



**Welcome to Melbourne
Victoria**

Taylor Coulter Relocation Guide 2010



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Welcome to Melbourne

Sophisticated Melbourne offers you the best of cosmopolitan comfort and culture. Relax after work with a trip to the theatre, or discover the delightful art cafes. Melbourne, the garden city, is surrounded by beautiful parks and wide tree lined avenues, and offers some of the finest examples of Victorian era architecture.

Visit the Victorian tourism website at www.visitvictoria.com.

Art & Culture

Melbourne is rich in cultural appeal for the artistically minded. The many galleries, Arts Centres and theatrical companies include:

Arts Victoria	http://www.arts.vic.gov.au/
National Gallery of Victoria	www.ngv.vic.gov.au
Melbourne Theatre Company	www.mtc.com.au
Victoria Arts Centre	www.theartscentre.com.au
Australian Centre for Contemporary Art	www.accaonline.org.au
Australian Racing Museum	www.racingmuseum.com.au
Melbourne Symphony Orchestra	www.mso.com.au
Opera Australia	www.opera-australia.org.au

Associations and Organisations

The following is a list of some associations and organisations based in Victoria that may be of assistance.

Victorian Australian American Association	http://www.australianamerican.org/en/
Swedish Australian Chamber of Commerce	www.swedelink.com.au
Lions Club	www.lionsclubs.org.au
Rotary Club of Melbourne	www.rotaryclubofmelbourne.org.au
Volunteer Victoria	www.volunteervictoria.bc.ca

Buying Property

Private housing is purchased by either "private treaty" or at auction. The real estate agent receives a commission from the seller on the sale of the property. 'Stamp Duty' is a tax on the sale of the property and is payable by the purchaser.

The legal formalities of buying are handled either by solicitors or non-legal specialists. As well as looking at the sale contract they organise searches (eg. for restrictions on land use, validity of title) and arrange inspections (eg. pest and building inspections,). They also attend the final settlement to ensure all payments are made.

For further information visit the Real Estate Institute of Victoria at www.reiv.com.au.

For up to date information on current purchase prices, visit www.domain.com.au or www.realestate.com.au.

Car Hire

There are numerous car rental companies to choose from if you prefer to rent rather than buy a car. Try:

- Avis Australia Ph: 13 63 33 or visit www.avis.com.au
- Budget Ph: 1300 362 848 or visit www.budget.com.au
- Hertz Ph: 1300 132 607 or visit www.hertz.com.au
- Thrifty Ph: 1300 367 227 or visit www.thrifty.com.au

Driving in Victoria

Drink driving laws are very strict in Victoria and the police frequently carry out random breath testing. Drivers with a blood alcohol level greater than .05% will lose their driving licence for over three months and may be fined as well. The wearing of seat belts is compulsory for all people in a car. Children and babies must travel in approved child and infant restraints. Motorcyclists are required to wear a helmet.

The speed limit is generally 100 kph on freeways and 60 kph in residential areas. Speed cameras operate randomly throughout the state and large fines (and in some cases licence suspension) are imposed for any infringement of the speed limit.

TRAMS

Melbourne, the only city in Australia with trams as a major form of transport, has unique rules governing safety and car/tram progress. In general, these rules give right of way to tram and tram passengers. Melbourne's "hook turns" are found at a number of intersections in down town Melbourne. The signs for these can be seen at the side of the road or hung from tram wires.

There are also roads that are designated as fairways. Yellow lines and tram signs along these roads give trams priority at certain times, by prohibiting vehicle access to the tram lane.

For more detailed information refer to www.vicroads.vic.gov.au.

Driving Licences

For those relocating from interstate and New Zealand, you may drive for the first three months from your arrival on your existing licence. After three months, if you wish to drive, you must obtain a Victorian licence. To do this you simply hand in your licence and proof of your identity and citizenship status. For Australians there is no cost, New Zealanders pay a licence fee.

