



Victoria's Private Country Gardens and their Designers – November 2021

3 NOV – 14 NOV 2021

Code: 22163AU

Tour Leaders **Sandra McMahon**

Physical Ratings 

Join Sandra McMahon visiting some of Victoria's most beautiful country gardens and meet the owners and the designers who created them.

Overview

With [Sandra McMahon](#), visit some of Victoria's most beautiful private gardens. Many of the exclusive visits will be hosted by the owners and designers themselves.

- Meet some of Victoria's most prominent landscape designers and horticulturalists including [Andrew Laidlaw](#), [Paul Bangay](#) and [John Patrick](#); view designs by luminaries including [Robert Boyle](#), [Phillip Johnson](#) and [Fiona Brockhoff](#).
- Meet artist and designer [Perry Lane](#) and learn how he walks the line between cultivation and wildness in his 'naturalistic garden with a difference' at his Kooroocheang home.
- Discover the formal garden 'rooms' and exuberant plantings of [Andrew Lowth](#) and [Nigel Smith](#)'s romantic [Bank House Newlyn](#).
- Meet celebrity designer [Paul Bangay](#), who takes us through his own spectacular rural garden, [Stonefields](#), and view his work at [Strath Creek](#) and [Creightons Creek](#) in central Victoria, and [Main Ridge](#) on the [Mornington Peninsula](#).
- Spend a day with [John Patrick](#) exploring a number of private gardens in the [Macedon Ranges](#) and visit his home garden in [Melbourne](#).
- View [Robert Boyle](#)'s work at [The Falls](#) in the [Strathbogie Ranges](#), and [Ridgefield](#) in the [Yarra Valley](#).
- Stroll through the distinctive garden 'rooms' at the award-winning [Sunnymeade](#).
- Meet [Simon Rickard](#) at his private garden in [Trentham](#) which has been featured on [ABC TV's Gardening Australia](#).
- Explore four hectares of established gardens at [Mount Macedon](#), at a historic working cattle property, [Bolobek](#), and spend time with owner [Brigid Robertson](#).
- Admire the work of [Phillip Johnson](#) – who won gold and 'Best in Show' for his show garden at the [RHS Chelsea Flower Show](#) in 2013 – at his own private garden in the [Dandenong Ranges](#).
- Visit the [Kuranga Native Plant Nursery](#), and [Sandra McMahon](#)'s home garden in [Kilsyth](#), in [Melbourne](#)'s east.
- Tour the magnificent gardens at [Cruden Farm](#), designed by [Edna Walling](#) in 1930, with Head Gardener [Mitch Burns](#) perpetuating the vision of [Dame Elisabeth Murdoch](#).
- Visit two of [Fiona Brockhoff](#)'s gardens – [Karkalla](#), an innovative coastal garden on the [Mornington Peninsula](#); and the compact, leafy garden of her city home in [Toorak](#).
- View the fine design of the colourful and bountiful gardens at [Lambley Nursery](#), [David Glenn](#)'s display and trial garden.
- Tour [The Garden Vineyard](#), widely considered to be one of [Australia](#)'s finest gardens.
- Enjoy the exuberant plantings and the breathtaking views over [Port Philip Bay](#) from historic [Heronswood](#), in [Dromana](#).
- Accompanied by landscape architect [Andrew Laidlaw](#), discover two very private gardens in [Melbourne](#)'s inner east.

Overnight [Ballarat](#) (3 nights) • [Lancefield](#) (2 nights) • [Euroa](#) (2 nights) • [Sherbrooke](#) (1 night) • [Flinders](#) (2 nights) • [Melbourne](#) (1 night)

Testimonial

This ASA tour was professionally researched and executed. We thoroughly enjoyed the program, the garden selection was excellent and their designers were most approachable. Anyone who likes gardens of any type would enjoy this tour thoroughly. Geoffrey and Di, NSW.

