

Twelve Apostles Walk



trip highlights

- Twelve Apostles Walk is a trip of the Great Walks of Australia
- Trek through Eucalypt forests with native rosemary, cushion plants and wild flowers in season
- View the mighty limestone Apostles from the Gables Lookout, one of Australia's highest cliff-top vistas
- Spend your evenings at the Twelve Apostles Lodge, a stunning eco-lodge in Johanna with chef-inspired meals



Trip Duration	4 days	Trip Code: GOW
Grade	Introductory to Moderate	
Activities	Trekking	
Summary	4 days trekking, 3 nights lodge accommodation	

welcome to World Expeditions

On a World Expeditions adventure you can expect great value, high quality, active, expedition style adventure travel experiences on all seven continents.

Our story began 50 years ago, when the mountains of Nepal inspired our first trek.

Since then, we've pioneered many adventure travel firsts, all driven by our goal to provide active and adventurous travellers with BIG adventures that leave a small footprint on the people and places we visit.

If you're curious to wander down the paths less travelled, we invite you to join us on our Twelve Apostles Walk.

why travel with World Expeditions?

World Expeditions Australian Treks have been in continuous operation for more than 30 years, offering economical, reliable, environmentally friendly small group fully inclusive adventure holidays to some of the most beautiful pristine parts of Australia. Our trips cater for people from many walks of life, age groups and motivations. World Expeditions offers more than 30 tailored Australian itineraries that incorporate trekking, walking, rafting, cycling and climbing throughout Australia.

Twelve Apostles Walk

A guided lodge based walk along Victoria's spectacular Great Ocean Road



great walks of australia

World Expeditions and Australian Walking Holidays are a founding member of the Great Walks of Australia. This is a 'best of' selection that uses our high end walking experiences with the aim of putting Australia on the map as a truly world class walking destination. This industry led collective joins together 13 of Australia's best walking holidays, characterised by exclusive, special accommodation that complements the walk perfectly. Lodges are exclusive to each organisation and are not open to the general public, ensuring that each of the Great Walks of Australia is truly one of a kind. The 13 walks are Cradle Mountain Huts Overland Track, The Maria Island Walk, The Bay of Fires Walk, the Freycinet Experience Walk, The Twelve Apostles Walk, The Arkaba Walk, Scenic Rim Trail, Murray River Walk, Cape to Cape in Luxury, Three Capes Walk, Seven Peaks Walk and two of our very own The Larapinta Trail and Flinders Island Walking Adventure.

the trip

Don't have time for a long trip away? This fully guided four day walking adventure takes in the rugged beauty of the world famous Twelve Apostles, allowing you to escape the hustle and bustle of life and fully rejuvenate your senses in just four short days. Departing from Melbourne, this trip will visit renowned destinations including Johanna Beach, Moonlight Head, The Gables, Wreck Beach and of course the stunning Twelve Apostles. Over four amazing days, you will sample the most picturesque stages of the trail, walking past dramatic coastal terrain. Chef-inspired meals, transfers from Melbourne, a stunning eco-lodge, daypacks and waterproof jackets are all provided. Your expert guides are with you every step of the way, teaching you about the history, flora and fauna of the breathtaking landscape you are walking through.

at a glance

DAY 1	JOIN MELBOURNE, WALK CAPE OTWAY TO BLANKET BAY (10KM, 3HRS)
DAY 2	MILANESIA TRACK TO MOONLIGHT HEAD (14.5KM, 6-7HRS)
DAY 3	MOONLIGHT HEAD TO WRECK BEACH (12KM, 3-4HRS)
DAY 4	PRINCETOWN TO THE TWELVE APOSTLES (8KM, 3HRS)

additional deposits required

In addition to the World Expeditions deposit, you will also be required to pay an additional deposit of \$500AUD of the trip cost (paid in your local currency at the current rate of exchange). This deposit is non-refundable and we recommend you take out travel insurance at the time of booking. Please note the balance payment and personal details form are due 90 days prior to your trip departure.

what's included

- 3 breakfasts, 4 lunches and 3 dinners
- 3 nights eco-lodge accommodation twin share with linen and towels
- Daily morning and afternoon tea
- Non-alcoholic beverages and a selection of local beer and wine
- Professional walking guide, driver and support staff
- Use of a day pack, ankle gaiters, walking poles, and waterproof jacket during the trip
- Fly nets, wet weather pants, dry bags and other weather dependent items are available and offered when required
- All entrance and national park fees
- Return transfers Melbourne/Twelve Apostles Walking Lodge/Melbourne
- Daily foot baths including mineral salts
- Emergency communications and group first aid kit



Twelve Apostles Walk

A guided lodge based walk along Victoria's spectacular Great Ocean Road



trip dates

Departs Tuesdays between September and May

important notes

HS - Holiday Season

H - High Season

DN1 - A high season supplement applies from 1 October to 30 April.

