

# ONE WEEK IN MOUNT GAMBIER



## Day 1

### Tour to the North

*Caves, Wetlands, History, Wines*

North of Mount Gambier is Penola where you can explore the Saint Mary MacKillop Interpretive Centre. Walk past history in Petticoat Lane and visit the local art galleries and shops.

Wine tasting is available in the Coonawarra Wine District. With a collection of over 30 vineyards the possibilities are considerable - you may even meet the winemaker!

Bool Lagoon is a haven for wetland birds. Walk along the boardwalk to the bird-hide for a closer encounter.

Nearby is the World Heritage Naracoorte Caves with four cave tours available. Marvel at the beautiful formations in the Alexandra Cave or learn about fossils on the Fossil Cave tour.

## Day 2

### Retail

The CBD is renowned for its great shopping and has many exclusive, independently owned boutique stores where you will find something to suit your taste, as well as antique shops, galleries, markets and op shops.

There are several outdoor shops, selling camping and caravan supplies, as well as a number of caravan sales and service outlets.

With a great selection of cafés and restaurants in the main shopping areas, you can break up your shopping with coffee or lunch.

Parking is free throughout the city.

Thursday night is late night shopping .

There are two large indoor shopping centres, open seven days a week, Mount Gambier Central and Mount Gambier Marketplace. Both have a food court and ample parking.

Many of the large national retailers also have outlets in Mount Gambier, and most of them are open extended hours, seven days a week.

## Day 3

### Tour to the South East

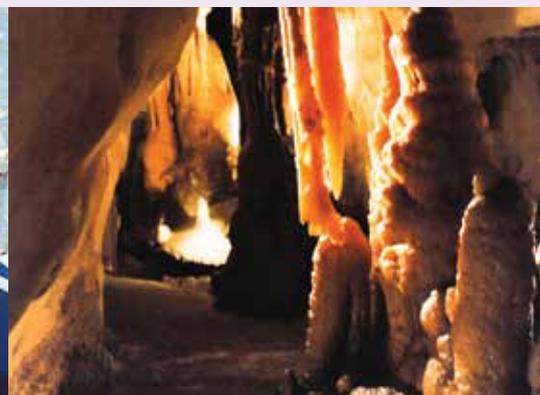
*Caves, Sinkholes, Rivers, Coast*

A must-see is the Umpherston Sinkhole. Vines cascade over the edge down to the bottom where birds and bees reside amongst blooms of flowers. Resident possums can be seen at dusk.

Travelling south-east you will find Princess Margaret Rose Cave with stunning crystals and an interesting tour.

Nearby is the hamlet of Donovans on the Glenelg River. Fish from the landing or travel onwards to Nelson where the river meets the ocean. Water sports, nature walks and river cruises are available.

Continue towards Port MacDonnell and see Piccaninnie Ponds, where aquifer water rises to the surface and flows to the ocean. Snorkeling is allowed with a permit: [www.environment.sa.gov.au](http://www.environment.sa.gov.au)



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## Day 4 Tour to the South Coast

*Limestone, Sinkholes, Volcanoes, Coastline*

Explore the Blue Lake and Valley Lake crater. Continue the volcano experience by walking the Mount Schank crater rim. Take in the breathtaking views from this dormant volcano, or those who enjoy a hike, follow the track inside the crater.

Nearby is the Little Blue Lake where locals swim when the weather is warm.

Drive along Bay Road to Port MacDonnell where the Southern Rock Lobster fishing fleet is based. Visit the Maritime Museum for insight into the past, and tour Dingley Dell where Adam Lindsay Gordon lived. Turning west, there is a scenic drive along rugged coastline.

## Day 5 Wine

If wine tasting is what you fancy, Mount Gambier is now a declared wine region. Premium grapes have been grown in the area for more than a century. With many established vineyards, some now have cellar door outlets open to the public.

Our temperate climate and cool winters means our Pinot and White varieties are fast becoming famous. Take the time to visit some of our family-owned, unique, boutique wineries. You might even get to chat with the winemaker.

Haig Wines is open 9am-5pm daily, while Caroline Hills Vineyard, Herbert Vineyard and Noski Wines are all open by appointment.

## Day 6 Arts

On your second-to-last day in Mount Gambier, relax, unwind and wander through the Riddoch Art Gallery, South Australia's premier regional gallery. With three exhibition spaces hosting a variety of exhibitions from local artists to exhibitions of national importance. Listen out for jazz from the James Morrison Music Academy next door.

Visit the Old Courthouse Gallery with a diverse range of items from emerging and established local artists. At night, go to show at the Sir Robert Helpmann Theatre which features live theatre, ballet, comedians and local productions.

The Oatmill Cinema Complex screens the latest movies.

## Day 7 Tour to the West

*Forests, Parks, Caves, Coastline*

Tantanoola Cave is located on the Princes Highway, 26 kilometres from Mount Gambier. See magnificent cave formations and crystals - fantastic photos can be taken.

Travel up the road to the Tantanoola Hotel with the 'Tantanoola Tiger' inside!

Travelling west past the forests and volcanoes you will discover Millicent, Lake McIntyre and the Living History Museum.

Onward are the seaside towns of Beachport and Robe. Beautiful beaches, coastal walks and drives are abundant, as well as many eating and shopping opportunities.



### DISCOVER MOUNT GAMBIER

Mount Gambier Visitor Information Centre  
and The Lady Nelson Discovery Centre  
35 Jubilee Highway East  
Mount Gambier

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theladynelson@mountgambier.sa.gov.au

[www.mountgambier.sa.gov.au](http://www.mountgambier.sa.gov.au)

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