For overseas licence holders, if you are in Victoria on a temporary visa, you can drive on your overseas licence (provided it is a current licence) for an indefinite period provided your overseas licence is in English (or you have an English translation), or you have an International Driving Permit.

If you are in Victoria on a permanent visa, you can drive on your overseas licence for only three months from the date you entered Victoria or from the time a permanent visa was issued to you. If you want to continue to drive in Victoria after that time you must apply for a Victorian driver licence.

Drivers of less than three years experience will be given a probationary licence, as is customary for native Victorians. The rules and test requirements are explained in the Victorian Traffic Handbook.

Further information and tests, and current information on applicable fees are provided through Vic Roads offices, call 13 11 73, or check the website at www.vicroads.vic.gov.au.

Education

STATE SCHOOLS

Schooling in Victoria is divided into Primary and Secondary School.

PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Primary school covers a seven-year span from Preparatory to Year Six, after which children move on to secondary education. School hours are usually 9am - 3pm. School uniform is not compulsory in government schools.

SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Secondary schooling covers Years 7 to 12. Most schools favour the wearing of school

uniforms. Students are required to purchase their own textbooks.

At the end of Year 12 students endeavour to have completed their Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) and gain entry into tertiary institutions.

A guide to VCE is available from the Victorian Board of Studies, call 9641 0300 or visit www.vcaa.vic.edu.au.

In Victoria, government schools are zoned, that is, if you choose to attend a government school you have to attend the school in your local area of residence.

To find a government school please visit: www.eduweb.vic.gov.au/schoolsonline.

FEES AT STATE SCHOOLS

Holders of a Permanent Resident Visa or a long term Business Visa (subclass 457) can enrol directly at a public school and do not have to pay fees.

INDEPENDENT (PRIVATE) SCHOOLS

There are more than 200 independent schools in Victoria providing a diverse range of programmes, philosophies and educational opportunities.

To help you find the right school, use the following link:

<http://www.ais.vic.edu.au/>.

Schools matching the nominated criteria will be listed with their address, school philosophy, fee range, enrolment range and where available a direct link to the school's web site.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

The Archdiocese of Melbourne hosts the largest Catholic education system in the country, with 256 primary schools, 65 secondary schools and 7 special schools. Catholic schools in this Archdiocese educate approximately one in five metropolitan students.

Catholic schools, partners with parents in the education of their children, and partners with the Church in faith education, are available to families across Victoria, in city and remote areas.

Catholic schools practise and celebrate Christian values and provide religious education and opportunities for faith development in communities where prayer and sacramental celebrations are integral. They educate students for engagement in civic and public life, involving community service and issues of social justice and are accountable for the proper expenditure of government funds and parent fees and accountable to parents and governments for student learning.

Visit the school directory at www.ceo.melb.catholic.edu.au to locate, or view information about, all Victorian Catholic schools.

TERM DATES

2010

Term 1: 1 February – 26 March

Term 2: 12 April - 25 June

Term 3: 12 July – 17 September

Term 4: 4 October - 17 December

Events

January Australian Open Tennis tournament
 Melbourne Food and Wine festival
 Moonlight cinema

February	Chinese New Year Festival Zoo twilights
March	Australian F1 Grand Prix Australian International Air show
April	Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show Melbourne International Comedy Festival Anzac Day
May	Melbourne International Comedy Festival
June	Ski season opens
July	Melbourne International Film Festival
August	Melbourne International Film Festival
September	Australian Rules Football Grand Final Royal Melbourne Show Melbourne Fringe Festival
October	Melbourne International Arts Festival Spring Racing Carnival Begins
November	Melbourne Cup Carnival Queenscliff Music Festival
December	Carols by Candlelight International Test Cricket 'Summer Fun in the city' begins Melbourne to Hobart Yacht Race

Further Education

Further education is offered through Technical and Further Education (TAFE) colleges. These offer a wide range of vocational and non-vocational courses, often resulting in the award of a diploma, associate diploma or certificate. For more information visit the TAFE website at www.tafevc.com.au.

