. It's a perfect stop to recharge and enjoy a leisurely lunch at the much-loved Café 153.
- **Evening:** As the day winds down, make your way to Apollo Bay to catch a spectacular sunset. After exploring the harbour and beach, settle into one of the local eateries for a delicious dinner — the perfect way to wrap up a day on the Great Ocean Road.
- **Where to stay:** BIG4 Apollo Bay Pisces Holiday Park, 311 Great Ocean Rd, Apollo Bay VIC 3233

Day 4: The Great Ocean Road to Grampians

Distance: 274 Kms **Time:** 3 Hours 23 Minutes

- **Morning:** Continue your road trip with a scenic drive into **Grampians National Park**. After the journey, take a break to refuel and whip up a relaxed brunch in your motorhome, surrounded by nature.
- **Afternoon:** Visit the iconic **MacKenzie Falls**, one of Victoria's largest waterfalls, flowing year-round. From Bluff Lookout, enjoy sweeping views of the gorge and the MacKenzie River as it cascades dramatically through the landscape.
- **Evening:** Finish the day with a climb to Mount William, the park's highest peak. Time your visit for sunset — an unforgettable way to wind down your day.
- **Where to stay:** Breeze Holiday Parks, 26 School Rd, Halls Gap VIC 3381



Image: MacKenzie Falls

Day 5: Grampians to Mount Gambier

Distance: 224 Kms **Time:** 2 Hours 36 Minutes

- **Morning:** Start the day with breakfast at Livefast Café, then make sure your motorhome is fuelled and stocked before hitting the road to Mount Gambier.
- **Afternoon:** On arrival, enjoy a relaxed stroll through the city center. Mount Gambier is the retail hub of the region, with hidden gems. Browse boutique stores, homewares, and specialty shops for a taste of the local style.
- **Evening:** Round out the day by venturing into Mount Gambier's dormant volcano to explore its famous crater lakes. The lakes are framed by dramatic volcanic walls, scenic trails, and a surrounding conservation park.
- **Where to stay:** Pine Country Caravan Park, 2/16 Kilsby Rd, Moorak SA 5291

Day 6: Mount Gambier

Distance: 0 Kms **Time:** 0 Hours

- **Morning:** Start your day at Tantanoola Cave and Conservation Park, where dramatic stalactites and fossils await, followed by a short hike to panoramic forest views.
- **Afternoon:** Take a dip at the **Little Blue Lake**, a popular sinkhole with steps and a pontoon that make swimming in its turquoise waters easy and refreshing.
- **Evening:** As the sun sets, take a peaceful stroll along the shoreline to **Cape Banks Lighthouse** at Carpenter Rocks. Perched on a rugged headland, this striking lighthouse rewards you with sweeping views across the wild Southern Ocean.
- **Where to stay:** Pine Country Caravan Park, 2/16 Kilsby Rd, Moorak SA 5291

Day 7: Mount Gambier to Adelaide

Distance: 440 Kms **Time:** 4 Hours 47 Minutes

- **Morning:** Start the day with breakfast at Limestone Coast Pantry. Make sure to stock up on fuel and road trip snacks before hitting the highway toward Adelaide.
- **Afternoon:** After the long drive, roll into Adelaide's CBD and enjoy a late lunch. With endless cafés, restaurants, and eateries to choose from, it's the perfect chance to unwind and sample the city's vibrant food scene.
- **Evening:** Finish the day at **Glenelg Beach**, where vibrant sunsets light up the sky and you can stroll the foreshore, dine along Jetty Road, or relax barefoot at a beachside bar.
- **Where to stay:** Adelaide Showground Caravan Park, 38 Leader St, Wayville SA 5034



Image: Glenelg Beach, Hayley Hays Photography

Day 8: Adelaide

Distance: 0 Kms **Time:** 0 Hours

- **Morning:** Begin the day at the **Adelaide Botanic Garden**, a 50-hectare oasis in the heart of the city. Wander tree-lined avenues, admire elegant architecture, and don't miss the iconic wisteria arbour in bloom.
- **Afternoon:** Head to the bustling **Adelaide Central Market**, a must-visit for food lovers. Here, stalls overflow with South Australian produce — from cheeses and honey to fresh fruit, breads, and small goods — alongside authentic global street food.
- **Evening:** Wrap up the day with the **Adelaide Oval RoofClimb**, an unforgettable twilight adventure. Scale the stadium's rooftops and historic stands for sweeping city views, catching the sunset from one of Adelaide's most spectacular vantage points.
- **Where to stay:** Adelaide Showground Caravan Park, 38 Leader St, Wayville SA 5034. Powered site.

