

Lamble Tours

ABN 25 337 126 257

PO Box 30, Benalla, Victoria, 3672

RELAX

ENJOY

DISCOVER



8 Day

Spring Gardens Tour

Floriade Festival The Southern Highlands

Blue Mountains

2 - 9 October 2024

Welcome to our Spring garden tour enjoying 3 nights in the Southern Highlands
Visiting the Floriade Festival, Corbett Gardens the centrepiece of the annual
Tulip Time Festival - Cockington Green

A highlight of our tour journey on the Zig Zag Railway constructed between
1866 - 1869

Touring through the Blue Mountains - Cowra Japanese Gardens and Cultural
Centre - Cootamundra - Young and so much more...

Inclusions

- * Home pick up and return service (metropolitan area)
- * Luxury Coach Travel
- * 3 Nights Mercure Goulburn
- * 3 Nights Lithgow Motel
- * 1 Night Mercure Wagga Wagga
- * Entrance Fees to Gardens - Guided Tours
- * Return Journey aboard the Zig Zag Railway

Cost:\$2,950.00 Twin share/Double

Single Supp:\$650.00

\$200.00 Deposit to secure booking

www.lambletours.com.au

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Cockington Green



Day 1 (LD): MELBOURNE TO GOULBURN: Wednesday 02 October 2024

Welcome to our special spring garden tour. After loading the coach and completing our pick up service we get underway and travel through to Wangaratta for our lunch stop at the Wangaratta RSL. Following lunch we continue north on the Hume Highway to Goulburn, this will be our base for 3 nights as we enjoy the Southern Highlands in spring and visit Canberra for the Spring Floriade Festival. On arrival we check into our motel followed by a welcome dinner. (Lunch at Wangaratta RSL, dinner in the motel)

Mercure Goulburn - 3 night stay

Day 2 (BD): CANBERRA FLORIADE: Thursday 03

This morning we make our way to Canberra and on our approach to the capital, we visit Tulip Top Gardens. Established in 1997, it is a world class exhibition of half a millions tulips covering a 10 acre garden with daffodils and other spring flowers. On arrival we enjoy time to look around and enjoy the spectacle of colours followed by morning tea. On arrival in Canberra our first stop is Commonwealth Park, the centre of the Floriade Festival. The flower display is the largest of its type in the southern hemisphere There are some 150,000 annuals, 65,000 tulips, 20,000 daffodils, 9,000 each of hyacinths and ranunculus and 200,000 muscari - an abundance of bloom and beauty! We have a few hours here with free time to wander around at our leisure. Our final visit for the day is at Cockington Green. This award-winning tourist attraction and garden takes its name from the township of Cockington in Devon - a historic English Village. The garden is a one 12th scale reproduction of buildings and gardens in this English village - thatched cottages, a tiny church, and the village green, an oast house in Kent a riverside inn, castles and even Stonehenge. We make a time to meet and return to Goulburn for dinner in the motel with many wonderful stories to share of our sensational day in Canberra.

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Day 3 (BLD): GARDENS IN THE SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS: Friday 04 October

Today's touring takes us into the Southern Highlands. We visit Corbett Gardens, the centrepiece of the annual Tulip Time Festival. During the Tulip Festival over 100,000 tulips and 25,000 annuals are planted each year to transform Corbett Gardens and other parks across the shire into stunning displays of sweeping spring colour. We spend some time here enjoying the festival and taking in the stunning tulip gardens. We move on now to visit Milton Park Country House. The garden at Milton Park was designed by the English School of Landscape and remains the only work undertaken outside of Europe by that esteemed academy. Today, it is considered by many to be one of the finest gardens in Australia and we take a tour and have our special High Tea style lunch here. Our final visit for the day is a little different to the gardens we have just visited and we arrive at Fairground Follies. This location is just like visiting an old-fashioned amusement park with its collection of self-playing instruments and mechanical music, fair organs, street organs and a 100-year-old steam carousel. What a fun way to end our touring today.