Higher Education

Melbourne originally had just three Universities (with a fourth one, Deakin, outside Melbourne at Geelong), but under federal government directives, many of the old Colleges of Advanced Education have now been granted University status.

University of Melbourne	www.unimelb.edu.au
Latrobe University	www.latrobe.edu.au
Monash University	www.monash.edu.au
Deakin University	www.deakin.edu.au
Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology	www.rmit.edu.au
Swinburne University of Technology	www.swinburne.edu.au
University of Ballarat	www.ballarat.edu.au
The Australian Catholic University	www.acu.edu.au
Victorian University	www.vu.edu.au

Hospitals

Major hospitals provide emergency care 24 hours a day in their Accident and Emergency (Casualty) Department.

There are also after-hours Medical Clinics in most areas.

PUBLIC HOSPITALS: (Casualty Care)

Alfred	Commercial Rd, Prahran	9276 2000
Austin	Studley Rd, Heidleberg	9450 5111
Box Hill	Nelson Rd, Box Hill	9895 3333
Dandenong	David St, Dandenong	9554 1000
Eye and Ear Hospital	32 Gisborne St, East Melbourne	9665 9666
Maroondah	Mt Dandenong Rd, Ringwood	9871 3333
Monash Medical Centre	246 Clayton Rd, Clayton	9550 2159
Moorabin	Centre Rd, Bentleigh	9579 4444
Poisons Information Centre	(Royal Children's Hospital)	13 1126
Royal Children's Hospital	Flemington Rd, Parkville	9345 5522
Royal Melbourne Hospital	Grattan St, Parkville	9342 7000
Royal Women's Hospital	Grattan St. Parkville	9344 2000
Sandringham & District	Bluff Rd, Sandringham	9599 8222
St Vincent's	Victoria Parade, Fitzroy	9288 2211

To avoid possible delays in the emergency departments of the major hospitals it is recommended that minor illness and injury be treated at a local medical centre which will be listed in the Yellow Pages telephone directory under "medical".

Markets

Melbourne has six major markets, which offer excellent quality fresh produce at a reasonable price.

They are to be found at the following locations:

Queen Victoria market Cnr Elizabeth and Victoria Streets Melbourne	Tuesday and Thursday Friday Saturday Sunday	6am-2pm 6am-6pm 6am-3pm 9am-4pm
Dandenong market Cnr Cleeland and Clow Streets, Dandenong	Tuesday and Friday Saturday	8am-4pm 8am-2pm
Footscray market Cnr Hopkins and Leeds Streets, Footscray	Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday	7am-5pm 7am-6pm 8am-6pm 7am-8pm
Prahran market	Tuesday and	Dawn-5pm

163-185 Commercial Road,
South Yarra

Preston market

Murray Road, Preston

South Melbourne market

Cecil Street, South Melbourne

Richmond Open Air Market

Gleadell Street, Richmond

Thursday	Dawn-6pm
Friday	Dawn-5pm
Saturday	
Wednesday	8am-3pm
Thursday	6.30am-6pm
Friday	8am-6pm
Saturday	6.30am-3pm
Wednesday	8am-2pm
Friday	8am-6pm
Saturday	8am-4pm
Sunday	8am-4pm
Saturday	7am-12 noon

There are many other markets held in suburban and rural locations, and are listed in the "Entertainment Guide" which is a supplement in "The Age" newspaper on Fridays.

Motoring Organisations

The Royal Automobile Club of Victoria is an organisation providing a number of services for its members, including:

- Car insurance
- 24 Hour Roadside Service
- Vehicle Inspections
- Technical advice on vehicles
- Approved repairers list

Membership: For current fees please visit the website at www.racv.com.au or call 13 19 55.

Motor Vehicle Registration

Registration of interstate vehicles in Victoria attracts a number of fees including an appointment/inspection fee, registration fee, Transport Accident Commission Charges, motor vehicle duty and number plates. A Victorian Certificate of Roadworthiness will be required before the initial registration, as well as proof of the previous registration of that vehicle in the applicant's name (to avoid stamp duty and other fees).

