

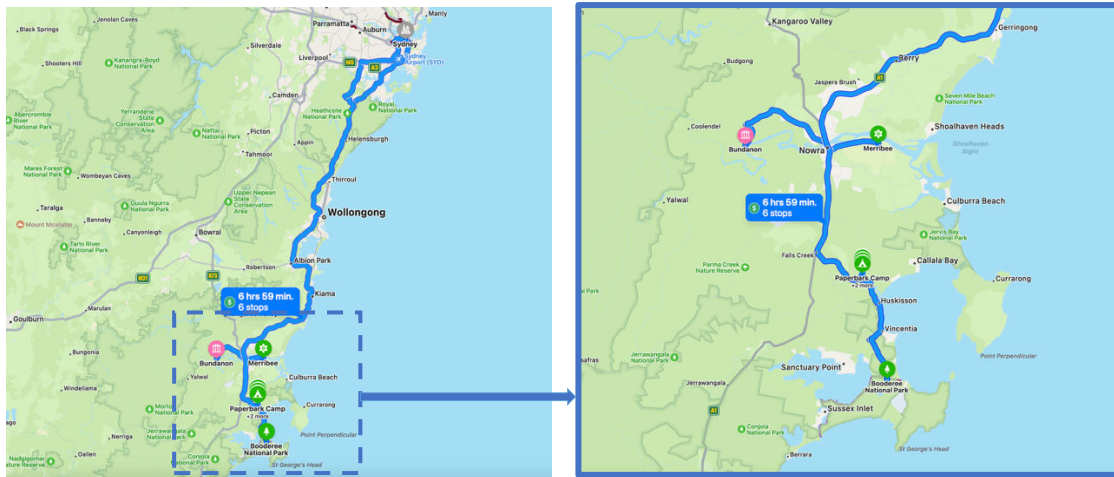
## South Coast Design Tour

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Ancient landscapes, Aboriginal culture, architecture  
& the art of Arthur Boyd

1-3 OCTOBER 2024 • BOOKINGS CLOSE SEPTEMBER 4





## AT A GLANCE

<b>Dates</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> to 3 <sup>rd</sup> October 2024 (3 days, 2 nights)
<b>Hotel</b>	Paperbark Camp, Woolamia NSW
<b>Meals</b>	Breakfasts daily (2), morning tea (1), lunches (2), and dinners (2)
<b>Transport</b>	Air-conditioned mini coach throughout tour (starting in Sydney)
<b>Your Host</b>	Tour leader – Sydney-based landscape designer, Nicole Court
<b>Group size</b>	A minimum of 7 guests and a maximum of 16
<b>Pricing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AUD\$3,200 per person, twin share</li> <li>• AUD\$500 single supplement</li> </ul>
<b>Bookings</b>	A spot on this trip may be reserved with an AUD\$1,000 deposit (please refer to Tour Details on p13 for details of the full payment schedule) – bookings close 4 <sup>th</sup> September 2024
<b>Itinerary Highlights</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staying at Paperbark Camp in Jervis Bay – located amongst soaring gumtrees on the banks of a tranquil waterway, this is one of the best luxury tented camps in Australia</li> <li>• The last chance to see Arthur Boyd’s series of fourteen powerful Shoalhaven paintings which have been privately held since their creation in 1984 (exhibition ends on 13 October)</li> <li>• Curated architecture, art and history-focused excursions at Bundanon, exploring the landscape of the Shoalhaven through the lens of Arthur Boyd’s art</li> <li>• Guided cultural walk to sacred Aboriginal sites with a traditional land owner who will tell us dreaming stories and share his knowledge of the medicinal uses of plants and bush tucker in Booderee National Park</li> <li>• Special lunch and dinners by some of the South Coast’s best chefs</li> <li>• A private tour of a wonderfully romantic country garden and historic house dating back to the area’s European settlement in the mid-1800s (subject to availability) – with tea and scones</li> </ul>
<b>Best time of year to visit?</b>	March-December. Sunny 21°C days and 14°C nights in October makes for lovely travelling weather





PAPERBARK CAMP, JERVIS BAY

**YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US ON THE SOUTH COAST DESIGN TOUR** – a “conscious luxury” exploration of the road less travelled in Jervis Bay and The Shoalhaven. Through our extensive network of friends, family, and interesting contacts, we have organized private tours and special walks with local experts to immerse ourselves in this very special part of the world.