DN2 - In addition to the World Expeditions deposit, you will also be required to pay an additional deposit of AUD\$500 (paid in your local currency at the current rate of exchange). The balance of the tour price is payable 90 days prior to departure.

DN3 - A public holiday supplement applies on trips that overlap with a public holiday. This applies in addition to the high season supplement.

fast facts

Private Groups:

Private group options are available for this trip*

Singles:

A single supplement is not available for this trip.

Leader:

Expert local leader

Advice for people with limited mobility

This trip is not suitable for people with limited mobility.

what's not included

- Travel to and from Melbourne
- Accommodation in Melbourne before and after the trip
- Items of a personal nature such as laundry and car parking
- Travel insurance

detailed itinerary

DAY 1 Join Melbourne, walk Cape Otway to Blanket Bay (10km, 3hrs)

The group will meet at 7:45am at the Mercure Melbourne Southbank in Melbourne (9 Riverside Quay, Southbank VIC 3000). Our guide will introduce you to the other walkers before departing for our drive to Blanket Bay. Be dressed and ready to walk, with your daypack fully packed for the days' walk ahead.

After a scenic drive from Melbourne, we start the first section of the walk at Blanket Bay, one of the highlights of the Great Ocean Walk. We follow the coast of Great Otway National Park, climb along cliff tops and walk barefoot on golden sand beaches, learning about the unique flora and fauna as you go from our expert guides. You are sure to see some local wildlife on this unique part of the trail, with koalas, kangaroos, and echidnas all scattered about. The Cape Otway Lighthouse makes for a great end to the walk, where our guides can teach you all about the naval history of the area.

From the lighthouse, we transfer you to our private lodge in Johanna, where we welcome you with a glass of local sparkling and a spectacular long table dinner of fresh Apollo Bay seafood to celebrate your first day of walking.

meals: L,D

DAY 2 Milanesia Track to Moonlight Head (14.5km, 6-7hrs)

We drive 30 minutes this morning to the beginning of the most challenging day on the trail. It comes with great reward – the most visually spectacular and isolated sections of the Great Ocean Walk – known as 'the wild side' that gives the sense you're at the world's edge. We take a winding path that leads from Milanesia Track down through the forest to the beautiful Milanesia Beach.

After a gentle beach stroll, we turn upwards for a short, but steep climb that sets the tone for the trail ahead. The trail is dissected by gullies before a gradual climb, which delivers fabulous views back over Milanesia. Rough tree ferns and towering remnant Eucalypts dot the path before an ascent of 138 steps. The trail continues in a westerly direction until a steady climb leads us out of the forest and into Ryans Den campsite. From here, coastal views stretch to both Cape Volney and Cape Otway, an ideal place to reflect on your journey so far. The walk from here rises and falls many times as it parallels the coastline before cutting along the ridge behind Cape Volney, providing breathtaking views to the west. A final seated lookout delivers a magnificent vantage point, just metres from the walk's end.

meals: B,L,D

DAY 3 Moonlight Head to Wreck Beach (12km, 3-4hrs)

After breakfast it's a 30 minute transfer to Moonlight Head. The first 4.5km gently meander through native stringybark forest providing a contrast to the coast, concluding with a rise to the Gables, one of mainland Australia's highest cliff top lookouts. Tide-dependent, you will descend onto Wreck Beach and explore the

Twelve Apostles Walk

A guided lodge based walk along Victoria's spectacular Great Ocean Road



thoughtful travel

The environments we travel through are fragile. It is our responsibility as visitors to minimise the impact of our presence.

World Expeditions were the proud recipients of the inaugural Australian National Travel Industry's Environmental Achievement award for our Responsible Travel Guidebook.

This detailed guide to responsible & sustainable travel is provided to all World Expeditions clients before they travel.

Please ask your consultant if you have not received your copy of our award winning book. Alternatively, you may like to download a copy from our website

www.worldexpeditions.com

trip grading

Introductory to Moderate

The Great Ocean Walk is an Introductory to Moderate graded walk. It involves walking with a light day pack through undulating country for up to 7 hours a day at a moderate to steady pace. To enjoy this tour you will need a reasonable level of fitness.

