



## **The WineSellar & Brasserie 2025**

### **Wine & Epicurean Tour of the Magical Land Down Under**

**September 19 to September 29**



**Friday September 19th**

We start our tour with a short transfer to join a boat for a Sunset Cruise around Sydney Harbor. Admiring the iconic sights including the dramatic Opera House and the impressive Sydney Harbor bridge.



Naturally we will enjoy a selection of Australian wines to set the scene for our wine tour which will be paired with a generous selection of delicious Canapés. So, you are free to mingle you're your fellow travelers and move around to enjoy the views. (Journey to start of Cruise 15 mins. Cruise lasts 1.5 – 2 hrs)



Meals: Canape style Dinner Overnight: Sofitel Darling Harbor Superior View

## **Saturday September 20**

Breakfast at the Hotel & Check Out

We board our private coach and head West out of Sydney to the Featherdale Wildlife Park, which is seven acres of Australian bushland. The Park is home to over 260 native species including Koalas, Wombats and Quokkas. There is time to explore the park and get close to the Koalas (with photo opportunity of course!) (Journey 45 mins.)





We continue for a late lunch at the cellar door of the family run Dryridge Wine Estate with views across the Megalong Valley, which means “Valley under the Rock” in Aboriginal language. Their vineyards are planted onto granitic soils, and they have a plethora of varieties including Riesling, Vermentino, Tempranillo, and Sangiovese – which we will taste over a charcuterie & cheese platter lunch, on their terrace overlooking the vines. (Journey 1 hr 45 mins)



Dryridge Wine Estate



Overlooking the Megalong Valley

Later afternoon, we continue to our next hotel, Lilianfels in the Blue Mountains to check in. (Journey 45 mins)

This evening, we join for dinner at the fine dining restaurant, Darleys, at our hotel, where we have selected a menu with the Chef whose innovative use of local produce with a modern Aussie twist has gained them repeatedly the awards of Chefs Hat (the Australian equivalent of Michelin Stars). Naturally we will pair this with a choice of wines from their well curated wine list.



Luxury in the Heart of the Blue Mountains

Meals: B / L / D

Overnight: Lilianfels – Blue Mountains

## Sunday September 21

### Breakfast at the Hotel

Today we enjoy a variety of activities in the heart of the UNESCO recognized Blue Mountains. We are joined by a local guide for a private tour to understand the traditional connections with the land.

You will learn about Gundungurra Country and hear traditional Indigenous stories. During the tour, we will board the Scenic Railway, which is in the Guinness Book of World Records for the steepest passenger railway in the world with an incline of 52 degrees.





Also, home to the Scenic Cableway, opened in 1958 as the first Cable Car in Australia, it is still the steepest aerial cable car in the Southern Hemisphere.

**There are great views**

**over the Jamison Valley, including iconic landmarks and rock formations, the Three Sisters and Orphan Rock.**

We walk along the Scenic Walkway, which is one of Australia's longest elevated rainforest boardwalks. (NB – you can choose just a short meander or walk all 2.4 kms (1.49 m) of the boardwalks beneath the canopy, to discover plants and animals unique to the World Heritage-listed rainforest).



The extremely beautiful Blue Mountains.  
So close to Sydney, great hotel, great winery, so rich in every way.  
Definitely, a do not miss in Australia.

Lunch today will be a light, casual lunch in between our guided tour and the Scenic railway activities.

In the afternoon, you can head back to the hotel for some R&R by the pool or indulge at the Spa (Journey 10 Mins). Or why not explore further by boarding the Explorer Bus to Hop on / Hop Off whose route takes in 23 different places of interest such as the Grose Valley, Echo Point and Leura Cascades.

If anyone would prefer to do a more serious Hike (Short but Steep - Grade 3 – with a descent of 200 plus steps) to the Fletchers Lookout with views over the Wentworth Falls, where the water cascades 100m – we can arrange for you to be dropped off and collected again (unescorted but well signposted – you will need proper hiking footwear) (NB – we will advise more details on walk distances etc., closer to date of departure, so *you can walk as far or as little as you like today*).

Or there can be free time this afternoon, to explore the small local town of Leura, just 10 minutes from the hotel, for some retail therapy, with a host of independent shops including a collective of Blue Mountains artisans and artists and the Bilingarra Indigenous Art and Culture gallery.