The art of Arthur Boyd is at the heart of this Design Tour. After we view his landscape paintings at the current exhibition, *Wilder Times* (which finishes on 13 October), we will take you to the stand on the banks of the Shoalhaven River, at the place where he painted those iconic canvases. And we will also immerse ourselves in the landscapes of Bundanon, the home of Arthur and his wife Yvonne. This place that mattered so deeply to them that they gave their 1000-acre property to the people of Australia so that everyone could experience the magic of this place.

We will also explore the idea of landscape and what it means to be on country in Jervis Bay in The Shoalhaven. Rich in Aboriginal history, we will walk cultural paths in the ancient landscapes of Booderee National Park, one of only three Australian national parks managed by its traditional owners. We have organized an immersive experience with a Wandjina man from the Yuin Nation on the South Coast of NSW. As we walk together, he will tell us dreaming stories and share his knowledge of the medicinal uses of plants and bush tucker.

The idea of landscape will also be explored through the lens of contemporary architecture and we have organized private tours of Sulman Award-winning buildings designed by some of Australia’s most interesting and thoughtful architects.

Highlights include a visit to the new Kerstin Thompson-designed Bridge at Bundanon (what a building!) and the Art Museum, where we will also view the exhibition, *Wilder Times: Arthur Boyd and the Mid-1980s Landscape* (6 July – 13 October 2024). In 1984 Arthur Boyd was commissioned to create a series of Shoalhaven landscape paintings for the new Arts Centre Melbourne. In this exhibition, Boyd’s series of fourteen powerful paintings returns to Bundanon for the first (and perhaps last) time since their creation.

*Wilder Times: Arthur Boyd and the Mid-1980s Landscape* brings together over 60 works by seminal Australian artists from the same time Boyd created this momentous body of work. The exhibition provides a window into a period of cultural dynamism in Australia, when ideas of landscape, land ownership and environmental protection were actively interrogated.

We will finish our day at Bundanon with a walk the *Treelines Track* with a local ecologist (subject to availability). Conceived by artist Janet Laurence, the *Treelines Track* is a linear arboretum that traces the history of plants and plantings across the Bundanon landscape.

We will finish our Design Tour with a private tour of Merribee, a wonderfully romantic country garden and historic house at Numbaa (subject to availability), near the Shoalhaven River delta, dating back to the area’s European settlement in the early 1800s. This will also be an exploration of ‘sense of place’ in the context of the colonial/European overlay on the landscape.

We will tour with 7-16 guests – small enough to tailor boutique experiences but large enough to get to know an interesting group of people.

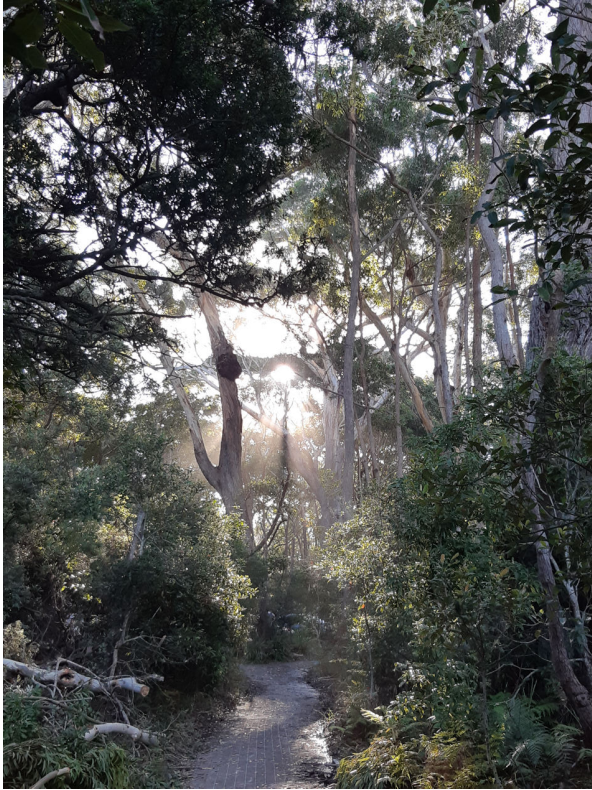
You don't have to be a designer to come with us - if you are interested in art, architecture, design, landscape, good food and beautiful hotels, you will love this trip.

