



Great Ocean Road & Bellarine Peninsula

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Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Brae (p168)
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- ➔ Merrijig Kitchen (p183)
- ➔ Wye General (p170)
- ➔ Chris's Beacon Point (p172)

Best Places to Stay

- ➔ Kennett River Holiday Park (p170)
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- ➔ Beacon Point Ocean View Villas (p172)
- ➔ Vue Grand (p159)
- ➔ Cimarron B&B (p166)

Why Go?

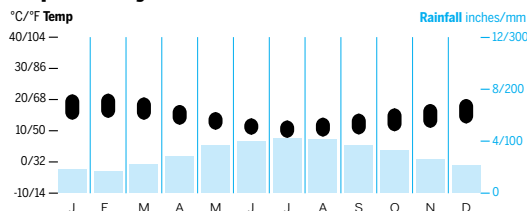
The Great Ocean Road (B100) is one of Australia's most famous road-touring routes. It takes travellers past world-class surfing breaks, through pockets of rainforest and calm seaside towns, and under koala-filled tree canopies. It shows off heathlands, dairy farms and sheer limestone cliffs, and gets you up close and personal with the crashing waves of the Southern Ocean.

Hunt out the isolated beaches and lighthouses in between the towns, and the thick eucalypt forests in the Otway hinterlands to really escape the crowds. Rather than heading straight to the Great Ocean Road, a fork in the road in Geelong allows you to take the long, leisurely way there via the Bellarine Peninsula, which allows you to visit charming coastal towns and wineries en route.

Day-tripping tourists from Melbourne rush into and out of the area in fewer than 12 hours, but, in a perfect world, you'd spend a couple of weeks here.

When to Go

Cape Otway



Mar Chill out to folk and roots tunes from around the globe at the popular Port Fairy Folk Festival.

Easter (Mar/Apr) Head to Bells Beach during the Rip Curl Pro to witness spectacular surfing action.

Jul Visit coastal towns mid-winter for bright sea-scapes, cosy cafes and whale watching.



Great Ocean Road & Bellarine Peninsula Highlights

- 1 Count the upstanding **Twelve Apostles** (p174) near Port Campbell
- 2 Camp by beaches abutting **Cape Otway lighthouse** (p173)
- 3 Lap up the resort-style living in **Lorne** (p166)
- 4 Get tree-top high on the **Otway Fly** (p173)
- 5 Check out the seals at isolated and beautiful **Cape Bridgewater** (p185)