

Australia Uncovered

Welcome to 'Australia Uncovered'

Welcome to Tourism Australia's new monthly feature 'Australia Uncovered'. Each issue we will reveal an 'off the radar' Australian holiday destination for you and your clients to consider. The destination profile will include information about what to do and where to stay as well as information on how to get there.

This month, our destination profile is on Eyre Peninsula in South Australia. The summer months are the perfect time to visit this stunning coastal region to enjoy its extensive marine activities and taste Australia's best seafood! Each month we will also share

'News from Across the Ditch' which will feature new product and accommodation ideas as well as Tourism Australia campaign news. We will continue to keep you in the know with our events page showcasing the events that will help take your clients' holiday

from excellent to extraordinary. There is always something new and exciting to discover in Australia so for more information and new ideas go to Australia.com. To book any of the suggested tours, products or events for your clients please contact your local wholesaler.



Touch the Sky

Opening this summer, [SkyPoint Climb](#) will be Australia's highest external building walk, taking climbers on a guided journey reaching 270 metres into the sky on top of the Gold Coast's Q1 resort building.

Climbers will dress in a full body climb suit and harness before they step into the open air via SkyPoint Observation Deck on level 77. Along the way an informed guide will highlight major landmarks and share some of the region's best kept secrets as the group take in spectacular uninhibited views of the Gold Coast's stunning golden beaches, city skyline and lush green hinterland.



Foodie Trend Alert!

Australia has never been short on amazing restaurant experiences, and now there are even more 'must do' places to add to the list.

A new foodie trend called 'Garage Food' is taking off in Australia with stylish new eateries opening up in disused garages. These ultra-cool new eateries transform uninspiring spaces into buzzing food havens. Popular new 'Garage Food' havens include:

[Garagistes](#) in Hobart, [Leura Garage](#) in Sydney's Blue Mountains and [Hobba Coffee & Kitchen](#) in Prahran, Melbourne.

In other foodie news – Jamie Oliver's first down under restaurant has just opened in Sydney. [Jamie's Italian](#) will focus on providing fantastic food and service at a reasonable price.

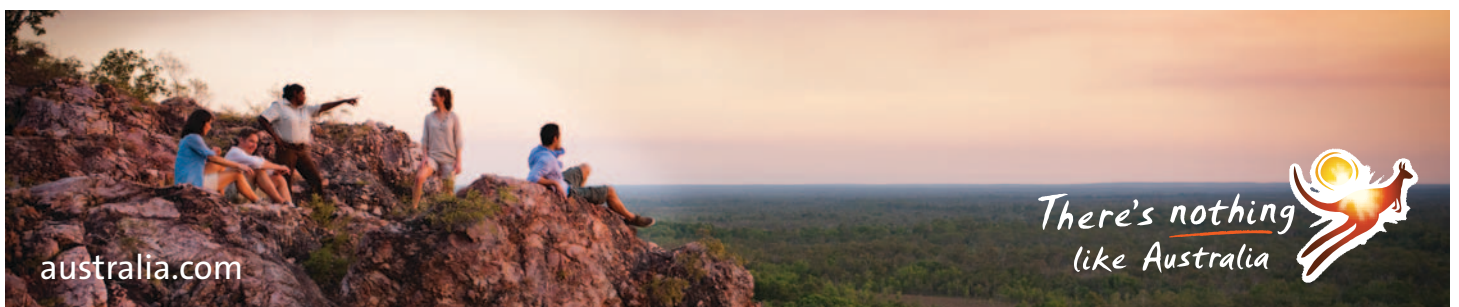
Exclusive Renaissance Art Collection in Canberra

The [National Gallery of Australia](#) in Canberra will soon play host to an exclusive collection of Renaissance art. The 15th and 16th century Italian art collection has never left Europe and it is Australia's first ever exhibition dedicated to Renaissance paintings – making it a very special opportunity to see the collection. Opening on 9 December 2011 and running until 9 April 2012, the exhibition will feature touching depictions of the Madonna and Child, portrayals of the Crucifixion and portraits of Italian nobles, plus works by some of the greatest artists the world has ever seen such as Raphael, Botticelli, Bellini and more.