**\* CONSCIOUS LUXURY**

Our hotel, Paperbark Camp, has been chosen for its special magic, revealing its unique sense of place in a way that only exists on the east coast of Australia. We define “conscious luxury” by the following constants:

- Deliverable community impact including training and employing staff from the local community
- Conservation of nature and wildlife
- Preservation of built heritage
- Promotion of intangible heritage through local experiences
- Sensitive land use and efficient resource utilization
- Sustainable solutions and best practice
- Excellence in service, style and design





BOODEREE NATIONAL PARK, JERVIS BAY



## YOUR HOST

**AN INSIDER'S EXPERIENCE** is assured by travelling with Sydney-based designer, Nicole Court. Her knowledge, experience and list of personal contacts informed the choices she made when curating this tour: the most interesting people to meet and the most intriguing places to experience at each destination. These immersive experiences will tell the story of place and its people, so that you can sit back, relax and enjoy the magic of the Shoalhaven and Jervis Bay on the South Coast of NSW.

### Nicole Court

Nicole is a landscape designer and luxury tour operator who has worked and travelled in Australia and India over the past 30 years. She created textile and homewares ranges for ten years for her business, Acorn Trading, which were hand crafted in India and stocked by Australia and New Zealand's best boutique retailers.

Nicole's ranges were featured in *Belle*, *Vogue Living*, *Vogue Entertaining*, *Gourmet Traveller*, *Home Beautiful*, *Inside Out*, *SMH*, *The Age*, *Australian House & Garden*, *Marie Claire* and *Elle*.

Nicole has been a contributing garden writer for *Landscape Outlook* and is an occasional guest speaker for the Landscape Design Institute, Mosman Garden Club and Ku-ring-gai Horticultural Society.

Nicole was born and lives on sandstone country, where the land meets the sea, and salt water meets fresh water. Her mother and grandparents were all gardeners and as a child she gardened beside them. Her childhood garden was large and mostly wild, on a steep block going down to Sydney's Middle Harbour.

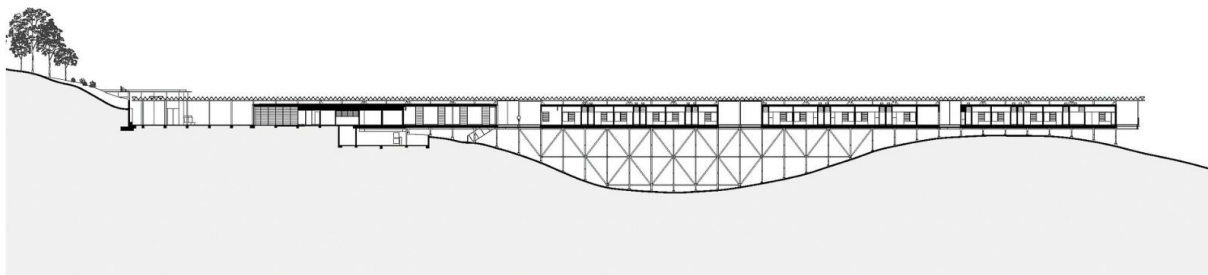
Much knowledge was gleaned here – how much garden you can maintain without needing professional help, low maintenance planting, long lived plants, the way flowers lift mood and bring everyday delight.