This evening is free for you to choose where to dine. Perhaps stay at our beautiful Hotel in The Lounge which offers a selection of small taster plates and an informal menu or we will arrange a transfer from the hotel to nearby Leura (at one set time in both directions)

Meals: B / L

Overnight: Lillianfels – Blue Mountains

# Monday September 22

## Check Out & Breakfast at the Hotel

This morning, we transfer from the hotel to Sydney airport and fly to Adelaide, where we board a domestic flight of approx. 2 hours to Adelaide

On arrival in Adelaide, we are met by our driver and private coach for the short transfer to our next hotel Mayfair Hotel where we check in. (Journey 20 mins)



This afternoon, there is a guided walking tour in Adelaide, the Kurna Heritage Trail Walk. The Kurna people are the traditional owners and custodians of the Adelaide Plains. With our local Kurna guide, you'll learn about traditional elders and discover their stories of the past as told through art and word, seeing places of significance to Kurna culture and heritage (On foot - two hours)

Early evening, we enjoy an apéritif at the stunning rooftop bar of our hotel.



Adelaide is known as the wine capital of Australia (and has indeed been recognized as such with other leading wine regions around the world such as Napa and Bordeaux).

Not far from the city, is a plethora of district wine regions including Barossa, Clare, Coonawarra, McLaren Vale, Langhorne Creek and Mount Lofty ranges – which makes it the ideal base for four nights on this tour, as well as it being a charming city to explore on foot from the Botanical gardens to the art galleries and of course the Adelaide Oval Cricket Ground. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tl\\_u8ebHakQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tl_u8ebHakQ)

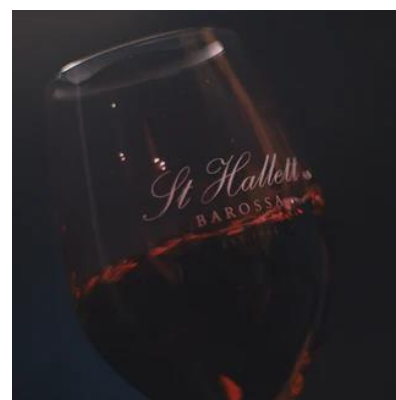
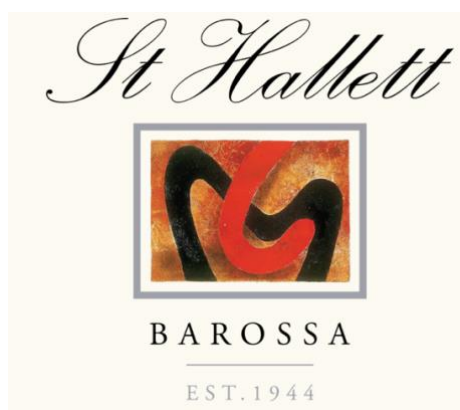
Meals: B / Apéritifs

Overnight: Mayfair Hotel

## Tuesday September 23

### Breakfast at the Hotel

We head towards the Barossa Valley for our wine experience today at the revered estate of St Halletts, which was founded in 1944 by the Lindner family, who arrived from central Europe. They have always realized the importance of complexity that old vines bring to a wine, and they are very well known for their Shiraz, a rich, intense style of Barossa Shiraz. We enjoy a visit to their cellar before a tasting and lunch at the property. (Journey 1 hr 5 mins)



After lunch we return to hotel in the heart of Adelaide  
The rest of the evening is free for you to dine at leisure, armed with helpful list of suggested restaurants that we will give you.

Meals: B / L

Overnight: The Mayfair - Adelaide

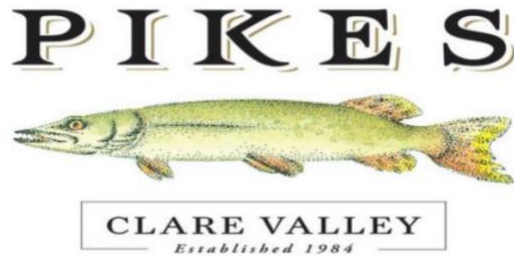


## Wednesday September 24

### Breakfast at the Hotel

The Clare Valley is to the north of Adelaide, but a world away from the bustle of the city, Here the pace of life slows down in this a picture-perfect scenic region. 1hr 45 mins.