For all enquires regarding licensing or registration, visit Vic Roads at www.vicroads.vic.gov.au, or call 13 11 71.

Newspapers

The Melbourne newspapers are The Age (www.theage.com.au) and the Herald Sun. Saturday's The Age has a comprehensive Real Estate section. VIC residents can also purchase the national newspapers - The Australian and the Australian Financial Review, which are published Monday to Saturday.

There are also many suburban newspapers printed on a weekly basis and delivered free to homes in the area.

Public transport

CITY SERVICES

Melbourne's public transportation system is known as The Met, and consists of trains, trams and buses. Tickets can be purchased at train stations, on board trains, trams or buses, and also at various retail outlets. These offer unlimited travel on buses, trams and trains for the specified time period.

Metcards must be validated before you travel. Validators are located at station entrances and on buses or trams.

For further information visit www.metlinkmelbourne.com.au or call 131 638.

COUNTRY/INTERSTATE SERVICES

V/Line operates a network of trains and coaches throughout country Victoria and Interstate. For further information visit www.vlinepassenger.com.au or call the information line on 131 196.

Radio

There are numerous radio stations, including:

AM

Radio National	621	World News and affairs
MAGIC 693	693	Nostalgic music
774 ABC	774	Music, talkback, news and sport
CR	855	Community radio
SPORT 927	927	Sports coverage
ABC News Radio	1026	News
SBS	1224	Foreign Languages
AW	1278	Talk back programme
MP	1337	Easy listening
AK	1503	Adult contemporary music

FM

ZZZ	92.3	Ethnic Community Radio
SBS	93.1	Foreign Languages
BAY FM	93.9	Music
K ROCK	95.5	Contemporary Rock
TTFM	101.1	Adult contemporary
FOX FM	101.9	Adult contemporary music
RRR	102.7	Alternative music
MBS	103.5	Classical music
GOLD FM	104.3	Classic hits from the 60s, 70s and 80s
MMM	105.1	Contemporary rock
ABC FM	105.9	Classical music
PBS	106.7	Public radio
3JJJ	107.5	Alternative

Renting Property

You may wish to begin your search online at www.domain.com.au or www.realestate.com.au.

APPLICATION FOR TENANCY

When a home is selected to rent, the Real Estate Agent will ask for an application form to be completed. This requests personal details, previous landlord and employment references, as well as credit references.

Once your application has been accepted a tenancy agreement is signed.

RESIDENTIAL TENANCY AGREEMENT

There is a standard form for written tenancy agreements and it must be used. This has to be agreed upon and by both tenant and landlord before signing. Often there are additional clauses added i.e. Landlord will provide garden maintenance to the property.

DEPOSIT

The landlord or agent can accept a payment from a tenant as a sign of good faith by the prospective tenant, with the money refunded once the tenancy agreement is made.

BOND AND CONDITION REPORT

The bond is money that the tenant puts up as security. The landlord or agent and the tenant have to complete and sign the official bond lodgement form with The Bond Authority. During the period of tenancy the Residential Tenancies Bond Authority holds the bond in trust. The money is returned at the end of the tenancy. Income earned on the bond is paid into the residential tenancies fund, which is used to pay for the administration of the act. A landlord taking a bond has to prepare a condition report on the premises and this has to be signed by the tenant before they occupy the premises.

RENT

Rent is payable in advance, generally one calendar month in advance. It is the tenants obligation to pay the rent when due and they must receive a receipt.

LOOKING FOR RENTAL PROPERTY

Real estate agents all have their own rent rolls, there is no multi listing and generally landlords select one agent to look after the property. The agent receives a fee from the landlord for finding a tenant and charges an on going management fee. Properties are advertised on Saturdays and some on Wednesdays in The Age. The local newspapers also carry advertisements on a weekly basis. These are delivered to homes for free but are also available in local newsagents.

