



ALPINE ACCOMMODATION

TOUR DE GRAND GOURMET

STYLE – Self Guided/Group

DIFFICULTY- Easy

LENGTH – 5 Days

COST – Single \$1899

Double \$1499

Quad \$1499

Group 6+ (double/twin & made as one booking only) \$1459 per person

North East Victoria is fast becoming one of Australia's most popular gourmet regions, for good reason. Combined with the iconic Murray to Mountains Rail Trail cycling track, it's the perfect location for a gourmet based cycling tour. And this is the Grand Tour of the region, covering all the major food and wine highlights, whilst cycling the length of the famous Murray to Mountains Rail Trail. Enjoy the stunning scenery, sumptuous food and world class wines on this grand gourmet tour.

Beechworth

The historic town of Beechworth is our starting point, and the perfect place to initiate our gourmet journey. Whilst it retains much of its 1850's charm and façade, Beechworth has undergone change in the past 10 years. A growing gourmet scene has arrived, with Chef Hatted restaurants, a burgeoning coffee scene and even a wine bar, traditional country pubs & the famous Beechworth Bakery.

How To Get There

Drive

Beechworth is approx. a 285km, 3 hour drive north of Melbourne. Follow the Hume Freeway (M31) north until you see the Beechworth sign turnoff near Wangaratta.

Flights

A number of airlines fly to Albury from Melbourne and Sydney, which is a 45 minute drive to Beechworth. Ask Tour de Vines about transfer services from Albury airport (about 40 mins to Beechworth).

Train

There is a VLine service to Wangaratta from Melbourne, from there Tour de Vines can transfer you to Beechworth and back again at the end of the tour.

Tour Itinerary

This is a premium tour, and we look after you from start to finish. Quality accommodation, gourmet meals, all winery visits, transport and a few little extras are all included. Sit back, cycle a little and enjoy all the best of this beautiful and surprising region of Victoria.

Day 1

Arrive at Beechworth, check into your booked accommodation (4 star or character filled B&B). Take the opportunity to explore this delightful town by foot or bike (we recommend the Gorge a 20-30 min ride for great valley views), with its' historic buildings and stories of Ned Kelly and the Gold Rush of the 1850's. Beechworth has a great café scene and some of our favorites include the Providore Café: 18 Camp Street & Cellar Door Wine Store: 62 Ford Street. This evening, you will enjoy your first of many treats with an evening meal at one of the growing list of recommended restaurants, which will set the scene for your coming gourmet treats on this tour.

Day 2

After a full breakfast, your first day cycling is to the food and wine hub of Milawa. Get ready, pack your bags and aim to set off around 10am joining the Murray to Mountains Rail Trail in Beechworth. Our first stop



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is at **Pennyweight Winery**, which is a 10-20 minute ride from the start of the rail trail, so we can't arrive too early! Organic wine tasting from this small family winery is a delight. Back on the Rail Trail rolling all the way downhill until we reach Everton station. Departing the Rail Trail, we head to Everton town itself and then over the Great Alpine Road to Milawa. Before lunch however, a stop at the award winning **EV Olive** farm for an olive oil tasting and then onward to the famous **Milawa Cheese Factory for a platter lunch** – see image below - including their famous selection of cheeses. We can also visit next door to Woodpark Wines for a tasting. You are now in Milawa with a range of produce venues to visit. We also normally stop at the **Milawa Mustard Factory** on the main corner on the way to our visit to **Brown Brothers Winery**. Total cycling today 32kms.

Your accommodation tonight is in Milawa. Check in, your luggage will be waiting for you on arrival. Your evening meal again is included and will be at local preferred restaurant (food is included in your tour, with drinks to be paid for). Breakfast is also included the following morning.