We suggest that at least 6 – 8 weeks prior to the walk, you begin walking for at least one hour each day at a reasonable pace. Speed is not the essence to bushwalking, rather stamina and confidence in your own abilities. Continuously walking at a steady pace is better than racing ahead and running out of steam before the end. We would strongly suggest that some hill walking be included in your preparation.

To prepare, take every opportunity to walk instead of driving the car, and take the stairs where possible or walk up hills to build leg strength and fitness.

Some may benefit from using walking poles to conserve energy along the way (these will be provided for your use).

historic shipwreck ruins before continuing through to Devil's Kitchen for lunch and onto the historic Fiji shipwreck memorial. Wilder days will give an insight into the cauldron-like ocean at this part of the coast.

After lunch, we follow the Devil's Kitchen Track through fern gullies and over a ridge populated with grass trees to Wreck Beach carpark. On our way back to the lodge we divert for a short walk around Melba Gully, an enchanting rainforest gully with towering Mountain Ash and Beech Myrtle with an understory of tree ferns and waterfalls. After returning to the lodge we celebrate our last night together with a rejuvenating foot spa, a long table dinner and a glass of local wine.

meals: B,L,D

DAY 4 Princetown to the Twelve Apostles (8km, 3hrs)

Enjoy your final morning at Twelve Apostles Walking Lodge. After another wholesome breakfast, there's a final pack up, check out and lodge farewell before a 45 minute drive to Princetown. These fabulous natural wonders emerge on slow reveal as the trail rises and falls along the coastline. There is a viewing lookout exclusively for walkers before our final stretch of trail into the Twelve Apostles Visitors Centre. You've made it!

We'll then move on to the nearby town of Timboon where we visit our dairy supplier, Schulz Organic Dairy, for lunch before returning to Melbourne. We offer a drop off to the airport* and Melbourne CBD** after your walk.

*Tullamarine drop-off time: 5:00pm, in time for domestic flights from 6:30pm and international flights after 7:30pm.

**Melbourne CBD (Mercure Melbourne Southbank) drop-off time: 6:00pm.

meals: B,L

This itinerary is subject to change with any change in Community regulations as well as Governmental changes and natural circumstances beyond our control.

country information

The Great Ocean Walk

The Twelve Apostles walk is the last 4 days hiking of the Great Ocean Walk trail, a long distance coastal bushwalking track that links Apollo Bay with the 12 Apostles. The total walk stretches 104km and takes approximately 6 days to complete. In 4 days we walk approximately 46km starting at Cape Cove and walking west to the Twelve Apostles.

Comprehensive environmental, landscape, heritage and cultural value assessments were undertaken to determine the path the walk would follow. This included a thorough geological assessment to ensure the chosen alignment was stable and didn't create problems with erosion. During our walks we will pass semi-permanent, purpose built structures designed for long distance walkers. These also provide some shelter and toilet facilities for us along the way.

The track involves a variety of terrains:

-Beach walking: involves both rock cut platforms and sandy beaches. The eroded platforms and rocks can be slippery and uneven with water pooling on the surface. The beaches of the coast are churned up regularly and the sand can be quite soft to walk on.

-Walking trails: have a surface 60cm wide and are cleared of vegetation up to 1.2m wide and 2m above the ground. The walking track surface is made up of the natural soils, benched and drained. Some boardwalks and crushed rocks have been laid to protect sensitive areas.

-Vehicle tracks: are generally wide tracks over 2.5m wide and may be cleared of vegetation to 5 or more metres. Vehicle tracks are all local dirt roads, fire trails and management vehicle only tracks made up of the natural soils or with crushed rock capping.

Twelve Apostles Walk

A guided lodge based walk along Victoria's spectacular Great Ocean Road



adventure travel

By its very nature adventure travel involves an element of the unexpected. When in remote and developing countries do not expect standards you are used to at home. Remote areas are sometimes unpredictable and itineraries may be altered. To get the most out of your adventure it is important that you are flexible, positive and eager to take on all the challenges that arise. If you are uncertain about your suitability for this trip we recommend that you speak with your consultant or travel agent.

important note

These trip notes represent the most current information for this itinerary, and may supersede any information in the current brochure, including but not limited to the itinerary and price.

Walkers will at times have to climb over or around fallen branches and past vegetation growing back over the track. Weather makes some areas muddy and you should come with the expectation your boots may get wet. At times during the day you may be required to brush your shoes to remove soil and particles. This reduces the possibility of spreading cinnamon fungus which infects the roots of native plants, causing die back in many Australian plants. Please take note of hygiene stations and times when your guides request you to brush down.

climate

Victoria enjoys a temperate climate and reliable rainfall with four distinct seasons. Here is a guide to the weather conditions.