Residential Areas of Melbourne

Camberwell

(including Balwyn, Camberwell, Canterbury, Ashburton, Glen Iris and Deepdene)

These areas date from the mid 1800's with lovely tree-lined streets being a common feature. Adjacent suburbs of Hawthorn, Kew and Malvern are of similar quality and style, all having prestigious homes on quarter acre garden settings. These areas are approximately six to ten kilometres from the city.

The public transport facilities are very good, incorporating buses, trams and trains, providing easy access to the CBD and to all schools. The government schools in these areas have a good reputation and there are a number of select private schools to choose from. Shopping needs are very well provided for and a complete range of sporting facilities is available. Each area has a public golf course and a large number of public tennis clubs. To check approximate rental ranges for this area visit www.domain.com.au or www.realestate.com.au.

Waverley District

Just beyond Malvern and Glen Iris is the Waverley District. Offering good services, reasonable transport and suburban family lifestyle. A train line extends through this area to Glen Waverley making it accessible to the CBD. There is a large new shopping mall with David Jones department store and a large cinema complex. The area ranges from 15 to 20km from the city. To check approximate rental ranges for this area visit www.domain.com.au or www.realestate.com.au.

Knox

The area beyond Waverley, parts of it are hilly and picturesque with good road access to the city, and more affordable housing. There is a large shopping centre, Knox City with a large cinema complex. To check approximate rental ranges for this area visit www.domain.com.au or www.realestate.com.au.

Doncaster/Templestowe

Bordering Kew and Balwyn, the Yarra River winds through this area. The housing standard is high with an emphasis on entertainment and leisure facilities. Public transport is not as readily

available as in the suburban areas closer to the city. The Eastern Freeway readily provides access to the city. The area is very undulating, and the sporting facilities good, including the Yarra Valley Country Club and Kew Golf Club. This area is approximately 15km from the city. To check approximate rental ranges for this area visit www.domain.com.au or www.realestate.com.au.

Bushland Areas

To the Northeast of the city are Eltham, Greensborough and Warrandyte approximately 15-20km from town. These areas are more rural with houses that are designed in sympathy with their surroundings. A relaxed, leisurely life style is enjoyed here, with outdoor pursuits being popular. Schooling and shopping facilities are also very good. Eltham has a train line giving direct access to the Central Business District (CBD), and there is an extensive local bus system. Further out is the Yarra Valley, renowned for its vineyards and beautiful scenery. To check approximate rental ranges for this area visit www.domain.com.au or www.realestate.com.au.

Croydon and Ringwood

Further to the East past Box Hill are these suburbs that provide a slightly more rustic lifestyle. The housing is more affordable and again access to the city is good via a direct train line, even though the distance from the city is approximately 20-25km. The Dandenong Ranges are an hour's drive from the city, in beautiful surroundings, and good access to the CBD is available by train. To check approximate rental ranges for this area visit www.domain.com.au or www.realestate.com.au.

Essendon/Tullamarine

Essendon is 10km NW of Melbourne, and has a strong community feel. There is a wide variety of housing available, including lovely period homes as well as new developments. There are a number of primary and secondary schools in the area, and Essendon is well serviced by train, bus and tram. Tullamarine is 21 km NW of Melbourne, and was developed with the establishment of Melbourne's international airport in the 1960s. Most of the housing in Tullamarine consists of units and single-storey houses, mostly dating back to the 1970s. Trains and buses operate in the area and there is a primary and secondary school. To check approximate rental ranges for this area visit www.domain.com.au or www.realestate.com.au.

Brighton

Only 10km south of the CBD, Brighton has been flourishing since the 1840s when city businessmen displayed their wealth by the houses they built. Many of these lovely old houses still exist although many more have been replaced by new townhouses. Brighton's beaches and the wonderful shopping at Church Street add to its attractiveness. The restaurants and bistros here are excellent. To check approximate rental ranges for this area visit www.domain.com.au or www.realestate.com.au.