Day 3

After a full breakfast, today we will tackle the only hill for the tour, Taylors Gap, on the way to Myrtleford. It's a slightly longer days' riding but with a relaxing stop for lunch at the beautiful Gapstead Winery. Leaving Milawa initially retracing our path back to Everton, then rejoining the Murray to Mountains Rail Trail, heading to Myrtleford. After a little effort up and over Taylors Gap, we cross the Great Alpine Rd and shortly after Gapstead Winery awaits, and a gourmet platter lunch. The views on this section of the trail are stunning so have the camera at the ready. Gapstead can be hard to leave, but it's only a short easy cycle into Myrtleford and your accommodation for the night. An optional stop is another tasting at Michelini's Winery cellar door. Total distance cycled today is 43kms. Dinner tonight is booked for you and included in your tour and is a full restaurant meal.

Day 4

Today starts with a very brief cycle to your hearty breakfast at the **Alpine Gate café**, the first of a number of stops today on our cycle to Bright. Following the Murray to Mountains Rail Trail, it's a much easier day on the bike, with more frequent stops. Before we leave Myrtleford town, on the right hand side is the **Butter Factory**, a must visit. A further 15 min following the trail on the left hand side is the **Myrtleford Pumpkin Seed Factory**. Then onward another 20-40 mins to **Bright Berry Farm** on the right hand side (don't miss the fruit sundae!), and a very short further ride to **Feathertop Winery for lunch**. Stunning views of Mt Buffalo, coupled with a superb gourmet platter lunch awaits and is included in your tour. It's a gorgeous cycle into Bright, with optional stops at **Ringer Reef winery**, the Rail Trail café (amazing cakes) or the **Bright Brewery** upon arrival into the town, or a chocolate tasting tour at **Bright Chocolate Bean & Bar**. Total cycle distance today 30kms.

Tonight you will stay in lovely Bright with a final full restaurant experience at the local food institution **Simone's Restaurant**.

Day 5

After enjoying your breakfast and an optional ride around Bright, you will be collected together with your luggage and any purchases you have made & transferred back to Beechworth for the conclusion of your tour.

Hotels

We stay in very comfortable hotels, mostly 4*. All rooms have en-suite shower or bath facilities. Prices are based on two sharing in twin or double rooms. Singles are available on request. Where possible, we choose hotels well located to enable you the freedom to explore the local area.



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Meals

Most meals are included, and we carefully select the restaurants for cuisine and ambience, and favour those with a strong regional flavor where possible. We are happy to arrange for our restaurants to cater for specific dietary requirements and allergies etc. where notified in advance.

Bikes and Equipment

Tour de Vines can provide well maintained hire bikes & helmets as required. There are 3 styles of bikes to choose from as follows (prices vary see website for latest rates):



Avanti Discovery

Well maintained Avanti hybrids, perfect for this style of cycling. Comfortable, easy to use with on handlebar gears (3 shift with a very low easy to peddle low gear for any hills), puncture resistant tyres and well-padded comfortable seats.



Trek FX

Want to go a little bit faster, or perhaps take on a hill or two, but still be comfortable in an upright position? Our new Trek FX 24 gear hybrid bikes combine road bike performance with upright comfort. A beautiful bike, easy to ride, this bike offers a best-of-both-worlds combination of road bike speed and city bike comfort. 24 gears means you can handle any hills easily. Water bottle holders and rear racks attached to carry any little extras you have without having to use a backpack



A2B E-Bikes

We are also very excited to announce that you can now hire Electric Bike. We have 3 x A2B brand ebikes that use pedal assist technology. These bikes are amazing to ride, just like any regular bike but the pedal assist technology provides an extra boost when additional pressure is applied to the pedals. Super easy to use, just like a normal bike with brakes, gears and a very comfortable upright position. Go further with an eBike!

Guides and Backup

On small group departures, you have the services of a local guide cycling with you. The guides are enthusiastic experts on the local area and will be able to sort out any problems or special requests that you might have.

On all tours, including self-guided, a support bus carries all luggage and will always be available for anyone at any point during the day. If for instance you want to take a day off the bike, or if a particular day seems a little hard, the bus will take you for as long or as little as you wish it to.

A Trusted Operator

Tour de Vines has been running tours in this region since 2002 and has recently been awarded the **Trip**

Advisor Certificate of Excellence in 2015 and 2016. You can be assured we are a quality operator and want nothing more than for you to have an amazing escape with us.

[HOME](#)

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