Our visit is to the family run, multi award winning, Pikes. Their vineyards sit on a bed of 650-million-year-old slate, which has an important effect on the wines they produce, as we discover during our tasting at their cellars this morning, including their ethereal Rieslings.



At Pikes, we produce wines with character and personality which reflect the variety, the region, and vintage conditions.

We have a real treat for you at lunch today.

### Bush deVine Winery Restaurant

Whose restaurant has their own bush tucker garden, and the menu is all aboriginal ingredients.



“Join us at our award-winning Bush deVine Winery Restaurant for food and wine experiences showcasing the best of Australian native ingredients paired with your favorite Pauletts wines. Pauletts carries on the proud family tradition of producing regional wines that showcase the elegance and intensity of the **Clare Valley wine region**. Our **Rieslings** are world famous for the flinty minerality so distinctive to Polish Hill. Our **range of reds** is true to the Clare Valley, smooth and restrained with delicate tannins. We produce a quality range of **regional whites**, exceptional **sparkling wines** and our very own Last minute beer (can be substituted upon request). Our wines have received many awards both at home and abroad, but nothing makes us happier than seeing a bottle of Pauletts shared over good times with family and friends. We hope every glass creates a memorable moment.”



After lunch, we return to the hotel, where the late afternoon and evening are free for you to explore and dine at leisure. You will have our restaurant suggestions list, such as the McGill Estate Restaurant in the heart of Adelaide (pre-bookings essential). A stylish restaurant where the Chef cooks over an open fire for an amazing depth of flavor, with world class food and, being owned by Penfolds, the wine list is a wine lovers delight.

Meals: B / L

Overnight: The Mayfair –

Adelaide

## Thursday 25th September 2025

Breakfast at the Hotel

Today we venture out to McLaren Vale, a wine region to the South of Adelaide and best known for its classic reds including Syrah and Grenache, although the whites such as Roussanne are delightful. (Journey 50 mins)

We visit one of the quirkiest yet most famous buildings in the Australian wine lands – the d'Arenberg Cube, whose shape was inspired by the complexities of winemaking. There are five levels, which are designed to entice the senses, with a wine sensory room, a virtual fermenter, a 360-degree video room, and other tactile experiences as well as the art installations in the Alternate Realities Museum.



Following a visit to this fascinating property, we enjoy a tasting of their wines matched with a leisurely lunch at their Veranda Restaurant in a restored 19th century homestead, overlooking the vineyards.

Early evening, we head to the NWC (National Wine Centre) in the heart of Adelaide, where we enjoy a guided tour to learn about the history and development of Australian wine followed afterwards by a tasting and dinner to showcase the diversity of regions and grape varieties.

The National Wine Centre of Australia, located in Adelaide is a world-renowned attraction that offers a unique and memorable experience for wine enthusiasts, industry professionals, and tourists alike. Offering an extensive selection of food and wine experiences that cater to all levels of wine enthusiasts.



Afterwards the coach will return to the hotel (Journey 10 mins) or as the evening is free at leisure after the tasting and dinner, you may like to stay on at the NWC Wine bar, where they offer a selection of small plates and have 120 wines by the glass on their vinomat machines.

Meals: B / L / D

Overnight: The Mayfair

## Friday September 26

Breakfast at the Hotel & Check Out

We head by coach to Adelaide airport, where we check in for our flight to Melbourne - (Journey 20 mins – flight 1 hr 20 mins approx.)

We will be picked up by private coach and taken to our hotel.



We meet up with a local guide, for a walking tour of the center of Melbourne, taking in



Aboriginal art installations. During the walk, you will learn about the Aboriginal history of the Birrarung Marr (beside the river of mists) and the Aboriginal Peoples of the Kulin Nation. (On foot, two hours)

While on our walking tour, as a relaxed supper, we stop into some vibrant tapas bars for a selection of tapas and small plates, matched with a selection of wines from the Victoria wine regions.