New luxury tourism experience for Western Australia

A multi-million dollar tourism development to be named [Berkeley River](#) is schedule to open early next year in Western Australia. Located in remote East Kimberley, the property will only be accessible by air or water, providing a truly secluded experience of the Berkeley River and stunning coastal wilderness. The lodge will feature 20 suites with uninterrupted ocean views, and a main lodge with conference facilities. Situated next to the Berkeley River, guests will have the opportunity to indulge themselves in a touch of barefoot luxury by the sea and soak up the wide open spaces, fresh air and an abundance of nature. The extensive activities on offer at the property will include; boat cruises, bush and beach walks, fishing and helicopter journeys.



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PROFILE ON:

Eyre Peninsula, South Australia

The Eyre Peninsula offers incredible coastal and outback scenery, an abundance of wildlife and the best seafood in Australia.

Water babies will love the opportunity to swim or surf around the Eyre Peninsula's pristine coastline or even take a tour where they can hop in the water and swim with cuttlefish or Blue Fin tuna, play with sealions or come face to face with a great white shark (from the safety of a cage of course!). Between May and June, the peninsula's towering cliffs along the Nullarbor provide the perfect vantage point for whale watching.



Inland, the region boasts unique outback scenery like Lake Gairdner Salt Lake and vast desert plains. From the north of Eyre Peninsula, keen golfers can embark on the world's longest golf course, Nullarbor Links, which features a different hole in each town.



Cage Dive with Great White Sharks

Adrenalin junkies will love the opportunity to jump in the water with the world's deadliest predator in its natural habitat.

Adventure Bay Charters' Great White Shark Cage Dive Experience is eco-certified and instead of using bait to attract the sharks, the team uses music. Funnily enough, the most effective music in attracting the sharks is Australian rock band ACDC!

Guests get to enjoy a day out on the ocean and experience the thrill of seeing these magnificent creatures in the flesh. Brave tour goers can get in the water with the sharks with the protection of a steel cage, and there is also the option of

just watching from the boat. Operating out of Port Lincoln, Adventure Bay Charters also offer a range of other exhilarating tours including swimming with sea lions or blue fin tuna.

Coffin Bay Explorer Tour



Famed for its premium oysters, Coffin Bay is located just 30 minutes drive from Port Lincoln and features a rugged coastline and stunning beaches.

Visitors can experience the bay's marine life and seafood on a Coffin Bay Explorer Tour. The tour visits the local oyster farms where guests can watch the oysters being pulled from the ocean, learn how to shuck them and then eat them on the spot for the freshest seafood experience possible.

Along the way, guests can also spot a variety of wildlife including seabirds, seal colonies and dolphins.



Gawler Ranges Wilderness Safaris

Gawler Ranges Wilderness Safaris offer a range of tour options that showcase the best of the Eyre Peninsula's scenery and wildlife. The 'Sea Lion and Outback Experience' features unforgettable wildlife encounters including swimming with both dolphins and sea lions in the ocean at Baird Bay. On land, the tour searches out koalas, wombats, kangaroos, emus and more.

This three-day action packed tour also includes a visit to Lake Gairdner, a striking salt lake in the outback which guests can walk on. Accommodation is at Kangaluna Camp where guests can appreciate the tranquillity of the outback wilderness combined with the comfort of luxury camping.

Getting There

To access the Eyre Peninsula, New Zealanders can fly direct to Adelaide from Auckland and then catch a 40 minute regional flight to Port Lincoln. There are also coach trips available from Adelaide to Port Lincoln.

With so much to see and do on the Eyre Peninsula, it is a good option to get a rental car to explore the spectacular coastline.



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Calendar Down Under

With summer approaching, there is a huge range of events and festivals happening right across Australia. Visit Australia.com/events for a whole database of amazing events that you can incorporate into clients' holiday plans.

