



# ITINERARY

Port Stephens and Hunter Valley  
3 Days – 2 Nights

## Port Stephens

From sublime natural beauty to freshly caught seafood, Port Stephens is a wonderful beach escape on a sparkling blue bay. Relax on beautiful sandy beaches, meet the resident bottlenose dolphins, enjoy fun water sports, explore giant sand dunes and savour delicious waterfront places to eat.

### Day 1: Sydney to Port Stephens

(2 h 30 min 178.6 k) via M1)

#### Morning

- Depart Sydney after a leisurely breakfast (& miss the peak hour traffic).
- Stop in at **Oakvale Wildlife Park**, pat a koala, hand feed a kangaroo, milk a cow, see the Tasmanian devils and watch a range of reptiles. Get up close and personal with a range of native and farm animals.

#### Lunch

- Visit Murrays Brewery, famous for their Port Stephens Whale Ale. Enjoy a beer and wine tasting tour and lunch.

#### Afternoon

- Explore the **Worimi Conservation Lands**, the largest dunes of their kind in the Southern Hemisphere. Take a 4WD tour, ride a camel, sand board down the massive dunes or if you're an adventure seeker – **a quad bike with sand Dune Adventures** is the only way to explore this natural masterpiece!

#### Evening

- Enjoy the finest locally sourced seafood, simply cooked at **Rick Stein at Bannisters Port Stephens**.
- Whatever your taste or budget, you'll be sure to find an option to suit your needs in Port Stephens. From hotels, apartments, clamping tents and cabins to ocean-view accommodation properties with gorgeous swimming pools, spas and award-winning restaurants are just few of the options. Stay overnight in a self-

## CONTACT

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Destination  
**Port Stephens**

## ITINERARY CONTINUED

contained cabin at **The Retreat Port Stephens**, in the heart of Nelson Bay at the **Hotel Nelson** or enjoy the stylish boutique accommodation at **Bannisters Port Stephens** or luxury at the **Anchorage Port Stephens**.

### Day 3: Port Stephens to Hunter Valley

*(1 hour 15 minutes approx. 100 km's via the Hunter Express Way & Pacific Hwy)*

#### Morning

- **Dolphin Swim Australia** offers a unique wild dolphin swim providing a thrilling experience that gets our guests up close to the dolphins where they can witness true dolphin behaviour! The wild dolphin swim occurs offshore with swim leaders who are trained to take our guests through the most amazing experience of their lives.
- Alternatively take a dolphin watch cruise on the bay with **Moonshadow-TQC Cruises**.

#### Lunch

- After your Dolphin experience the **Little Nel Café** a favourite cafe of the residents of Nelson Bay.

#### Afternoon

- Relax and enjoy our 26 beautiful beaches. You'll find plenty of soft sand, sheltered bays and surf breaks. Enjoy lovely strolls, glorious sunrises and majestic sunsets, and keep an eye out for the resident bottlenose dolphins frolicking in the sparkling blue marine park.
- Take the invigorating short walk to the summit of Tomaree Head, 161m above the Port Stephens entrance. As you hike the track, you'll enjoy unparalleled views of idyllic Port Stephens and its coastline. Time suggested 1hr 30min - 2hrs.
- Depart for the Hunter Valley for your overnight stay.

#### Hunter Valley

Explore the delights of the beautiful Hunter Valley, from award-winning wineries and acclaimed restaurants to tasty festivals and fresh local produce. Exceptional heritage and exciting innovation define the winemaking, producing some of the best wines in the world such as the iconic Hunter Valley Semillon.

### Day1: Hunter Valley to Sydney

*(2 hours, approx. 170 km's via the M1)*

#### Morning

- Start the day with a hot air balloon flight to watch the sunrise over the vineyards – it's spectacular! Enjoy a celebratory breakfast following your flight, before departing for Port Stephens.

## ITINERARY CONTINUED

- Visit Hunter Valley Gardens for morning tea in the village, and then explore the amazing colours and fragrances of the flowers in the gardens, which cover over 60 acres.

### **Lunch**

- Lunch at one of the cafés in the Hunter Valley Gardens Village or explore further and discover a tucked away café with views of vineyards and rolling hills.
- The Hunter Valley has a smorgasbord of restaurants to choose from. Whether it's fine dining or a casual affair you are after, try the restaurant at your accommodation or venture further afield.

### **Afternoon**

- Spend the afternoon at Hunter Resort flora wine education at the wine theatre, take a candy making workshop, taste local beers or join a Segway tour through vineyards and bushland, watch out for the kangaroos.
- Depart for your journey back to Sydney