



the perfect package
INSPIRED BY GIPPSLAND

Victorians are very lucky to have some of the nation's most scenic natural wonders right on their doorstep: Gippsland

Located to the east of Melbourne, the Gippsland region is a tapestry of rolling green hills, unique National Parks and quaint villages. Its diverse expanse unfurls from one magnificent view to another. Rounded hills roll towards empty beaches, interspersed along the way with pretty sea and lakeside villages famous for their country hospitality. From the border with New South Wales and Omeo in the north, through to Bass Coast and the Wilsons Promontory National Park in the south, Gippsland offers visitors a wide range of experiences, including some of the most stunning scenery in Australia.

Gippsland offers outdoor active excitement in abundance, not to mention the chance to head off the beaten track and escape into a world of rare beauty and fascination. Explore vast beaches and lofty high plains on horseback, put on your walking boots and traverse, stride or pedal epic walking and cycling trails which wind through

national parks and along the coast.

Fishing and boating around the largest inland network of waterways in Victoria is very popular. Discover the tranquil majesty of Gippsland's lakes, rivers and coastal inlets, either during water-based activities or by wandering along the fertile fringes. The region's plentiful beaches, estuaries, rivers and prolific seascapes offer fresh or salt water fishing opportunities to suit all tastes.

Challenge yourself behind the wheel on a four-wheel drive trip on unsealed roads and tracks through magnificent forests, fern gullies and rugged ranges. The legendary Wonnangatta Station and Dargo diggings tours, for instance, are as fabulous as they are famous. 'Dig' for dinosaurs at the Bunurong Marine Park and check out the sleepy gold mining village of Walhalla.

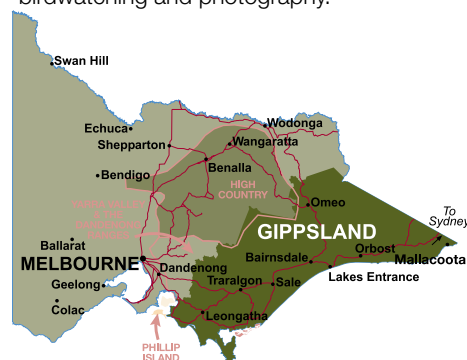
Camping, hiking, bush-walking and climbing all provide ample opportunity to soak up the natural atmosphere in the numerous national parks around Gippsland.

In the very south-east corner of Victoria, Wilsons Promontory National Park

is undoubtedly a regional highlight.

Affectionately known as 'The Prom', this vast 50,000 ha park incorporates an array of natural phenomena, from grasslands grazed by countless kangaroos to granite-clad peaks with views clear across Bass Strait.

Further east towards Mallacoota is Croajingolong National Park, a UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve that is a safe haven for native animals including 40 species of migratory seabirds. Croajingolong National Park offers visitors remote beaches, tall forests, heathland, rainforest, estuaries and granite peaks; excellent for bush walking, swimming, fishing, flat-water canoeing, birdwatching and photography.





Heading to Wellington, a region located in Central Gippsland, there are endless choices for the visitor. Set against a backdrop of unsurpassed beauty and diversity and steeped in a rich and colourful history, Wellington is quintessentially Australian.

The area known as 'Mountains to the Sea' has something for everyone. Driving yourself is easy, as there is little traffic on Wellington's many scenic back roads and trails. Whether you are a family, couple or group, a self drive holiday is a great way to explore the changing landscapes of Wellington. You can choose from accommodation to suit all tastes, ranging from budget motels and caravan parks to cosy b&b's and luxury self contained accommodation.

Discover unspoilt countryside, magnificent high country, the windswept 90 Mile Beach, lush rainforests and rich gold heritage all within a short drive from your accommodation. For adventure seekers there is four-wheel driving, canoeing trails, adventure flying, horse riding, motorcycle tours, cycling and bushwalking.



Complementing the bejewelled beauty of the lakes is Tarra Bulga National Park, a park rich in cool temperate rainforest, where verdant gullies are bathed in luminous green by ancient tree ferns and giant Mountain Ash. The park covers 2015 ha of some of the best examples of original cool temperate rainforests of the Strzelecki Ranges and is popular for picnics, walks, and scenic drives. The self-guided Fern Gully Walk starts at Bulga picnic ground. Bulga is an Aboriginal word meaning mountain, while Tarra was named after Charlie Tarra, an Aboriginal who guided Strzelecki and his party through Gippsland in 1840.

For more info:
www.inspiredbygippsland.com.au

Wellington Visitor Information Centre
8 Foster St, Sale
Tel: 1800 677 520
www.tourismwellington.com.au

For a taste of Wellington's high country, a visit to Licola and Dargo uncovers spectacular views, magnificent scenery and an insight in to Wellington's rich past, with gold mining relics and sites spread throughout the high country.

90 Mile Beach borders the region with golden sand as far as the eye can see in each direction. At Golden Beach the decaying hulk of the wreck "Trinculo" can be seen stranded high and dry.

A visit to the Wellington Maritime Museum at historic Port Albert tells the story of Wellington's early history. Port Albert was Victoria's first established port, the original gateway to Gippsland. Still a commercial fishing port, historic Port Albert offers excellent recreational fishing, scenic boat tours, and bird watching. The quaint fishing village boasts more than 40 buildings in original Georgian and Victorian architectural style.

The Sale Common State Game Refuge (Wetlands) located on the edge of Sale, covers 300 ha of predominantly freshwater marshland, with a section of dry gum

woodland and grasslands and is easily accessible from the South Gippsland Highway. The world famous RAMSAR wetlands are ideally visited in the early morning - a majestic experience, with migratory waterbirds, pelicans and spoonbills all sharing the start to your day.

With an abundance of water, the Wellington region is a mecca for water sports enthusiasts, with sailing, water skiing, canoeing and fishing on your doorstep.

From mountains to the sea, rainforest to farmland and coastal resorts to country havens, Gippsland is blessed with such bounty that every new experience promises to be even richer than the last.

So, jump in your campervan and head out to explore this beautiful region – Gippsland offers adventures to suit all needs, ages and budgets.

Drop into a local Visitor Information Centre to obtain further information, brochures and maps.

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