Overview

This tour visits some of Victoria's most important and interesting private gardens. What sets it apart is the time spent with the home owners and designers, who make the gardens come to life as they describe their struggles and triumphs. We also meet some of the garden leaders for ASA, who join the tour to show us their home gardens, landscapes they have designed and share their knowledge of the Victorian design aesthetic and their own garden passions. We travel to the Ballarat goldfields, Daylesford spa country, the Strathbogie Ranges, the green heart of the Macedon ranges, the picturesque Yarra Valley, fern glades and forests of the Dandenongs, and coastal and inland areas of the Mornington Peninsula and gardens in inner-city Melbourne. The gardens we visit vary enormously, due to soil types, climatic conditions, size and the desires and styles of the garden owners and designers. We'll see cottage gardens, cool rainforest designs, grand estates, striking uses of Australian plants, dry gardens, contemporary spaces, relaxed country gardens, coastal landscapes, inner-city designs and collector's gardens.

Leaders



Sandra McMahon

Horticulturalist, landscape designer and lecturer at the Burnley Horticultural Campus, University of Melbourne. Sandra, who also holds a BA degree majoring in French and German, brings her profound knowledge to ASA garden tours in Belgium, Germany and Australia.

Sandra graduated with a BA from the University of Melbourne, majoring in and French and German language and literature. She taught both languages for a number of years, and travelled extensively, living in Germany in the late seventies. She is a fluent speaker of German and has a deep interest in German history and culture.

In 1998 she graduated from Burnley Horticultural College. Since then she has operated her own successful and rapidly expanding landscape design business out of Melbourne. She designs in a variety of styles, but a constant theme in all her work is the use of plant material for structure. She has a very broad plant knowledge. Her work has been featured regularly in the print media and on television, and her gardens have been open to the public through various open garden schemes, and in the biennial *Garden Designfest* since its inception.

Sandra lectures in landscape design and plant selection at the Burnley Horticultural Campus of the University of Melbourne, and is currently President of the Friends of Burnley Gardens.

[Sandra McMahon - Gardenscape Design](#)

Combine this tour with

“A Place of Special Value”: Literary & Artistic Travels in Victoria – October 2021

19 OCT – 30 OCT 2021

Victoria’s Private Country Gardens and their Designers – November 2022

9 NOV – 20 NOV 2022



Itinerary

The following itinerary describes a range of gardens which we plan to visit. Many are accessible to the public, but others require special permission which may only be confirmed closer to the tour's departure. The daily activities described in this itinerary may change or be rotated and/or modified in order to accommodate alterations in opening hours, flight schedules and confirmation of private visits. Participants will receive a final itinerary, together with their tour documents, prior to departure. The tour includes breakfast daily, lunches & evening meals indicated in the detailed itinerary: B=breakfast, L=lunch and D=dinner.

Ballarat - 3 nights

Day 1: Wednesday 3 November, Arrive Melbourne – Ballarat

- Coach journey from Melbourne airport to Ballarat
- Visits to 2 contemporary gardens, hosted by local designer Paddy Milne
- 2-course Welcome Dinner in the Princes Room, Craig's Royal Hotel

Meeting Point: Tullamarine Airport, Terminal 1, Ground Floor Arrivals Hall, at the Gloria Jeans Coffee Shop at 2.00pm.

Our private coach collects us at Melbourne Tullamarine Airport and drives to Ballarat, a city with ornate architecture, built during the prosperous days of the 1850s gold rush. We begin our tour with visits to two private urban gardens in Newington, close to the centre of Ballarat. Local designer Paddy Milne, the 'Scape Artist', will explain his designs and the challenges faced in creating and maintaining these gardens, which have become local icons.

We visit one of Paddy's gardens on Sturt Street, in one of Ballarat's busiest spots. It has been a talking point for many years. The house that overlooks this triangular outdoor space has its own style and history too – the building functioned as a pub many years ago. Its iconic granite boulder fence has been at the centre of

many discussions – for better or worse! The well-travelled owners wanted a ‘taste’ of Italy in the garden; this is reflected in recycled red bricks, plant choices and the three existing olive trees standing together in the lawn. Other features include pleached bay trees around the boundary to prove an ‘upside down hedge’ and the central curving arbor bringing together the narrowing sight lines toward the point of the block. It captures the water feature and pleached Tilia ‘winter orange’ in the background.