Sandringham

Sandringham is a pretty beachside suburb boasting beautiful beaches, cliff-top walks and lovely parks. It is 16km from the CBD. Sport plays a large part in the community and among the many sport clubs are Sandringham Yacht Club and Royal Melbourne Golf Club. To check approximate rental ranges for this area visit www.domain.com.au or www.realestate.com.au.

Shopping in Melbourne

Melbourne has many large supermarkets, shopping centres and plazas. David Jones and Myer are the major department stores located in Bourke Street Mall in the city and most regional shopping centres. Safeways, Coles and Franklins are large supermarket chains providing groceries, meat and vegetables.

TRADING HOURS (IN GENERAL):

9.00 am - 5.30 pm Monday to Saturday

9.00am - 9.00pm Fridays for most large shopping centres

9.00am - 5.00pm Sundays in the city and some areas

Some supermarkets are open 24 hours.

CITY SHOPPING CENTRES ARE LOCATED AT:

Australia on Collins	260 Collin St
Block Arcade (Historical Building)	282 Collins & 100 Elizabeth St
Melbourne Central	Lonsdale St
Sportsgirl	Centre Collins St
Southgate	Southbank

SUBURBAN CENTRES ARE LOCATED AT:

SUBURBS

Box Hill Central	Main St, Box Hill
Chadstone	Dandenong Rd, Chadstone
Doncaster	Doncaster Rd, Doncaster
Eastland	Maroondah Hwy, Ringwood
Knox City	Cnr Stud Rd & Burwood Hwy, Wantirna
Northland	Murray Rd, Preston
Southland	Nepean Hwy, Cheltenham
The Glen	Springvale Rd, Glen Waverley

Television

Melbourne has five free-to-air analog television stations:

- ABC TV
- Channel 7
- Channel 9
- Channel 10
- SBS

Between 2010 and 2013 analog free-to-air TV signals are being switched off and replaced with digital-only signals. For more information visit <http://www.digitalready.gov.au/>.

Foxtel supplies digital television to Melbourne, however not all suburbs are connected. For more information call: 131 999, or visit www.foxtel.com.au.

Tourist Information

The main Visitor Information Centre is located at:

Melbourne Town Hall
Swanston St
Tel: 1800 637 763

or visit www.visitvictoria.com.

What to see in Melbourne

The MCG (known also as "the G" or "The People's Ground")

As a super stage of Australian sport, the Melbourne Cricket Ground traditionally has provided the live drama to thrill millions worldwide...memorable events such as the Olympic Games, Test Cricket and Australian Football's incomparable Grand Final on the last Saturday in September. Try and catch a live sporting event, or enjoy a treasure trove of sporting history with a backstage tour.

MCG Tours depart every non-event day regularly from 10am-3pm from the Great Southern Stand foyer.

MCG Yarra Park, East Melbourne
Tel: 03 9657 8858

Melbourne Aquarium

Located on the banks of the Yarra River, the aquarium showcases a large variety of creatures that inhabit our Southern Ocean. There are numerous interactive exhibits and amazing displays.

Open daily 9.30am-4.30pm
King Street, Melbourne
Tel: 03 9620 0999

Melbourne Zoo

Featuring more than 350 wildlife species from around the world. There is a magnificent butterfly house, which you can walk through and have the butterflies land on you. Open 365 days of the year. In summer you can take a picnic and sit in the gardens whilst Jazz music is played.

9.00am-5.00pm (In summer open until 9.30pm)
Elliot Avenue, Royal Park
Tel: 03 9285 9300

Royal Botanic Gardens

Only minutes from the city centre a vast array of Botanical species. Beautiful landscaped gardens with stunning vistas across sweeping lawns, lakes with swans and other bird life. Have afternoon tea in one of the tearooms. There are also guided walks daily.

Open daily from 7.30am
Birdwood Avenue, South Yarra
Guided walks & tours 03 9252 2300
Information Line 03 9252 2364

Fitzroy Gardens

These beautiful gardens contain The Conservatory, Cook's Cottage, The Fairy Tree and model village.