After completing a Bachelor of Design in Visual Communications at UTS, Nicole started her career in book design, before moving into interiors and textiles. Much later, attending Ryde TAFE to deepen her plant knowledge gave her a calling as a professional landscape designer.

Nicole loves the collaboration between a site and its microclimate, the design team, the trades she works with, and of course the clients, furthering their dreams for a purposeful and intentional way of living.

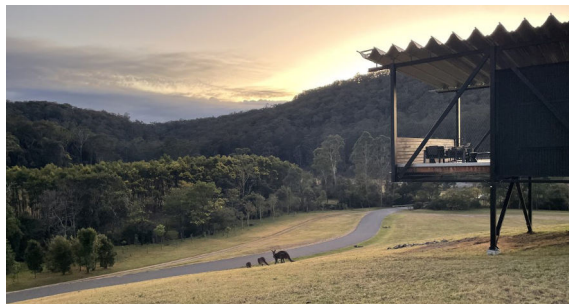
Nicole is passionate and knowledgeable about art, gardens, design, landscape and architecture, and has great South Coast connections.

*Instagram: @nicolecourtdesign*





THE BRIDGE



BUNDANON



## ITINERARY

### DAY 1 • Monday 1<sup>st</sup> October

We depart from Sydney bright and early at 7 am and drive to Paperbark Camp in Jervis Bay in an air-conditioned mini coach (2 hr 40 min drive). After dropping off our bags and stretching our legs, we will drive to Booderee National Park (20 minutes).

Booderee National Park is a special place where crystal-clear waters meet white sand beaches, and high cliffs overlook the Pacific Ocean. Jointly managed by the local Aboriginal Wreck Bay Community, it is one of just three national parks still in the custody of its Aboriginal inhabitants. We have organised some special experiences that will give you an incredible insight into Aboriginal culture and land practices.

Rich in Aboriginal cultural history, we will walk bush tracks and cultural paths in this ancient landscape, starting with a welcome to country by a traditional land owner, a Wandj Wandian man who belongs to the Dhurga Language group from the Yuin Nation on the South Coast of NSW. He will tell us ancient stories of this land and share his knowledge of the medicinal uses of plants, bush tucker, and tell us about the long association that the Koori people have with this area and the plants of south-eastern Australia.

Then we will head back to Paperbark Camp in the afternoon (20 mins drive). There will be time to enjoy some quiet time in your bush hideaway, amidst the paperbarks and she-oaks. You could head out for a bush walk but the sun-trap that is your deck may prove impossible to leave. It is lovely to sit, read, snooze and watch tiny finches and willie wagtails dart between tree branches, while magpies warble and cockatoos hoon through the bush.

For those of you who are feeling more energetic, you may like to ride a bike into Huskisson or go for a paddle on the Shoalhaven River (the use of bikes, canoes and kayaks is included in your stay).

The Gunyah (an Aboriginal word for meeting place, or place of shelter) is at the heart of the camp. Designed by Sydney architects, Nettleton Tribe, it is a chic space built high off the ground to enjoy the sea breeze and a wonderful position amongst the treetops. In winter there is a crackling fire, and in summer, the sliding doors open up for outdoor dining on the verandah, providing a bushy backdrop from which to enjoy meals and observe the goings-on of our resident possums, sugar gliders and birds. It is also a gathering place, with suggested walks and activities noted on a blackboard; a chill-out area to play cards or backgammon, an indoor-outdoor cocktail bar and so much more.

The Gunyah's restaurant is considered to be one of the best in Jervis Bay and tonight we have a special dinner planned, highlighting local, seasonal ingredients.

**Accommodation:** *Paperbark Camp, Woolamia* | *Meals included: Lunch, Dinner*

### *Paperbark Camp*

Paperbark Camp offers a blend of sophistication and simplicity, with superb food and luxury tents on elevated hardwood decks, which have been thoughtfully placed amongst the gum trees and paperbarks for minimal impact and natural ventilation. There is definitely no 'roughing it' in these tents, furnished with a king-size bed, crisp linen, balcony and claw-foot bath!