Summer: the average maximum temperature in south-west Victoria across January and February is 25 degrees Celsius. Sunscreen is required at all times, even on glary days, the UV factor can be deceptive. Wind can also burn, even when the temperature appears mild. Overnight temperatures vary from 8 to 15 degrees Celsius.

Winter: June to August is the coldest time in Victoria, with average maximum temperatures of between 8 and 13 degrees Celsius.

Spring and Autumn can be anywhere in between! Expect mild days, with ocean breezes and winds. Late afternoons cool down, and evenings will require a fleece or long sleeves.

As with all coastal walking, the weather can be unpredictable at all times of the year. Being cooler makes the walking no less enjoyable. Even the wildest days lend themselves to walking this rugged coastline, giving the opportunity to appreciate how a stretch became known as the "Shipwreck Coast". The use of a weatherproof jacket is included for all our guests, and we recommend walkers bring thermal underwear along at all times of the year, just in case!

a typical day

The Great Ocean Walk provides walkers with a unique insight into the Australian coast. Colourful commentary, staggering facts and a helping hand are all part and parcel of joining a guided journey. This journey showcases some of the most spectacular coastal scenery in Australia. In 4 days, we'll showcase the "wild side" of Victoria's coast, covering 46 kilometres of moderate walking that will leave you breathless. Chef prepared meals, transfers, our stunning eco-lodge and great gear to use are just for starters. Your guide carries safety equipment you'll probably never need and whether it's cold face towels, walking poles or gatorade, we have everything on hand to make sure you enjoy every last kilometre.

dietary requirements

Provided we are advised in advance of your departure we are able to cater for vegetarian diets and can assist with medically recommended diets (allergies and intolerances). Please ensure you discuss your requirements with us well in advance (at least 1 month prior to your trip) to determine whether we can cater to such dietary requirements on your chosen adventure. Please note that options are likely to be limited in very remote locations or alternatives may be more expensive or unavailable. There may be times when those with special requirements may need to provide their own food. We are unable to guarantee a peanut-free or allergen-free trip, and therefore, we strongly encourage that travellers with life-threatening or severe allergies take all necessary medical precautions to prepare for the possibility of exposure. Passengers must travel with all necessary medications for food allergies and be capable of self-administering these medications.

Twelve Apostles Walk

A guided lodge based walk along Victoria's spectacular Great Ocean Road



accommodation on the trip



This adventure includes travel in small minivan vehicles, with a maximum of 10 passengers, guide and a transfer driver.

During the trip you will share accommodation with either your travelling companion or you will be matched with someone of the same gender. Solo travellers who would like to request a private room and bathroom for the duration of the walk will need to pay a supplementary cost of 75% on top of the standard trip price which will apply at the time of booking (limited and on a request basis).

The 5 x bedrooms can be configured as king or twin share and all have access to a private ensuite bathroom with flushing toilet and rainwater shower.

The detailed itinerary is a guide only and indicates the walking distances for each day. Some days are easier than others, and weather conditions, group fitness and attitude will dictate the time it takes. There is no hurry. We allow for morning and afternoon tea stops, water breaks and lunch along the way.

The guides are experienced outdoor leaders who will take the time to make you comfortable if you have not been walking before. Your safety is the guide's first priority. Feel free to approach the guide about anything that may concern you. He/she will be doing everything possible to ensure you get the most out of your trip.

As much as possible, we will try to take a leisurely pace, allowing you plenty of time to look at the diverse scenery and ecology. We understand some people like to walk on their own at times. We only ask that if you choose to walk further ahead, please stop at each track junction and wait for one of the guides to acknowledge you before you move on. In this way, we know you are on the right path.

AMENITIES

During the tour we will be well away from towns, so there will be little opportunity to purchase extras. Our accommodation has flushing toilets and hot showers. There are few toilet facilities during each day's walk, so standard bush etiquette will apply. The lodge has an eco efficient, coin operated washing machine and gear drying room for your convenience, as well as foot spas upon your return each day. There are power outlets in the communal spaces around the lodge for your electronic devices.

SPA TREATMENTS

Additional massage and wellness treatments are available during this trip (unfortunately these are currently unavailable until further notice). If you would like to know more, please request this information from your reservations consultant.

MOBILE PHONE COVERAGE

Most of the time, we will be out of mobile phone range. The walking lodge receives patchy coverage for some Australian networks, but you should not assume you will be in range. The lodge has WIFI internet which you are welcome to use for checking emails and short communication on your own devices. Please, no movie downloads.