B/ L

Overnight: Melbourne Hotel

## Saturday September 27

Breakfast at the Hotel

Today, as a total contrast to the wine regions around Adelaide, our first visit out of Melbourne is to the Yarra Valley, named after the eponymous river which runs through the middle of the region, lined with River Red gum trees. (Journey 1 hr 15 mins)



Our wine visit today is to Giant Steps, which was founded by Margaret River native Phil Sexton in 1997. One of the most exciting producers in Oz, crafting cool climate Chardonnay and Pinot Noir from single sites and was named 'Winery of the Year' in the 2025 Halliday Wine Companion. We taste their spectacular wines that reflect the regional characteristics of Yarra Pinot Noir & Chardonnay – followed by a relaxed lunch with more of their wines.



After lunch, we return to Melbourne, where the rest of the afternoon and evening is free for you to explore this vibrant City. So much to see such as the Australian Sports museum at the MCG, take an electric boat cruise along the Yarra, visit the Botanical Gardens, see the incredible street art that lines the lanes, head to Collingwood for Craft Breweries or funky Fitzroy for great indie shops and maybe just hop on the tram to St Kilda for a relaxing stroll on the beach.

Melbourne is known as the culinary capital of Australia, and for good reason as is home to some of the best restaurants in the country. We will send you our recommended restaurant list, if you wish to dine at any of the most famous ones such as Navi, Vue du Monde, Attica or Rockpool as pre-booking recommended. But there is also such an amazing array of independent restaurants in Melbourne across all cuisines, reflecting the melting pot of Cultures in Melbourne – including some incredible Japanese, Vietnamese, Greek menus and more.

B / L

Overnight: Melbourne Hotel

## **Sunday September 28**

Breakfast at the Hotel

The Mornington Peninsula is often described as Australia's premier region for cool climate Pinot Noir, and the only wine growing region in the country that can truly be described as a maritime climate. Grapes were planted here back in the 19th century, but it underwent an exciting renaissance from 1970's onwards. (Journey 1 hr)





Our visit is to Moorooduc estate, which is on every wish list of each Pinot Noir lover, as they produce silky elegant examples of this capricious grape variety, although their Chardonnays and Pinot Gris are equally seductive, as we discover in our tasting at their winery – followed by a delicious lunch focusing on local & seasonal products.  
After lunch we return to Melbourne.

This evening, we gather together for our Farewell Dinner, which will be a menu created from the best of Australian produce and matched with a range of style of wines as a final overview of the fabulous wines produced “down under”.

B / L / D

Overnight: Melbourne Hotel

## **Monday 29 September**

Breakfast at the Hotel

The Tours ends today after breakfast, for your onward journey Plans.

The Hotel

Concierge will be happy to assist with airport transfers for you as required (payable locally)

If you are joining the Tasmanian Extension, please see the separate itinerary for information.

Tour includes:

Ten nights in Five Star Double

Buffet breakfasts daily.

Flight from Sydney to Adelaide (Economy Class)

Flight from Adelaide to Melbourne (Economy Class)

Thirteen meals as shown with wine, water, and coffee. No other drinks are included.

Harbor Cruise with Wine & Canapés.

Air-conditioned coach for the itinerary with complimentary mineral water on board  
Wine & Food visits and tastings as per the itinerary  
Guided Walking tours in Adelaide & Melbourne  
Guided Tour in the Blue Mountains including tickets to the Scenic Railway & Cable Car  
Wine tasting booklet  
Lori & Gary Parker as WineSellar Guides  
Helena Edgerton as Wine Tour Manager

Not Included: Return travel to Australia, Porterage, Tips and anything not specifically referred to above.

**Tour Price: (Per person based on sharing twin / double).**

Based on 18 participants = \$11,125 US  
Based on 15-17 participants = \$11,875 US  
Based on 12 - 14 participants = \$12,950 US  
Based on 10 -11 participants = \$13,450 US

Single in same room class add \$1800 US

Deposit - \$3000 US per person

**Confirming the final price:**

The final price will be determined 12 weeks before departure. Please note that should there be any cancellations before 12 weeks before departure that reduces the number, then the price will be amended to the rest of the party.

**General Notes:**

Flights / Travel plus Meeting / Leaving Tour: Intercontinental flights are not included to give you maximum flexibility with your choice of airline, route & cabin class.