ARTHUR BOYD'S SHOALHAVEN PAINTINGS



SHOALHAVEN RIVER



Nestled in a peaceful bush setting on the banks of a tranquil waterway, the camp is just minutes from the coastal village of Huskisson. It is the perfect base from which to explore the natural wonders of Jervis Bay and the Shoalhaven area.

Wake up to the morning birdsong and watch kangaroos pass by from the comfort of bed before enjoying a hot shower or bath with a view in the private open-air ensuite.

The Gunyah's restaurant offers modern European-influenced cuisine with an emphasis on locally grown and sourced produce. Produce not grown on-site is locally sourced, and all food served at Paperbark is organic, fair trade and free-range.

This luxury Australian experience was created by ex-Sydney couple, Irena and Jeremy Hutchings, who were inspired after being on safari in Africa. The Court family and the Hutchings family have been friends for more than 40 years, and Paperbark Camp is now run by Irena and Jeremy's daughter, Camilla.

## **DAY 2 • Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October**

A flask of boiling water will be discreetly delivered to your tent deck at 7am, so you can have a hot cup of tea with the parrots before wandering over to The Gunyah at 8am for breakfast.

The breakfasts are good here – think fresh fruit, juices, barista coffee, homemade granola, berries and yoghurt; eggs on locally made sourdough and butter, with a choice of spinach, salmon, tomatoes, fetta, smoked bacon and mushrooms.

**Bundanon:** This morning we drive to Bundanon (40 mins drive). Bundanon was home to one of Australia's most celebrated artists, Arthur Boyd, and his equally artistic wife, Yvonne. The 1000-hectare property was so loved by them both – and inspired much of Boyd's artwork – that in 1993 they donated Bundanon to the Australian people. Since then, it's grown to become a major destination art museum. Arthur and Yvonne Boyd's gift of Bundanon has given Australia a unique cultural and environmental asset. It was born out of Boyd's wish that others might also draw inspiration from this remarkable place.

**Architecture Tour:** We will start our visit with a tour with a specialist architecture guide, exploring Bundanon's historic buildings and award-winning architecture.

The Arthur and Yvonne Boyd Education Centre, by architects Glen Murcutt AO, Wendy Lewin, and Reg Lark was awarded the Sulman Award for public architecture in 1999.

Kerstin Thompson Architects were also awarded the Sulman Award in 2022 for the Art Museum and Bridge for Creative Learning, and it is the Bridge which is the most exciting contemporary architecture on the site. Imagined as a piece of infrastructure the singularity of the bridge's form serves as a datum to highlight the distinctive undulating topography of Shoalhaven. Recalling the trestle bridges endemic to flood landscapes such as this, the dramatic bridging structure straddles the gully from ridge to ridge, allows sporadic waters to flow beneath it and for the reinstatement of the wet gully ecology.

**Arthur Boyd Exhibition:** Then we will visit the Bundanon Art Museum for the exhibition, *Wilder Times: Arthur Boyd and the Mid-1980s Landscape* (6 July – 13 October 2024). In 1984 Arthur Boyd was commissioned to create a series of Shoalhaven landscape paintings for the new Arts Centre Melbourne. In this exhibition, Boyd's series of fourteen powerful paintings returns to Bundanon for the first time since their creation.

Responding to these paintings, *Wilder Times* brings together over 60 works by seminal Australian artists from the same time Boyd created this momentous body of work. The exhibition provides





MERRIBEE GARDENS



a window into a period of cultural dynamism in Australia, when ideas of landscape, land ownership and environmental protection were actively interrogated.

**Lunch:** The Ramox Café has beautiful views overlooking the property and the Shoalhaven River. Chef Douglas Innes-Will, last seen cooking at Brisbane's GOMA gallery restaurant, brings his local eye and longstanding knowledge of South Coast produce to Bundanon, working with local purveyors to source sustainable ingredients for signature dishes.

**Bundanon Homestead:** Built in 1866, the Homestead (20 mins drive) has been a creative haven for several decades and currently displays paintings, ceramics and other work from The Bundanon Collection. Kept as it was during Arthur & Yvonne Boyd's time at Bundanon, we have organised a private tour to see behind-the-scenes of their daily life in this family home.