Day 9: Adelaide

Distance: 0 Kms **Time:** 0 hours

- **Morning:** Start your morning at **Adelaide Zoo**, home to 250+ species from native wildlife to exotic animals.
- **Afternoon:** Discover Adelaide from the water with a City Kayak Tour, paddling the River Torrens past landmarks like Adelaide Oval and the scenic riverbank.
- **Evening:** End the day exploring Adelaide's lively bar scene, from hidden speakeasies to rooftop lounges and quirky cocktail spots.
- **Where to stay:** Adelaide Showground Caravan Park, 38 Leader St, Wayville SA 5034. Powered site.

Day 10: Adelaide to Barossa Valley

Distance: 76.8 Kms **Time:** 1 Hour 4 Minutes

- **Morning:** Take a detour to the Barossa Valley, famed for its wine and culture, and begin the day with breakfast in Seppeltsfield.
- **Afternoon:** Spend the afternoon at Seppeltsfield Winery & Estate with tastings, a behind-the-scenes tour, and lunch at the renowned Fino restaurant.
- **Evening:** End the day with a bottle from a local winery and enjoy Barossa's best alongside a motorhome-cooked dinner at your campsite.
- **Where to stay:** Discovery Parks - Barossa Valley, 1F Murray St, Tanunda SA 5352

Day 11: Barossa Valley to Eyre Peninsula

Distance: 624 Kms **Time:** 6 Hours 45 Minutes

- **Morning:** After breakfast in your motorhome, begin the long drive to the Eyre Peninsula, stopping for coffee, breaks, and scenic views along the way.
- **Afternoon:** On arrival, refuel with a late lunch at L'Anse French Café, a much-loved local spot perfect for unwinding after the drive.
- **Evening:** Wind down at **Greenly Beach**, a local favourite for surfing, swimming, or simply relaxing on the sand by the water.
- **Where to stay:** Cummins Caravan & Cabin Park, 2/10 Roe St, Cummins SA 5631



Image: Greenly Beach, City of Port Lincoln

Day 12: Eyre Peninsula

Distance: 0 Kms **Time:** 0 Hours

- **Morning:** Start your morning at the Whyalla Maritime Museum, home to naval history and the HMAS Whyalla, South Australia's first modern warship.
- **Afternoon:** Experience the Eyre Peninsula's highlight — swimming with sea lions, the playful "puppies of the sea" that dance around you in the blue waters.
- **Evening:** End the day with a great white shark cage dive, a rare chance to safely encounter these incredible predators up close.
- **Where to stay:** Cummins Caravan & Cabin Park, 2/10 Roe St, Cummins SA 5631



Image: Swimming with Sea Lions, King Roberto

Day 13: Eyre Peninsula to Nullarbor

Distance: 563 Kms **Time:** 5 Hour 49 Minutes

- **Morning:** Before hitting the highway, stop at From Salt & Soil, a much-loved local food truck known for fresh seafood and great coffee — the perfect spot to grab a bite before your long drive.
- **Afternoon:** After the journey across wide open roads, take a well-earned break at the **Nullarbor Roadhouse**. Here you can refuel, stock up on road trip snacks, and enjoy a hearty lunch at the on-site restaurant.
- **Evening:** Settle into your campsite with a motorhome-cooked dinner, then enjoy the Nullarbor's stunning night skies for some unforgettable stargazing.
- **Where to stay:** Yalata Roadhouse and Caravan Park, Eyre Hwy, Yalata SA 5690