We then drive a short distance to the historic Craig’s Royal Hotel, a grand boutique hotel dating to the gold rush, which will be our home for three nights. Tonight we enjoy a 2-course Welcome Dinner in the hotel’s Princes Room. After dinner, you may wish to take a leisurely walk through the streets of Ballarat. (Overnight Craig’s Royal Hotel, Ballarat) D

Day 2: Thursday 4 November, Ballarat – Ascot – Daylesford – Kooroocheang – Newlyn – Ballarat

- [Lambley Nursery](#), the garden of horticulturalist David Glenn, Ascot
- Spa town of Daylesford
- Private garden of Perry Lane, Kooroocheang
- Bank House Newlyn, private garden of Andrew Lowth and Nigel Smith

This morning we visit Lambley Nursery in Ascot, home of horticulturalist David Glenn and his wife, artist Criss Canning. Their gardens have been created around an old farmhouse. David has learnt to work with Ballarat’s harsh climate and has transformed barren paddocks into a beautifully designed space, overflowing with colour and structure. In spring, the spectacular display gardens are a rich tapestry of colour. The striking dry garden, which is watered no more than four times a year, will supply inspiration to those gardening with limited water. David is a plant breeder; his best known release is Euphorbia ‘Ascot Rainbow’. He also trials flowers, fruits and vegetables which are on display in his bountiful edible garden.

Next, we visit the charming spa town of Daylesford. Here, there will be time to wander the picturesque streets lined with boutique shops and find a café for lunch at leisure.

Not far from Daylesford is the private home of artist and designer Perry Lane, at Kooroocheang. The garden is a naturalistic garden with a difference. Perry’s primary interest was to integrate the garden with the broader landscape and allow the plants, to some extent, to colonise where they wanted, so that the natural rhythm of the seasons can be observed with minimal intervention. He usually cuts the whole garden to the ground in early spring and then doesn’t interfere until the following year, aside from watering to keep things alive when necessary and removing plants that have grown too far over the paths. The planting is dynamic and changes dramatically from year to year, depending on the seasonal conditions and which plants have self-seeded. Nothing is pruned or deadheaded so by autumn there are hundreds of dried flowers and seed pods, which provide structure and protection over winter and the following year’s volunteer seedlings. This approach allows a more full experience of each season, the garden being a part of, not insulated or separate from, its environment. Paddy writes, “Kooroocheang has a subtle beauty and atmosphere that will reward contemplation and I look forward to welcoming visitors to experience a different kind of garden.”

A leisurely drive brings us to Bank House Newlyn. Bank House once served as the National Bank of Australasia’s Newlyn branch, but now, the historic weatherboard cottage is a country home set in an extraordinary garden. Andrew Lowth and Nigel Smith, with a nod to English landscape and perennial gardening, have created a series of ‘outdoor rooms’, combining formal structure and exuberant and rare plantings in a romantic garden design. Behind the house, a gentle slope leads to a series of surprises concealed behind hedges of hornbeam, privet and japonica. Formal allées are juxtaposed with woodland glades and walks, a meadow garden and a lush, ornamental vegetable. (Overnight Craig’s Royal Hotel,

Ballarat) B

Day 3: Friday 5 November, Ballarat – Denver – Macedon Ranges – Ballarat

- Designer Paul Bangay takes us on a tour of his rural garden, Stonefields, Denver
- Lunch in the gardens of Bolobek
- Bolobek, a historic garden with designer flair: visit with owner Brigid Robertson

Our first stop today is the home of Paul Bangay, who is widely regarded as one of the foremost garden designers in Australia. For more than 25 years, he has created timeless and elegant designs around the world. Paul will take us through his own spectacular rural garden, Stonefields, and will talk to us about the process of design as he shows us through the garden's series of elegant and formal garden rooms. They include an entry court, front courtyard with water rill, burgundy rose garden, white garden with formal pond, apple walk, mirror image back garden overlooking the countryside and relaxed woodland garden.