**Arthur Boyd's Studio:** This is the studio where Arthur Boyd produced numerous masterpieces throughout his career and his tools and paint tubes he used remain on display.

**Treelines Track by Janet Laurence, Pulpit Rock and Shoalhaven River Walk:** We have organised to walk the *Treelines Track* with a local ecologist (subject to availability). Conceived by artist Janet Laurence, the *Treelines Track* is a linear arboretum that traces the history of plants and plantings across the Bundanon landscape. Laurence's exploration of the relationship between art, nature, and ecology provides a thought-provoking journey through the intersection of art and the environment, offering a new perspective on the beauty and fragility of nature.

We will then walk down to the river to see Pulpit Rock. It is here that Boyd created so many of the iconic paintings we saw this morning.

We return to Paperbark Camp in late afternoon (40 mins drive) for a special dinner at The Gunyah.

**Accommodation:** *Paperbark Camp, Woolamia* | *Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

### **DAY 3 • Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October**

After a leisurely breakfast, we say goodbye to Paperbark Camp and drive to Merribee (subject to availability) (30 min drive).

**Merribee:** Plant life flourishes in this coastal land, which was first settled in the 1820's as part of Alexander's Berry's 100-square mile estate. Since purchasing what was essentially dairy pastureland with an old farm cottage, a dilapidated grain silo and a couple of dilapidated buildings on it in 2000, Lucy and Richard Marshall (with the help of horticulturalist/garden designer James Thompson) have slowly created numerous 'botanical rooms' that span the 7 acres of Merribee's gardens. They include a secret garden; apothecary gardens (modelled on 7th century monastic and 12th century medieval designs and plantings); an Elizabethan lover's knot garden'; four areas devoted to roses; and gardens filled with whimsical topiary plantings and elegant hedged patterns which can be viewed from climbing up to a viewing pavilion.

Lucy has ensured that fragrance is central to so many of the plantings – and fragrances waft from every corner of the garden. No rose is allowed at Merribee unless it has a scent, the lavender paddock fills with its purple haze of lavender aroma every year and bay trees, citrus groves, curry bushes, ginger plants and more all lend a wonderful array of smells into the garden.

We have arranged a private tour to see these beautiful gardens, representing the European overlay on the Australian landscape. There will also be a special morning tea of freshly baked scones with Merribee homemade jam and double cream before we finish our tour and drive back to Sydney (2hrs 30mins).

**Meals included:** *Breakfast, Morning Tea*





PAPERBARK CAMP, JERVIS BAY



## TOUR DETAILS

### How to Book

- Please email Nicky Court to request a booking form:

nicole@nicolecourt.com.au

- Deposits – to secure your booking, the following is required:
  - (a) AUD\$1,000 non-refundable deposit per person, at the time of booking
  - (b) Final balance payment for your tour is due 14 days prior to departure (17<sup>th</sup> September 2024).
- Your payment schedule will be itemised on your invoice
- Full payment is required at the time of booking for reservations made less than 14 days before departure of trip. If Nicole Court Interior and Landscape Design Pty Ltd is unable to confirm your reservation, all deposit monies received by us will be refunded to you.

### Tour Dates

South Coast Design Tour: The Shoalhaven and Jervis Bay, 1-3 October 2024 (3 days, 2 nights)

### Tour Inclusions

- 2 nights hotel accommodation, as indicated in the itinerary
- Meals: breakfasts (2), morning tea (1), lunches (2), and dinners (2), as indicated in the itinerary
- Ground transport in air-conditioned coach, starting in Sydney, and returning to Sydney at the conclusion of the tour
- Guided touring, activities and admissions, as indicated in the itinerary
- Expert guides and driver, including your tour leader Nicole Court

### Tour Exclusions

- Meals not specified on the itinerary
- Alcoholic beverages
- Health and travel insurance
- Medical emergencies
- Expenses for re-routing due to voluntary or unforeseeable reasons
- Personal expenses for drinks, snacks, telephone calls, laundry, internet