Day 4 (BLD): GOULBURN TO LITHGOW: Saturday 05

After breakfast this morning we farewell our hosts and travel north to Oberon. We stop for a visit to the Mayfield Garden. One of the largest privately owned cool climate gardens in the world, it was nestled within a 5 000 acre working farm initially. Work on Mayfield Garden was quite modest in scale but as tends to happen with gardens, it grew...and grew...and grew. There is a maze, an oak forest, a walled potager, an 80 metre cascade that tumbles down the hillside, and an extensive parterre garden...you really have to see it to believe it. Experiencing the colours of this beautiful season will top off a lovely experience. We stay here for lunch at the Café, then head to Bathurst for a visit to the Bathurst Rail Museum before arriving in Lithgow, our base for the next 3 nights in the Blue Mountains. (Breakfast in the motel, lunch at Mayfield Gardens, Dinner at Lithgow Workies Club)
Lithgow Workies Club Motel - 3 night stay

Day 5 (BLD): LITHGOW & THE ZIG ZAG RAILWAY: Sunday 06

A highlight of our tour will be today's journey on the Zig Zag Railway. The railway was constructed between 1866 and 1869 and was acclaimed as a major engineering feat of its time, becoming the first rail link to the western regions

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of NSW. Totally destroyed by recent bushfires, volunteers have worked tirelessly to bring this unique attraction back to life. The highlight of the Zig Zag Railway trip, apart from the magnificent scenery, is the sight, sound and smell of a hard-working steam locomotive which is sure to bring a touch of nostalgia to those who can remember when the nation travelled behind steam. Following our train trip, we travel through the beautiful scenery of the Bells Line of Road to Mount Tomah where we have our picnic lunch and visit the Blue Mountains Botanic Gardens. Sitting on the summit of an extinct volcano at 1,000m above sea level, this 252 hectare garden is home to a world class collection of cool climate plants. The Garden has views stretching from the Hunter Valley, across the Blue Mountains back to Sydney. There are more than 48,000 plant specimens such as the Formal Garden, Explorers' Walk and Brunet Meadow. Following a wonderful day, we return to Lithgow.

Day 6 (BLD): THE BLUE MOUNTAINS: Monday 07

This morning we head into the Blue Mountains and start our sightseeing in Leura. The name Leura, which is aboriginal for "lava", was given to the village because of the area's wealth of volcanic stones. Our first stop of the day is Everglades Gardens; here we see one of the most important historic gardens in Australia, considered by many to be unparalleled in the country for its unique design and historical significance. For lunch we visit Bygone Beauty's and browse the vast array of old treasures including jewellery, furniture, fine china, dinner services, dolls and toys. Next, we take a sightseeing tour along the scenic Cliff Drive with a stop to admire Echo Point and the Three Sisters before our visit to Scenic World. Here we take a ride on the Scenic Cableway & Scenic Railway. The Scenic Cableway is the steepest aerial cable car in Australia. It takes us on a 545 metre ride into the World Heritage Listed Rainforest of the Jamison Valley. From here we wander along the 300m boardwalk to the base of the Scenic Railway...the world's steepest incline railway. We then ascend some 415m up the escarpment at a gradient of 52 degrees, before we return to our hotel with time to relax before dinner.

Day 7 (BLD): COWRA & YOUNG: Tuesday 08

Leaving the Blue Mountains, we make our way via Bathurst to Cowra, the town made famous by the POW Camp located here during WWII and the "Cowra Breakout". On arrival in Cowra, we visit the Cowra Japanese Gardens and Cultural Centre. Designed by landscape architect Ken Nakajima, the 5 hectare garden is the largest in the southern hemisphere. Our self-guided tour exploring

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the meandering paths and wooden bridges allows us to view the gardens at ease. We have lunch at the Gardens Café and then head to Cootamundra for our afternoon stop at the Cootamundra Heritage Centre. Our day concludes as we arrive in Wagga Wagga for the final night of our tour.

Day 8 (BL): HEADING HOME: Wednesday 09 October 2024

Following breakfast, we have a little sightseeing in Wagga Wagga before starting our journey home. At the Wagga Wagga Botanic Gardens, we can take a short walk through the various gardens and also take a look at the small zoo and aviary. Today's lunch stop is just outside Albury at the Kinross Woolshed Hotel and from here we have a relaxing afternoon making our way along the Hume Highway back to Melbourne. (Breakfast at the Hotel, lunch at Kinross Woolshed)

All itineraries are subject to change due to occasional restrictions in opening times/days of some attractions, e.g. churches, wineries etc. We cannot be held responsible for any changes due to closures, inclement weather etc.

Direct deposit: **BENDIGO BSB: 633 000 ACCOUNT: 162401020**

CREDIT CARD PAYMENT

Cheques make payable to 'Lamble Tours' Address as above.

FINAL PAYMENT: The date is specified on each individual receipt

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