We leave Denver for the green heart of the Macedon Ranges to meet Brigid Robertson, who bought Bolobek, a historic working cattle property, with husband Hugh in 2006. This garden was laid out in the early 1900s and today demonstrates how a creative design style can be overlaid on an earlier garden landscape. Bolobek is on the Victorian Heritage Register because of the quality of its design, artistry and plantings. Brigid will share stories of the people that made the garden and we'll admire its geometric design, which focuses on attractive bark, soft green foliage and white flowers. (Overnight Craig's Royal Hotel, Ballarat) BL

Lancefield - 2 nights

Day 4: Saturday 6 November, Ballarat – Trentham – Kyneton – Lancefield

- Art Gallery of Ballarat
- Private garden of Simon Rickard, Trentham
- Meadowbank, Private garden of Simon Griffiths, Kyneton

This morning we visit the Art Gallery of Ballarat, the largest regional gallery in the country. It holds over 11,000 art works, including pieces by Arthur Boyd, Norman Lindsay, Tom Roberts, Russell Drysdale and Eugene von Guerard.

After lunch we travel to Trentham to visit the private gardens of Simon Rickard. Simon's home garden was never intended for public display. It was conceived as a private space where he could test new ideas, plants, and combinations before foisting them on his unsuspecting clients, as well as indulging his plantsman's love of the rare and unusual. Simon's challenge has been to cobble these eclectic tastes into something coherent and beautiful.

Next we reach Kyneton to visit the private garden of photographer, Simon Griffiths. This is a 'secret garden', hidden away from view behind the historic brick and bluestone cottage that fronts the street. In November the roses are in bloom and the garden is filled with colour. Simon's garden photography features in a vast array of publications, Leo Schofield's *The Garden at Bronte*, Myles Baldwin's *Rural Australian Gardens*, and Paul Bangay's books *The Boxed Garden*, *The Balanced Garden*, and *Paul Bangay's Garden Design Handbook*, as well as cookery books by Shannon Bennett, Stephanie Alexander, Maggie Beer and Kylie Kwong.

In the late afternoon, we transfer to Cleveland Winery in Lancefield, our home for two nights. (Overnight

Cleveland Winery) BD

Day 5: Sunday 7 November, Lancefield – Mt Macedon – Lancefield

- Full day in Mt Macedon hosted by John Patrick
- [Duneira Estate](#)
- Dreamsthorpe
- Cameron Lodge

We spend the day with John Patrick, landscape architect and former host of ABC's *Gardening Australia*.

We begin the day with a visit of Duneira Estate which includes an 1875-historic Victorian homestead set in 16 acres at an altitude of 820 metres. The English style gardens which are considered to be of 'outstanding cultural significance' by the National Trust of Australia, include a sequence of walled gardens, rolling lawns and several trees listed on the Register of Significant trees of Victoria. The Elm Avenue is referred to as 'one of the best surviving examples of a private formal avenue in Victoria' and feature Dutch Elms which date back to the planting period of Suetonius Officer in the 1870s. In spring the rhododendrons and azaleas are spectacular and large plantings of Bluebells (*Hyacinthoides hispanica*) provide a soft touch of lavender-blue colour to the garden.

Dreamsthorpe is one of the original hill-station gardens of Mt Macedon. The garden is divided into distinctive spaces that gently flow from one to the next along winding paths, with woodland, herbaceous borders, circles of lilacs and roses, arches planted with roses and clematis, and rhododendrons. Turritable Creek flows through the garden over three waterfalls and under several bridges as it winds its way under a canopy of massive Pin Oaks and Japanese Maples.

In 1916 William Cameron, a director of British American Tobacco, established his retreat, Cameron Lodge, with gardens inspired by the Romantic models that were fashionable in Europe. He also erected the memorial Cross on the top of Mt Macedon with his own money to give locals work through the depression and to commemorate the dead of the Great War, it was viewable from his study! The Romantic allusions were further enhanced by the gentle mountain stream, Turritable, which runs through the estate. We will tour this magnificent 10-acre colonial garden which features an original summer pavilion, a Temple of Winds designed by Joan Anderson in 1932, and Roman baths in its lower garden. (Overnight Cleveland Winery) BLD

[Euroa - 2 nights](#)

Day 6: Monday 8 November, Lancefield – Strath Creek – Avenel – Kithbrook – Euroa

- Waioara, Strath Creek
- Lunch at Fowles Wine, Avenel
- Sunnymead Garden, Kithbrook

The building of a new garden at Waioara, a six-and-a-half-acre property in Strath Creek in 2016, was broadcast by ABC TV's Dream Gardens program in January 2018. Stewart and Sandra Hart moved to the property, which is surrounded by hills that provide a striking backdrop, after losing a nearby house and garden in the 2009 Black Saturday bushfire. They developed the 1930s home's informal west and north gardens themselves and commissioned designer Paul Bangay to create a more formal garden to the south and east of the home. It includes a pool, a lawn, a patio with wisteria and flowering borders with roses, lavender and iris.