### Cancellation terms

- If you wish to cancel your booking, you must provide notice in writing (an email is sufficient)
- Cancellations made over 28 days prior to the tour start date will incur loss of deposit
- Cancellations made 28 to 0 days prior to the tour start date will incur a cancellation fee of 100% of the tour price
- A minimum number of 7 bookings are required by 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2024 for the tour to proceed. If the tour fails to satisfy minimum numbers, the tour may be cancelled or re-costed, we will give you notice on 4<sup>th</sup> September 2024. If the tour is re-costed, you will have the option to either accept the new cost or to cancel your booking. You must make this election within 2 days of receiving notice from us. If the tour is cancelled or if you cancel your booking in these circumstances, we will at your election refund all payments made or credit payments towards alternative arrangements within 5 business days.

We will not be responsible for any other travel arrangements affected by, or any additional costs incurred, as a result of cancellation in these circumstances.



**Booking Terms and Conditions**

Please refer to “South Coast Design Tour October 2024 Booking Form with Terms and Conditions” for our full terms and conditions. Please email Nicky Court to request a booking form: [nicole@nicolecourt.com.au](mailto:nicole@nicolecourt.com.au).

**Medical**

On-call doctors/nurses are available at every hotel.

**Dietary requirements**

Please let us know if you any special dietary requirements when you book and we will confirm if we are able to accommodate them on the Design Tour – we will if we can!

**Flexibility about minor changes**

So much thought and care has gone into the itinerary of this Design Tour but travel always requires some flexibility in regards to minor changes. Any minor changes to the itinerary (eg, an activity occurring on a different day to the dated itinerary) will only ever be made because it improves the flow of the experience. Hopefully this doesn't happen, but if anywhere is unexpectedly closed due to unforeseen events, we will make sure that we do something else equally interesting.



## TESTIMONIALS

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**I HAVE NOW DONE TWO TOURS WITH NICKY.** Two unforgettable, wow every single day, in fact, often multiple times a day, wow! moments. It was evident from the moment I landed in Delhi, warmly greeted, walked through the airport, onto a waiting bus and into the comfort of the first of many beautiful hotels. All the way through to the moment I flew out again, filled to the brim with awe and delight.

Every single detail of the tour was thoughtfully curated. Nicky is a natural curator. Her attention to detail. Her love of all things India. Her passion for authentic human experiences all shine through with grace and love. Yes, love. I feel spoilt by my two incredible tours through India with Nicky. I'm not sure there is any other way to do it now!

**Sally, Sydney (January 2024)**

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**NICOLE COURT'S DESIGN TOUR WAS A LUXURY TRAVEL EXPERIENCE THAT CANNOT BE MATCHED.** Travelling with my sister, for my 50th birthday present, this tour was a complete success for me; the places we travelled to, the experiences that were curated and timed perfectly to build up our understanding of this complex and wonderful and diverse culture and place. I experienced utter beauty and fulfillment in many forms, be it the world class hotels, food or seamlessly planned activities.

Mostly it was a wonderful human experience, feeling safe and totally cared for, allowed me to confidently explore this foreign country, supported and connected to both Nicky, Kinny and Deep our guides, and finding new connections with a fantastic tour group that have ensured I have some wonderful new friends for life. I cannot recommend Nicole Court's Design Tours highly enough.

**Jacqui Williams, Perth (January 2024)**

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**THE METICULOUS PLANNING OF THE DESIGN TOUR TO INDIA,** the attention to detail, lovely surprises along the way, and our extremely knowledgeable guides all made this experience incredibly enlightening, where history, creativity and spirituality entwined, an unforgettable adventure for anyone passionate about design, textiles and architecture.

Spice scents, tiles, saris, hand-painted walls, incense, etched glass, hand-blocked prints, and temple bells have left an indelible mark on my soul. I feel completely spoilt and privileged to have been. It far exceeded all my expectations. I would go again in a heartbeat with Nicole, Kinny and the team. Highly recommended. A huge thank you. Heart open.