Day 14: Nullarbor

Distance: 0 Kms **Time:** 0 hours

- **Morning:** Begin your morning on the Nullarbor Links, the world's longest golf course, where fairways stretch through outback and coastline with wildlife looking on.
- **Afternoon:** Spend the afternoon at **Fowlers Bay Conservation Park**, spotting whales, joining a sea lion or fur seal tour, or hiking the sweeping sand dunes.
- **Evening:** End the day by reeling in a fish at the park for dinner and cook it up back at your motorhome campsite and unwind.
- **Where to stay:** Yalata Roadhouse and Caravan Park, Eyre Hwy, Yalata SA 5690

Day 15: Nullarbor to Albany

Distance: 353 Kms **Time:** 3 Hours 40 Minutes

- **Morning:** Stock up on supplies, enjoy a hearty breakfast, and hit the iconic Eyre Highway for the next leg of your adventure.
- **Afternoon:** Drive the Eyre Highway, taking in the dramatic sea cliffs of the **Great Australian Bight** as you edge closer to your destination.
- **Evening:** End the evening at Mundrabilla Roadhouse, where you can refuel with a meal, relax in the bar or beer garden, and rest up for the next stretch of your journey.
- **Where to stay:** Mundrabilla Roadhouse, Eyre Hwy, Mundrabilla WA 6443. Powered site.

Day 16: Nullarbor to Albany

Distance: 453 Kms **Time:** 4 Hours 36 Minutes

- **Morning:** Start the day with a hearty breakfast at Mundrabilla Roadhouse, fuelling up for another big day on the road.
- **Afternoon:** Journey the 147 km stretch between Balladonia and Caiguna, Australia's longest, straightest road — and don't miss a photo at the iconic wildlife sign, a true Nullarbor classic.
- **Evening:** Finish the day in Balladonia, surrounded by the world's largest temperate woodland. Restock supplies, enjoy dinner, and unwind at your campsite before the next leg of the journey.
- **Where to stay:** Balladonia caravan and camping park, 22 Eyre Hwy, Balladonia WA 6443. Powered site.



Image: Mundrabilla Roadhouse, Amelia E

Day 17: Nullarbor to Albany

Distance: 507 Kms **Time:** 5 Hours 31 Minutes

- **Morning:** Start the day with breakfast at the Balladonia Hotel Motel before getting back on the road for the long drive toward Albany.
- **Afternoon:** Arrive in Ravensthorpe by late afternoon and treat yourself to a delicious meal at Ravy Country Kitchen.
- **Evening:** After the drive, head to your campsite and relax in the comfort of your motorhome. Rest up and recharge for the next day.
- **Where to stay:** Green Haven Tourist Park, 2 Elston St, Ravensthorpe WA 6346. Powered Site.



Image: Eyre Highway Road Signs

Day 18: Nullarbor to Albany

Distance: 294 Kms **Time:** 3 Hours 11 Minutes

- **Morning:** Start the day with breakfast made in your fully equipped motorhome before getting on the road again.
- **Afternoon:** Arrive in Albany by late afternoon and treat yourself to a fresh seafood lunch at Ocean and Paddock, a local favourite known for its seasonal catch and classic fish and chips.
- **Evening:** After the drive, head to your campsite and relax in the comfort of your motorhome. Rest up and recharge for a full day of exploring Albany tomorrow.
- **Where to stay:** BIG4 Middleton Beach Holiday Park, 28 Flinders Parade, Middleton Beach WA 6330. Powered site.



Image: Aerial view of Albany, Amazing Albany

DAY 19: Albany

Distance: 84.9 Kms **Time:** 1 Hour 8 Minutes

- **Morning:** Start your day at the **Granite Skywalk**, hiking through towering Karri and Marri forests alive with birds and wildflowers, before reaching a lookout with sweeping views of the landscape.
- **Afternoon:** Spend the afternoon at **The Gap and Natural Bridge**, Albany's dramatic coastal landmarks. Take in sweeping views of the Southern Ocean and rugged cliffs, and enjoy a picnic by the shore with the sound of crashing waves around you.
- **Evening:** Wrap up the day at the serene **Greens Pool**, a sheltered swimming spot framed by giant granite boulders, turquoise-green water, and soft white sand. Perfect for a late swim or a peaceful stroll.
- **Where to stay:** Parry Beach Campsite, Parry Rd, Parryville WA 6333. Powered site.

