

GEELONG & THE BELLARINE



Please note: Hosted buyers and media wishing to participate in the Geelong & The Bellarine tour will arrive in Melbourne on Friday 17 February. Delegates will spend one night in a Melbourne hotel, and will be collected on Saturday 18 February to commence tour.



Arrival:	Melbourne, Friday 17 February, 2012
Tour Departure Date:	Saturday 18th February, 2012
Tour Departure Time:	09:00am
Tour Date:	Saturday 18 th & Sunday 19 th February, 2012
Tour Duration:	Two Days / One Night
Website:	www.businesseventsgeelong.com.au

Enjoy a taste of what Geelong & The Bellarine has to offer....

Less than an hour's drive from Melbourne's CBD and Melbourne Airport, Geelong is Victoria's largest provincial city and eastern gateway to the world famous Great Ocean Road and charming wine growing region known as The Bellarine Peninsula.

Geelong boasts some of the largest regional conference facilities in Victoria as well as a number of international standard conference hotels with panoramic views over Corio Bay.

The City's main drawcard, Waterfront Geelong, features many cafes and restaurants, fully restored art deco seawater baths, a unique carousel, a yacht club marina and a scenic bayside promenade dotted with brightly painted bollards, depicting many of Geelong's historical characters.

From rolling green hills to golden sands and pounding surf, The Bellarine is also gaining recognition as a key food and wine producing area in Victoria. At the tip of The Bellarine Peninsula is the historic town of Queenscliff - rich with the elegance of the 19th Century offering grand hotels, churches, galleries and cafes.

*Pre touring is available exclusively to hosted buyers at AIME 2012.

*Bookings can be made directly in the Hosted Buyers zone.

GEELONG & THE BELLARINE

DAY ONE ITINERARY

MORNING

- ❖ **Depart Melbourne** and travel south-west towards **Geelong** in a luxury coach.
- ❖ Arrive at **Four Points by Sheraton Geelong** for a site inspection and their specialty, apple pie, for morning tea.

Four Points by Sheraton Geelong is the premier 4½ star hotel on the Geelong Waterfront with breathtaking views of Corio Bay and a convenient location close to shopping and attractions. This venue has a dedicated conference floor with a choice of 6 modern meeting rooms and is supported by 109 guestrooms.

Web: www.fourpoints.com/geelong

LUNCH

- ❖ Take in the picturesque sights of **Geelong's Waterfront** attractions and unique venues including Costa Hall - Deakin University and Ford Discovery Centre. Finish the tour with a delicious lunch at **The Pier Geelong** accompanied by amazing bay views.

Geelong takes full advantage of its unique north-facing bay with fabulous waterfront eateries, landscaped gardens and walking paths set against the backdrop of Corio Bay. Stroll past the sculptured bollards that dot the foreshore and chronicle characters from the city's past and present, including dapper young ladies in neck-to-knee bathing costumes, 1930s lifesavers, traditional Aussie families, a Geelong footballer, jaunty sailors, fishermen and a town band. Close by is Eastern Beach, which features an art deco-style pool, promenade complex and the restored pavilion that houses a pleasant restaurant, cafe and kiosk.

Web: www.deakin.edu.au/visitors/costahall.php
www.forddiscovery.com.au/

The Pier Geelong is an iconic building at the end of Cunningham Pier with amazing waterfront views and featuring 4 beautifully designed and versatile function spaces: The Pier Geelong, Baveras – a fine dining restaurant, City Quarter boutique bar, and The Dock Café. The Pier Geelong is the perfect way to make a statement at your next event.

Web: www.thepiergeelong.com.au/

AFTERNOON

- ❖ Check-in and freshen up at your accommodation before attending an inspection of the site. Hotel details TBA.

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- ❖ Experience the best of **The Bellarine** - Follow your taste buds as you wind your way along The Bellarine to Queenscliff.