**Suzanne Maher, Bellingen NSW (January 2024)**

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**I'VE BEEN TO NORTH INDIA TWICE BEFORE,** but doing a tour with Nicky Court on her Design Tour is by FAR the best way to see India. You see the best of the best along with the chaos, but knowing you are safe and well taken care of. Just sit back and trust! There was something wonderful in every day along with pleasant surprises. We saw the most unique places, beautiful palaces, tombs, and ruins along with how the masses live on the streets, compatibly with cows, dogs, elephants, camels, donkeys, goats, sheep, bicycles, rickshaws, tuktuks, motor bikes, cars, buses, and trucks. The two most challenging components are the air and water quality but that faded as we basked in the glow of all that was so wonderful!!

**MJ, Sydney (January 2024)**

**I'VE RECENTLY RETURNED FROM INDIA** and was fortunate enough to be part of Nicky Court's Design Tour. As I was travelling alone, I did have some reservations about how I would manage, never having been to India before and being a little nervous in unfamiliar places. Fortunately, everything was taken care of with thoughtfulness and care. From the moment I alighted the plane until the moment I boarded to return home everything was looked after. The detail of what we did down to where the next clean bathroom would be, were all taken care of. I enjoyed hearing about the history of beautiful buildings. We experienced delicious meals in beautiful locations, from a Mughal-inspired garden to a step well, lit with hundreds of candles. The timing of our glamping in the beautiful wilderness park was impeccable. After a week of taking in so much history, culture and horns beeping it was lovely to enjoy the solitude and see the stars. Nicky and Kinny are both kind and gracious women whose care for others made the trip what it was. Their humbleness and willingness to help with any issue made everything seamless and stress free for the guests. Their knowledge and cultural insight was fantastic and we were well informed throughout the trip, much has stayed with me as I've settled back into life at home. Thank you for everything, I would highly recommend any trip to India that Nicky would organise.

**Carla M, Sydney (January 2024)**

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**MY TRIP TO INDIA** with Nicole Court and her co-host Kinny Sandhu was just magical. Their knowledge and care and kindness for us all was outstanding. I have been to India many times but never like this. A small group of like-minded travellers, some were travelling to India for the first time. Everything was organised so it was hassle free. At times India can overwhelm but there was a great mix of excursions and relaxation. We stayed in luxury small hotels and palaces which were divine. I cannot recommend this trip highly enough or India. India's people, culture, customs are intoxicating and with Nicole and Kinny you are immersed fully. Thank you so much.

**Denise Wright, Melbourne (January 2023)**

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**NICOLE'S INTRICATE DETAILED ITINERARY** allowed us the privilege of experiencing unique insights into the personal lives of those connected to art and culture. Traversing through the backstreets, inhaling the flower market scenes, witnessing artisans at work... Nicole certainly gets the balance right: exploring and seeing the essence of each place, as well as having some peaceful times in nature. Nicole and Kinny, and her "on-ground" experienced network gave us a sense of inclusiveness and fine hospitality. Indeed, trust is the word to have as one's mantra, allowing the serendipitous adventure to unfold.

**Jane Grossberg, Sydney (January 2023)**

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**NICKY TOOK US ALL ON A MAGIC CARPET RIDE** through Calcutta and India's North-East on her Design Tour. I have been to India many times, and I have been on a lot of group tours – this was one of the best I have experienced. Kinny and Nicky were great hosts and showed us things we would never have discovered ourselves, in a less travelled part of India.

**Susan B, Sydney (January 2023)**

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**TRAVELLING WITH 'DIETARY REQUIREMENTS'** was not a problem with Nicky as our leader. She ensured that all our accommodation chefs were warned in advance and I never ever had an upset stomach. This is a small example of the attention to detail and care Nicky takes in planning her tours. Not to mention the wonderful places and people we saw, and accommodation we stayed in. I highly recommend Nicky's Design Tour.

**Karen Robinson, Sydney (January 2023)**