Day 20: Albany

Distance: 0 Kms **Time:** 0 Hours

- **Morning:** Begin the day with the famous **Valley of the Giants Tree Top Walk** — a 600-metre-long suspended walkway high among ancient tingle trees.
- **Afternoon:** Albany sits in the heart of the Great Southern Wine Region, renowned for its cool-climate wines like chardonnay, riesling, and pinot noir. Stop in at Singlefile Wines for a tasting, then linger over a relaxed lunch paired with a glass of the region's best.
- **Evening:** Finish the day with a sunset stroll along **Little Beach**, one of the area's most beautiful coastal gems. With soft white sand and turquoise waters, it's the perfect spot to unwind before returning to your campsite to rest.
- **Where to stay:** Parry Beach Campsite, Parry Rd, Parryville WA 6333. Powered site.

Day 21: Albany to Margaret River

Distance: 302 Kms **Time:** 3 Hours 34 Minutes

- **Morning:** Arrive in Margaret River and fuel up with a hearty brunch at The Good Egg, known for its all-day breakfast and creative bites.
- **Afternoon:** Relax at **Meelup Beach**, a photogenic spot with white sand, turquoise water, and shady lawns perfect for swimming, picnics, and photos.
- **Evening:** End the day with a sunset whale-watching tour, watching whales breach against glowing skies for a magical Margaret River experience.
- **Where to stay:** Margaret River Tourist Park, 44 Station Rd, Margaret River WA 6285. Powered site.



Image: Meelup Beach, Frances Andrijich



Day 22: Margaret River

Distance: 0 Kms **Time:** 0 Hours

- **Morning:** No Aussie road trip is complete without a surf — after breakfast, head to **Gas Bay**, a reef break famed for its consistent waves.
- **Afternoon:** Swap the ocean for the forest with an adrenaline-filled off-road quad bike tour. Guided rides take you deep into the towering trees of Margaret River, where you'll learn about the region's natural history while keeping an eye out for the local wildlife — from kangaroos to reptiles.
- **Evening:** End the day at **Lake Cave**, where a guided tour beneath the karri forest reveals stunning formations lit to highlight their natural beauty.
- **Where to stay:** Margaret River Tourist Park, 44 Station Rd, Margaret River WA 6285.

Day 23: Margaret River to Perth

Distance: 282 Kms **Time:** 3 Hours 2 Minutes

- **Morning:** Finish the drive to Perth and unwind with a relaxed brunch at one of the city's cosy cafés.
- **Afternoon:** Spend your afternoon exploring **Kings Park and Botanic Garden**, one of the world's largest and most beautiful inner-city parks.
- **Evening:** For your last night on the road trip, treat yourself to an unforgettable fine-dining experience at Balthazar. With bold flavours, a carefully curated menu, and a sophisticated atmosphere.
- **Where to stay:** Perth Central Caravan Park, 34 Central Avenue, Ascot WA 6104. Powered site.



Image: Kings Park and Botanical Garden,
Tourism Western Australia

Day 24: Perth

Distance: 7.5 Kms **Time:** 8 Minutes

Morning: Ease into your last day with breakfast at Teeter Bakery, where the buttery croissants have earned a reputation as some of the best in Perth.

Afternoon: Spend your last hours exploring Perth's city center, then return your motorhome to the Cruisin' branch by 3:30 pm, closing your Melbourne to Perth adventure.



Image: Perth City Center, City of Perth

Packing Tips For Your Great Southern Road Trip

This 24-day road trip from Melbourne to Perth offers the perfect balance of exhilarating adventure and coastal relaxation.

Some things you'll want to bring include:

- **Clothing:** comfortable clothes, layers for varying temperatures, lightweight jacket or raincoat.
- Swimwear
- Shoes: hiking shoes, walking shoes, tongs
- Hat, sunglasses, **sunscreen**
- Plenty of food, snacks, and water
- Reusable water bottle
- Maps, journals
- **Camera**, phone, charging cables, power banks
- Personal toiletries and hygiene items
- First aid kit
- Picnic rug & thermos
- Head torches for night beach walks
- **Binoculars** for spotting dolphins, whales and birds
- Board games, Pack of cards

Have a great trip!