We transfer to Avenel to indulge in lunch at award-winning Fowles Wine. The restaurant serves local and seasonal dishes created from the region's freshest produce, crafted to complement the estate's wine. We shall enjoy lunch, sample the wine and take a moment to admire the Phillip Johnson-designed cellar door.

We continue on to Sunnymede, an award-winning garden masterpiece hidden away in the picturesque tableland of the Strathbogie ranges. The garden is a series of inter-connecting rooms that have evolved and developed over the past 20 years. Each space has its own distinctive character and theme, with arches and gateways allowing glimpses into the room beyond: colourful perennial borders, the wisteria-covered arbour, the Yellow Garden, the Sunken Garden, and the Persian Garden complete with a central raised pond and pavilion.

From Kithbrook we transfer to nearby Euroa, where we shall stay for the next two nights. (Overnight Euroa) BLD

Day 7: Tuesday 9 November, Euroa – Terip Terip – Creightons Creek – Longwood – Euroa

- Lakithi: Guided tour with designer Gail van Rooyen
- Private garden of Bryan & Paula Gurry, designed by Paul Bangay: Guided Tour with Paula Gurry
- The Falls, private garden of Ian and Joan Ball, Longwood

We begin the day with a visit to Bryan and Gail van Rooyen's 'Lakithi', which means 'our home' in Zulu. Gail, a designer and botanical artist, will show us around her garden. Hailing from South Africa, Bryan and Gail bought the property in 1996 to run Angus cattle. They were drawn to the rolling hills, granite rocks and plentiful water supply. The garden covers more than 3 hectares with its expansive lawns and abundant plantings. It is a symphony of colour in springtime.

We continue to Creightons Creek, where Paula Gurry will show us around her garden. Designed by Paul Bangay in 2009, the garden was inspired by Paul's own property in Woodend. The main drive is flanked by horse paddocks and a picturesque lagoon, and a long avenue of plane trees leads to a forecourt bounded by a rosemary-hedged retaining wall. The home overlooks the lagoon, a large lawn, and the distant hills.

Our final visit for the day is to The Falls, owned by Ian and Joan Ball. This working farm and country homestead is set at the foot of a spectacular granite ridgeline; the garden overlooks a natural waterfall with views out to the landscape beyond. Andrew and Elly Cameron, who purchased the property in 1967, planted many trees, including *Ginkgo biloba* (maidenhair tree), *Ulmus parvifolia* (Chinese elm), macadamia and avocado groves. There are also cork oaks, birches, and magnificent native trees. The more recent garden spaces, designed by Robert Boyle and shaped by the current owners, feature extensive stone work, an ornamental lake and contemporary plantings of roses and perennials. (Overnight Euroa) BLD

Sherbrooke - 1 night

Day 8: Wednesday 10 November, Euroa – Coldstream – Mt Evelyn – Kilsyth – Olinda – Sherbrooke

- Ridgefield, designed by Robert Boyle
- Kuranga Native Plant Nursery: Introduction by Sandra McMahon
- Sandra McMahon, Gardenscape Design: Private tour of Sandra's Kilsyth residence and garden
- Phillip Johnson's natural billabong garden, Olinda

Today we depart Euroa and travel south to the Yarra Valley and the Dandenong Ranges. Our first stop is Ridgefield, the private garden of Warwick and Paulette Bisley, at Coldstream. Designed by Robert Boyle in

1997, the garden has since evolved in response to the climate and local wildlife. Here, elegant walkways lead down a terraced hillside with stunning views of the surrounding countryside. The formal part of the garden has box hedges, salvias and penstemon and clipped westringia balls, while abundant plantings of roses provide a breathtaking sight in spring and autumn. Shrubs, perennials, courtyards, and colonnaded terraces surround the house and a birch walk leads to a crab apple lawn, a croquet lawn and a walled garden. We have morning tea on arrival before taking a tour of this remarkable garden.