The Bellarine Taste Trail showcases businesses that provide visitors with the opportunity to sample a range of Bellarine produce enhancing the reputation of the Bellarine as a destination for exceptional, quality produce and related products. The Bellarine Taste Trail consists of a range of businesses from across the peninsula that are involved in the harvesting and production of seafood, wine and produce as well as hospitality and accommodation.

Web: www.visitgeelongbellarine.com/great-ocean-road/destinations/the-bellarine/the-bellarine-taste-trail

- ❖ Enjoy exclusive views of elegant **Queenscliff** and canapés from the private deck of the **Turret Suite** at **The Vue Grand**.

The Vue Grand is located right in the heart of the historic coastal town of Queenscliff on the Bellarine Peninsula. It offers a brand new conference centre within a stunning 126 year old Victorian boutique hotel. Experience fine dining in the award-winning Grand Dining Room, relax in the many public hotel facilities or private deck at the rear of the exclusive **Turret Suite**.

Web: www.vuegrand.com.au

DINNER

- ❖ Dinner & Blues – Celebrate Geelong and The Bellarine in style on board **The Legendary Blues Train**.

Nothing captures the spirit of the blues quite like a steam train and anyone who's witnessed the delights of the start of the Great Ocean Road, at Queenscliff, Victoria, from the nostalgic ambience of the Blues Train has experienced something truly special.

As the Legendary Blues Train makes its way between stops, gently rocking from side-to-side, seemingly in beat with the music coming from the bands, patrons sit back in comfort enjoying both the scenery of the Bellarine Peninsula and the entertainment over a beer or wine (including local wines from Scotchman's Hill) and a good laugh.

The Blues Train event begins at the historic town of Queenscliff. Patrons tuck into a hearty meal prepared by our Blues Train caterers. Drinks to take on the journey are available on the platform from the T-bar in the guard's van, open at each of the four stops.

At each stop revellers swap carriages to find a new band tuning-up ready for the next act. One of the carriages only has seating running along each wall. The seating arrangement and up-beat music in this carriage leaves little option other than getting up for a bit of a boogie.

But you don't have to dig the blues to enjoy the Blues Train, you just have to be open to a really good time.

Web: www.blustrain.com.au

EVENING

- ❖ Return to **Hotel**

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DAY TWO ITINERARY

MORNING

- ❖ Sleep-in and enjoy a filling breakfast after a night of serious fun.
- ❖ After your well-earned rest, it's time to take on a little team challenge at the **Geelong Botanic Gardens** where you will need your top orientation and cooperation skills to find your way out! In the process, let your senses be stimulated by the colours and scents of the astounding plant collection.
Web: www.geelong.vic.gov.au/gbg/
- ❖ Arrive at **Serendip Sanctuary** for an **Australian Native Wild Life Experience**.

Specially designed bird hides enable you to see some of the 150 species of birds which breed at or visit Serendip Sanctuary. The 250 hectare sanctuary, an excellent example of the open grassy woodlands and wetlands of the volcanic Western Plains, is the perfect place to learn about and experience birdlife and wetlands ecology.

Web: www.parkweb.vic.gov.au

LUNCH

- ❖ Feast on a BBQ lunch at **The Big Rock, You Yangs**.

The granite peaks of the You Yangs rise up dramatically from the Werribee lava plains. Although only 352m in height, they dominate the landscape and are clearly identifiable from Melbourne and beyond.

Web: www.parkweb.vic.gov.au

AFTERNOON

- ❖ Enjoy smooth coffee blends in exquisite mansion surrounds at **The Mansion Hotel & Spa**.

In the late 1870's, Werribee Park Mansion was the largest private residence built in Victoria. Today, the mansion has become one of Victoria's most admired and photographed stately homes. Werribee Park is also renowned for its stunning surrounds, beautiful gardens, sculpture walk, Werribee Open Range Zoo, polo and world class equestrian events. Nearby properties include Shadowfax Winery.

Web: www.lancemore.com.au/mansion/

- ❖ **Depart Werribee** for your return to **Melbourne**.

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