LODGE ADDRESS

70 Stafford Road, Johanna, VIC, 3238. Guest parking is available on site on private property and is remote & secured. Please speak to your reservations consultant if you would like to drive to the trip to ensure this is noted ahead of your trip departure.

Twelve Apostles Walk

A guided lodge based walk along Victoria's spectacular Great Ocean Road



what you carry

A 32L day pack will be available for your use at the beginning of the tour. This will fit a weatherproof jacket, your lunch box, snacks (all provided for use during the trip), a fleece jumper, and water bottle, as well as your camera and other personal items you'll need during the walk. These packs have been designed to support a 2L water bladder which you are welcome to bring if you have one.

Packs will be collected at the end of the trip.

You are welcome to bring your own day pack if you have a particular favourite.

equipment required

Specialist gear required include walking boots (a comprehensive gear list is provided in the pre-departure information provided on booking).

The use of a wind and rain proof hooded jacket is included in your tour price. An appropriate size will be issued at the beginning of the tour, based on the height you advised on your booking form. These are carried year round, as the weather on the coast can be unpredictable. Jackets will be collected at the end of the trip.

Gaiters and walking poles are provided for use throughout the trip, and other items available and offered when required include fly nets, wet weather pants, dry bags and other weather dependent items.

luggage

We recommend small suitcases or wheeled soft bags of no more than 20kg per person. Being a lodge-based walk, you only carry a day pack each day and the rest of your luggage stays safely in your room. We therefore have limited hanging and storage space in the bedrooms. We also have limited luggage space in our vehicles. There are clothes washing facilities at the lodge.

non exclusive trips

Please note that this trip is not exclusive to Australian Walking Holiday clients and is operated by our partners in Victoria. You will be joining a group of adventurers from across Australia and around the world.

visas

Most visitors to Australia require a visa obtained prior to arrival.

Passport holders from the following countries can apply for the Australian Tourist Visa online prior to their arrival which allows you a stay in Australia for up to 3 months:

Canada

United States

United Kingdom

Other nationalities can check their eligibility for an e-visa here:

<https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/electronic-travel-authority-601#Eligibility>

New Zealand passport holders do not need to obtain a visa prior to arrival they will be granted a visa on arrival.

*All other nationalities should check with your nearest embassy or consulate.

Twelve Apostles Walk

A guided lodge based walk along Victoria's spectacular Great Ocean Road



webinars & events

World Expeditions invites you to attend our inspiring adventure travel slide shows. These special evenings are designed to inform and entertain and are hosted by our most experienced and passionate adventure travellers and mountaineers. Ask our staff for a slide show schedule or register on our website - www.worldexpeditions.com. Shows can fill early so it is important to register your attendance so we know to save a seat, or two!

private groups

The adventures featured in our brochures, and on our website, are just a starting point for many of our private group travellers. Working closely with our Groups Department we can organise custom designed itineraries for groups of friends, clubs, charity's, schools or even work colleagues. Our team will assist you with all aspects of your private group adventure from itinerary design to group flights. Contact our team today.

subscribe to our e-newsletter

Subscribe to our enewsletter! To keep up to date with our new and exciting adventure opportunities, special promotions and adventure news, subscribe to our monthly enewsletter! You can do this online through our website, www.worldexpeditions.com or contact our office.

social networking

Learn more from our community at Facebook.com/AustralianWalkingHolidays or on Instagram/ [AusWalkingHolidays](https://Instagram/AusWalkingHolidays)

trip availability

If this trip seems right for you then we encourage you to call us now to check availability as we operate strictly small group adventures. Many of our adventures require us to secure services on your behalf; such as permits, hotels and flights to name but a few. The demand for these services is increasing each year making it difficult to join a trip last minute. To ensure we can assist you onto your adventure of a lifetime we ask that you check your trip availability with our team at your earliest convenience.

how to book

To book this trip, you will need to complete a booking form and pay a non refundable deposit which you can do by using our online booking function, or if you prefer, download a booking form from the website and return to us by email, or mail your booking form and deposit to Australian Walking Holidays.

If you have any questions please call Australian Walking Holidays or your nearest World Expeditions office.

AUSTRALIAN WALKING HOLIDAYS

1300 767 381

WORLD EXPEDITIONS:

Australia: 1300 720 000

United Kingdom: 0800 0744 135

New Zealand: 0800 350 354

Canada and USA: 1 800 567 2216