We continue south a short way to Mt Evelyn, where we have lunch on arrival at Kurunga Native Plant Nursery. Sandra McMahon of Gardenscape Design will then introduce the nursery to us. Sandra is a landscape designer whose work has been featured regularly in the print media and on television; her gardens have been open to the public through various open garden schemes, and in the biennial *Garden Designfest* since its inception. She also lectures in landscape design and plant selection at the Burnley Horticultural Campus of the University of Melbourne.

Kurunga Native Nursery is arguably the most impressive and lovely native plant nursery in Australia, set, as it is, in tranquil surroundings at the base of Mt. Dandenong. It certainly has this country's largest range of Australian native plants. Display gardens and potted stock provide inspiration, and showcase the diversity of form, texture, and colour that exists within native plants. As well as the acclaimed Paperbark Cafe, the nursery also offers a wonderful range of unusual and eye-catching sculptures and garden ornaments, decorative gifts and books.

We then transfer to Kilsyth, where Sandra will host us on a visit to her private home and garden, Woodcote. Woodcote illustrates Sandra's approach to landscape design. The emphasis here is on plant material for structure, and this garden showcases a very broad range of plants. There is also some inspiring hard landscaping. It is a garden of informal rooms, set on half an acre, and wraps around the very interesting Arts & Crafts Revival home. Much thought has been given to the transition between the different areas in the garden.

Today's last visit is to the home garden that Phillip Johnson created at Olinda, which inspired his award-winning Chelsea garden in 2013 for Flemings Nurseries. His gorgeous garden has a sustainable billabong, surrounded by tree ferns, that doubles as a chemical-free swimming pool. It has a waterfall and spa and is surrounded by a garden featuring many indigenous plants. (Overnight Marybrooke Manor, Sherbrooke)

BLD

Flinders - 2 nights

Day 9: Thursday 11 November, Sherbrooke – Nayook – Neerim South – Jindivick – Flinders

- Country Farm Perennials: Guided tour of the Garden and Nursery
- Picardy Garden: Guided tour with owner Marian Soames & light lunch
- The Garden at Broughton Hall

Today we travel to Nayook to visit Country Farm Perennials. A 2.5-acre private country garden, the property also hosts one of Australia's leading plant nurseries for unusual and hardy perennial plants. The garden features carefully colour-designed compartments, combining unusual perennials, heritage roses, mature trees, bulbs and perfumed plants. It has beautiful mountain and rural views over the rolling green hills of West Gippsland.

We head south a short distance to Picardy Garden, a romantic country garden. It was designed by Marian and Bryce Somes to complement a French-style rammed earth house and mudbrick barn and dovecote.

'Paint box' beds at the front of the house – a homage to Monet's garden at Giverny – are crammed with roses, iris, poppies and sweet peas in spring. More roses surround a circular lily pond, while crabapple and dogwood walks lead to rambling gardens of old-fashioned roses. A herb garden, small vegetable potager, apple orchard, olive and citrus groves complete the picture.

'The Garden at Broughton Hall' was started in 1996, with the planting of *Betula Pendula* and *Betula Nigra* in a two-acre area of lawn at the front of the Hall. This is now a dense forest, cut through by a winding driveway leading to the front entrance of the house. On the north side of the hall, meanwhile, a terraced garden cascades down the slope towards the Tarago Reservoir, which provides a picture-perfect backdrop. A dazzling variety of plants and thousands of roses fill the banks dramatically, making spring a perfect time to visit.

We drive to the Flinders Hotel, whose accommodation 'Quarters' is our home for the next two nights. (Overnight Quarters, Flinders Hotel) BL

Day 10: Friday 12 November, Flinders – Sorrento – Moorooduc – Dromana – Flinders

- Tour of designer [Fiona Brockhoff's](#) coastal home garden, Sorrento
- Visit and lunch at [The Garden Vineyard](#), one of Australia's finest gardens, Moorooduc
- Heronswood, Dromana

This morning we drive to designer Fiona Brockhoff's Sorrento garden, Karkalla. Karkalla is more than 20 years old and showcases the importance of creating gardens in sympathy with the local environment. It is influential and much admired for the way it embraces its coastal location, modern aesthetic and sculptural use of Australian plants.