Picasso - Masterpieces from the Musée National Picasso Paris

12 Nov- 25 Mar 2012

The Art Gallery of NSW will present a landmark exhibition of the work of Pablo Picasso (1881–1973), arguably the most radical and influential artist of the 20th century. The exhibition presents iconic works from virtually every phase of Picasso's legendary career. artgallery.nsw.gov.au/exhibitions/picasso

Great Barrier Feast Series

2-4 Dec 2011

Hamilton Island's highly successful Great Barrier Feast series, hosted by highly respected restaurant critic and columnist Simon Thomsen, offers guests the exclusive opportunity to immerse themselves in a truly intimate 'behind the scenes' experience and learn directly from a world-class chef in a world-class setting. hamiltonisland.com.au/feast

Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race

From 26 Dec 2011

The Rolex Sydney Hobart is a 628 nautical mile yacht race which begins in Sydney Harbour and finishes in Hobart. The race is considered one of the most challenging in the world and each year attracts thousands of visitors who come to watch the spectacular start of the race from Sydney Harbour or join in the celebrations at the finish line in Hobart, Tasmania. rolexsydneyhobart.com

Vodafone Boxing Day Test

26 – 30 Dec, 2011

The traditional Boxing Day Test at the MCG in Melbourne is one of the world's most anticipated cricket matches. This year will see a fierce match between India and Australia. As well as the action on the arena there will be plenty of activities in and around the MCG. cricketvictoria.com.au

Woodford Folk Festival Featuring the Dreaming Festival

27 Dec 2011-01 Jan 2012

Every year, tens of thousands of people of all ages join the pilgrimage to Woodfordia for a six day celebration of the arts, humanities and the environment. Set in a 500 acre cultural parkland, with camping facilities, 22 undercover venues, a children's festival, village green and a large natural amphitheatre. woodfordfolkfestival.com

The Taste Festival

27 Dec 2011-2 Jan 2012

The Taste Festival celebrates Tasmanian food, produce, arts, culture and sporting activities. Held at the stunning Hobart waterfront, the Taste Festival allows participants to not only sample some of the best food, wine, beer and beverages in Tasmania but also the opportunity to learn about the journey from paddock to plate. tastefestival.com.au

Sydney Festival

07-29 Jan 2012

Every January Sydney comes alive with a whole calendar of events covering dance, theatre, music and more. Sydney Festival kicks off with Festival First Night, a large-scale free event in the city's parks, streets and laneways and also features three free massive outdoor concerts in The Domain. sydneyfestival.org.au

Santos Tour Down Under

15-22 Jan 2012

The Santos Tour Down Under in Adelaide is a week-long festival of cycling and entertainment. Visitors can watch the world's best cycling teams compete in the first race of the prestigious UCI Pro Tour calendar. From beaches to vineyards, the Santos Tour Down Under travels through Adelaide city and iconic South Australian towns. tourdownunder.com.au

Midsumma

15 Jan-5 Feb 2012

Midsumma, Melbourne's annual Queer Celebration, is a federation of arts and cultural events spread over 70 different venues throughout Melbourne. The three week festival has been held annually since 1988 and is a significant attraction on the Melbourne festival calendar. midsumma.org.au

Australian Open

16-29 Jan 2012

Tickets are now on sale for the Australian Open – one of the four major grand slam tennis tournaments held around the world. Held at the Grand Slam Oval in Melbourne, this epic event features not only the opportunity to watch the world's biggest tennis stars battle it out, but also a range of off court events like live music and garden parties. australianopen.com

Perth International Arts Festival

10 Feb- 3 Mar 2012

The three week Perth International Arts Festival is one of Western Australia's premier cultural events and features some of the world's best international and contemporary theatre, dance, music, film, visual arts and literature. Keep an eye on the website for the 2012 festival program which will be announced in early November. perthfestival.com.au

Adelaide Fringe 2012

24 Feb-18 Mar 2012

The annual Adelaide Fringe is Australia's largest arts festival and features a huge variety of shows and events in quirky venues including circus tents and other unique locations. The festival is centred in Rundle Park which is free to enter and comes alive with colourful tents, rides, food and market stalls and pop up bars. adelaidefringe.com.au