The tour starts on 19th September 2025 in Sydney – check in is at The Sofitel Darling Harbor Hotel from 3:00p, and you will need to be in reception of the hotel by approx. 4:30p that day, to meet up with the rest of the group (precise time will be provided with final itinerary)

The tour ends after breakfast on 29th September in Melbourne. Check out will be at 11:00a, but of course you can leave your luggage with the concierge if you have a later flight. If you are not participating in the Tasmanian extension, then you will need to book your return flights from Melbourne.

Any questions on logistics on meeting / leaving the tour, please don't hesitate to contact me: [Lparker@winesellar.com](mailto:Lparker@winesellar.com).

There are two domestic flights as follows:

Monday 22nd September 2025 – Depart Sydney 2 hr flight to Adelaide

Friday 26th September 2025 – 1 hr 20 min flight Depart Adelaide to Melbourne



Please note that these tickets are for economy class – and due to the nature of the airline group booking rules, regretfully you will not be able to check in online for this or reserve seats.

Meals: Often on longer Wine Tours, it is too easy be over faced with too much food – so hence, we have scheduled some free evenings and free time. This will allow you choose between a light salad or indulge with a three-course meal as you prefer. If you would like your wine tour manager, Helena to join you on any of the free evenings, then her meal cost would be equally split between all clients at that dinner.

Travel: We understand that many people will take the advantage of extending their stay down under, by exploring elsewhere in Australia or even across to New Zealand. For some inspiration, we recommend you look at the Official Tourism Website - [www.australia.com](http://www.australia.com) or [www.newzealand.com](http://www.newzealand.com)

You may like to look at the option of travelling across Australia by sleeper train – it really gives a great sense of the scale of Australia (almost the same size as the USA)- so do look at The Ghan or the Indian Pacific trains - [www.journeybeyondrail.com.au](http://www.journeybeyondrail.com.au)  
Journey Times: As given on the itinerary, these are only approximate, but we believe useful so you can judge how much time will be spent travelling on the coach.

Mobility: Due to the nature visiting working wine estates as well as the uneven walking in the vineyards and cellars in general, as well as the boat trip at the Oyster Farm this tour is not suitable for anyone with any mobility issues. Let me know if you have any concerns.

Packing Notes: It will be a shoulder season, and so Australia should be delightfully warm but cool down in the evenings. So please bring layers as well as t-shirts and shorts. Don't forget your swimmers. For weather forecasts this website is usually one of the more accurate: <http://www.accuweather.com>

Safety on tour: Please do remember that some of the places we are visiting are working wine estates so please take special care when moving around the cellars as they will often be pumping tubes in your way and the floor is very often wet & slippery with hidden holes in the floor abounding. Please ensure you wear suitable footwear both for the cellars and any visit into the vineyards plus the Blue Mountains.

Travel Insurance: It is a condition of booking with The WineSellar & Brasserie that you have personal travel insurance in place from time of booking. We understand that the US travel insurance works on a different basis to the UK / Australian – but this is essential as travel plans can change, and travel insurance does not simply cover you for any emergency medical treatment on tour, but also should you need to cancel your tour at any time (read policy carefully).

Visa / Entry Requirements: Please see the US Government website (or relevant Nationality for non US clients) for advice on travel to Australia  
- [www.travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel/International-Travel-Country-Information-Pages/Australia.html](http://www.travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel/International-Travel-Country-Information-Pages/Australia.html)

This includes information about the relevant Visa required, medical injections and also do check out - [www.smartraveller.gov.au/while-youre-away/biosecurity-border](http://www.smartraveller.gov.au/while-youre-away/biosecurity-border) for information about Biosecurity regulations & IPC card.

Visits: The visits have not yet been confirmed. The visits will be confirmed in January 2025 should our choice of visit not be able to receive us on that date, it will be replaced

by another estate of equal caliber.

Wine Guide: This tour will be led by Helena Edgerton FWS. English Born, she worked in the wine trade in France, before leading many Wine Tours across Europe and subsequently moved to Australia, where she has lived for many years. Working first in the Fine Wine Trade in Australia and currently lecturing at the Sydney Wine Academy, Helena has a passion for communication and looks forward to sharing her knowledge and love of Australian wines with us.