

Gippsland

ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW

Victoria's largest region, Gippsland, boasts vast, striking landscapes and some of Australia's most spectacular national parks, lakes and waterways. Nature lovers will appreciate the remote wilderness with activities including walking, cycling, swimming, surfing and skiing. Less active visitors will enjoy relaxing in the coastal villages, perusing the local artwork in country galleries, indulging in regional cheese, jams, pastries and other local produce, and sampling local brews and fine wines. With a rich history and ancient Indigenous heritage there is something for everyone in Gippsland.

TOP ATTRACTIONS

Wilsons Promontory National Park

Victoria's largest coastal wilderness area, Wilsons Promontory National Park is one of the state's best loved parks. Affectionately known as 'The Prom', this 50,000 hectare reserve is threaded with a labyrinth of walking tracks that uncover abundant natural wildlife and is home to some of the state's most beautiful and secluded sandy beaches.

Walhalla

Experience life as it was, in historic Walhalla. Once one of Australia's richest towns and home to more than 4000 gold seekers, this sleepy mountainside village is now frozen in time and is home to only 20 residents. Lovingly restored, the town centre is full of heritage buildings, and perfect for a stroll. Visitors can try their hand at panning for gold or take a tour of the surrounding area.

Metung

Venture four hours east of Melbourne to find the picture-book village of Metung, stretching along a narrow sandy peninsula in the Gippsland Lakes. Strolling along the water's edge at sunset and watching the sailing boats glide by is as the sky turns pink and is reflected in the water is a simple and sublime pleasure.

Lakes Entrance

The vibrant town of 'Lakes' is located on Australia's largest inland network of waterways, the Gippsland Lakes Coastal Park, making it a boat-lover's paradise. Situated on the edge of Ninety Mile Beach where the Gippsland Lakes meets the Southern Ocean, Lakes Entrance is known as Victoria's seafood capital due to the large number of trawlers operating in the area.

Croajingolong National Park

Croajingolong National Park encompasses 100 kilometres of coast and hinterland. Nominated as a World Biosphere Reserve by UNESCO, its landscape varies from pure white sandy beaches to rocky coastal headlands and granite peaks, rambling heathland, lush rainforests and towering eucalypts.

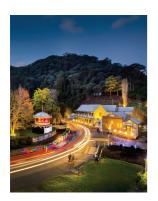
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KEY EVENTS



Walhalla Vinter Ljusfest

August

During the month of August, Walhalla Historic Township is transformed by the Walhalla Vinter Ljusfest. Created in the Swedish tradition of celebrating winter, the Vinter Ljusfest features lights, sound and images. This year, daily light shows based on a theme of 'China' will operate from 6.30pm until 9.00pm.

Australian Adventure Festival

Mountain biking, trail running, paddling and adventure combine at the Australian Adventure Festival. Events include 100 kilometre and 50 kilometre mountain bike challenges, 100 kilometre and Half Marathon Trail Running challenges, 40 kilometre and 14 kilometre paddling challenges, as well as single day challenges and two-day stage race, all set against the region's rugged and untouched terrain.



PRODUCT HIGHLIGHTS

Riviera Scenic (Riviera Nautic)

Riviera Nautic offers a day boat, the Riviera Scenic, along with a fleet of yachts, motor cruisers, day boats and kayaks. Licensed to carry up to 40 passengers, its tours travel through picturesque creeks, hamlets and lakes. Guests can relax on board the 40 foot catamaran, take a walk along the beach and spot dolphins from the deck.

Jetty Road Retreat

Situated on the Gippsland Lakes, three hours east of Melbourne and on the Sydney Melbourne Coastal Drive, Jetty Road Retreat is a bushland sanctuary offering absolute lake frontage, beach foreshore, moorings and private jetty access. Four two-bedroom units (each sleeping five) provide affordable, fully self-contained accommodation with treetop views overlooking the lake.

Rivendale Farm Stay Cottages

Gippsland's most exciting new venue, offering a quintessential Australia farm stay experience at a range of cottages. Options include 'Bag End', a truly unique watre tank bedroom with stunning views across rolling green hills, and 'Arkenstone Cottage', perfect for families and offering self contained, private accommodation with four bedrooms.

Creek Vineyard

New wine experience and perfect gateway to the Gippsland Wine region. Cellar door open seven days a week, with full service menu offered by chef Philippe Desrettes with matching wines. Includes sunny deck for summer and open fireplace for winter cosiness.

For more information on Gippsland, visit www.destinationgippsland.com.au