The Conservatory and Cook's cottage are open daily 9.00am-5.00pm
Wellington Parade, Melbourne

Old Melbourne Gaol

Visit the infamous "2nd cell block" (c1862) site of 136 hangings, the most famous of these being that of outlaw, Ned Kelly.

Open daily 9.30am-6.00pm
Russell Street, Melbourne
Tel: 03 9663 7228

Rialto Towers Observation Deck

The tallest office building in the Southern hemisphere is a great place to enjoy spectacular 360-degree views over Melbourne and surrounds.

Open daily 10.00am-10.00pm, Friday & Saturday until 11.00pm
525 Collins Street, Melbourne
Tel: 03 9629 8222

Shrine of Remembrance

Victoria's memorial to the service of its men and women in times of war. This monument and its 13-hectare surrounds, represents one of the largest memorials in the world.

St Kilda Road, Melbourne
Tel: 03 9654 8415

St Kilda

Easily reached by tram, a 25-minute journey from Melbourne's CBD, St Kilda is renowned for its picturesque bayside setting, close proximity to the city, beaches, music venues, restaurants and cafe lifestyle. Its is also home to Luna Park, a historic fun fair that is one of Melbourne's best known landmarks.



Swan Leo Barry takes the famous saving mark in the 2005 AFL grand final at the MCG



The famous laughing face facade of St Kilda's Luna Park.

What to see in Victoria

Sovereign Hill

An open-air museum, which is a recreated gold mining town of the 1850s. Located in Ballarat, situated 113 km west of Melbourne.

Hepburn Springs

Hepburn Springs is a little township with natural mineral springs developed in the tradition of a European spa town. Located 114 km North West of Melbourne.

The Mornington Peninsula

An hour south of Melbourne you will find the Mornington Peninsula, where rolling hills of olive groves and vineyards meet accommodation with sea views, and local produce is served in romantic restaurants and sold at bustling markets. The Peninsula is dotted with historic seaside villages. On the bay side, visit stylish Sorrento with its fine nineteenth-century buildings and many excellent eateries, boutiques and galleries. Or stop off at Mornington and dine in one of its cosmopolitan sidewalk cafes or take a stroll along its picturesque harbour. On the other side of the Peninsula visit the charming nineteenth century fishing hamlet of Flinders and take a trip to nearby Cape Schanck where you can enjoy superb views of Bass Strait.

Yarra Glen

Yarra Glen is a picturesque region, which offers a host of wineries open for cellar door sales and sampling. Located 50 km north east of Melbourne.

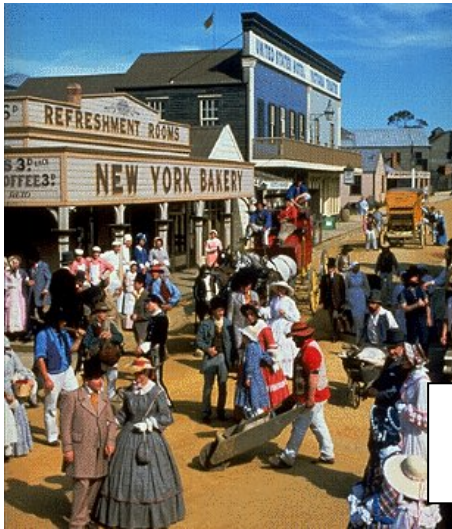
Philip Island

This island has developed an international reputation for its Fairy Penguin Parade. Visitors can watch the penguins returning to their burrows at dusk. Koalas and other native wildlife can also be seen on the island. Phillip Island is 135 km south east of Melbourne.

The Twelve Apostles

The Twelve Apostles are situated 230km from Melbourne, on the Great Ocean Road. These are huge stone pillars that soar out of the ocean creating spectacular coastal scenery.

**The spectacular
Twelve Apostles along
the Great Ocean Road
south of Melbourne.**



**Stepping back in
time at Sovereign
Hill, Ballarat.**