We continue to Moorooduc to visit the Garden Vineyard, widely considered to be one of Australia's finest gardens. It features in Monty Don's book and television program *Around the World in 80 Gardens*. Architect Sue McFall and her husband Daryl are the owners. The garden was created in 1986 with many European plants, but the plant palate has changed to suit our drying climate. There are several European-style rooms, including a memorable silver garden, walled courtyard, a big perennial border and a formal area flanked by lilly pillys. The terrace overlooks a lawn that rolls down to a garden with only Australian plants, and the adjoining lawns lead to a display of maples in the glorious red foliage of autumn.

Our final visit of the day is to Heronswood, in Dromana. Heronswood is a historic property situated on two hectares of formal gardens, with a breathtaking view over Port Philip Bay. It is home to five separate vegetable gardens, extensive plantings of flowers, including perennial borders, dry climate and cottage annual gardens. A feature of the garden is the integration of vegetables and flowers with fruits and herbs. Heronswood is the home of the Diggers Club, Australia's most respected gardening organisation, dedicated to preserving heirloom seeds and the best gardening traditions. (Overnight Quarters, Flinders Hotel) BL

South Yarra, Melbourne - 1 night

Day 11: Saturday 13 November, Flinders – Main Ridge – Langwarrin – Toorak – South Yarra

- Private Garden designed by Paul Bangay, Main Ridge
- Tour of [Cruden Farm](#) with Head Gardener Mitch Burns, Langwarrin
- [Fiona Brockhoff's](#) city garden
- Farewell Dinner, Da Noi

We begin the day visiting another garden designed by Paul Bangay. This delightful garden in Main Ridge has been carved into a working vineyard and is nestled into a protected valley. Three garden terraces are carved into the hill, all designed to create abundance and colour as the owners wanted to pick flowers, herbs, fruit and vegetables. The first terrace has a big herb garden with paving softened with interplantings of thyme, and a shaded rear garden with massed hydrangea and helleborus. The central terrace has a formal rose garden which has a vegetable garden either side, each with a picturesque structure, one a library and the other a potting shed. A long, narrow walk of white crepe myrtle, underplanted with box spheres and softened with a mass planting of catmint, adds drama to the final terrace

We head north to Langwarrin to visit one of Australia's best known gardens, Cruden Farm, which was given to the late Dame Elisabeth Murdoch in 1928 as a wedding present from her husband Sir Keith Murdoch. She cherished the farm at Langwarrin throughout her long life and created a fine garden with former garden manager Michael Morrison. We'll take a stroll to the lake and walk through herbaceous borders, the picking garden, shrub walks, rose garden and famous avenue of lemon scented gums that lead to the house.

Fiona Brockhoff's city garden, which was built by her partner David Swann, is a small, leafy design in Toorak. Its three spaces include a gravel entry courtyard, a leafy side passageway and a rear courtyard. Timber screens on the home provide a simple backdrop to the garden, which has a raised concrete tank swimming pool. Its unusual plant palette includes striking plant combinations featuring big-leafed plants like elephant's ears, angel's trumpets, castor oil plants and giant birds of paradise.

Tonight we enjoy a Farewell Dinner at a local restaurant. (Overnight South Yarra) BLD

Day 12: Sunday 14 November, South Yarra – Hawthorn – Depart Melbourne airport

- Visits to two inner-city private gardens with landscape architect Andrew Laidlaw
- Light lunch at the home garden of landscape architect John Patrick
- Transfer to Melbourne Tullamarine Airport

This morning landscape architect Andrew Laidlaw will show us two of his urban garden designs in the Melbourne suburb of Hawthorn. We then transfer a short distance to John Patrick's home garden, where John will host us for a light lunch.

Our tour officially ends at approximately 3.00pm, on arrival at Tullamarine Airport. BL

Accommodation

All hotels provide rooms with en suite bathroom. A hotel list will be given to all participants prior to departure; in the meantime a summary is given below:

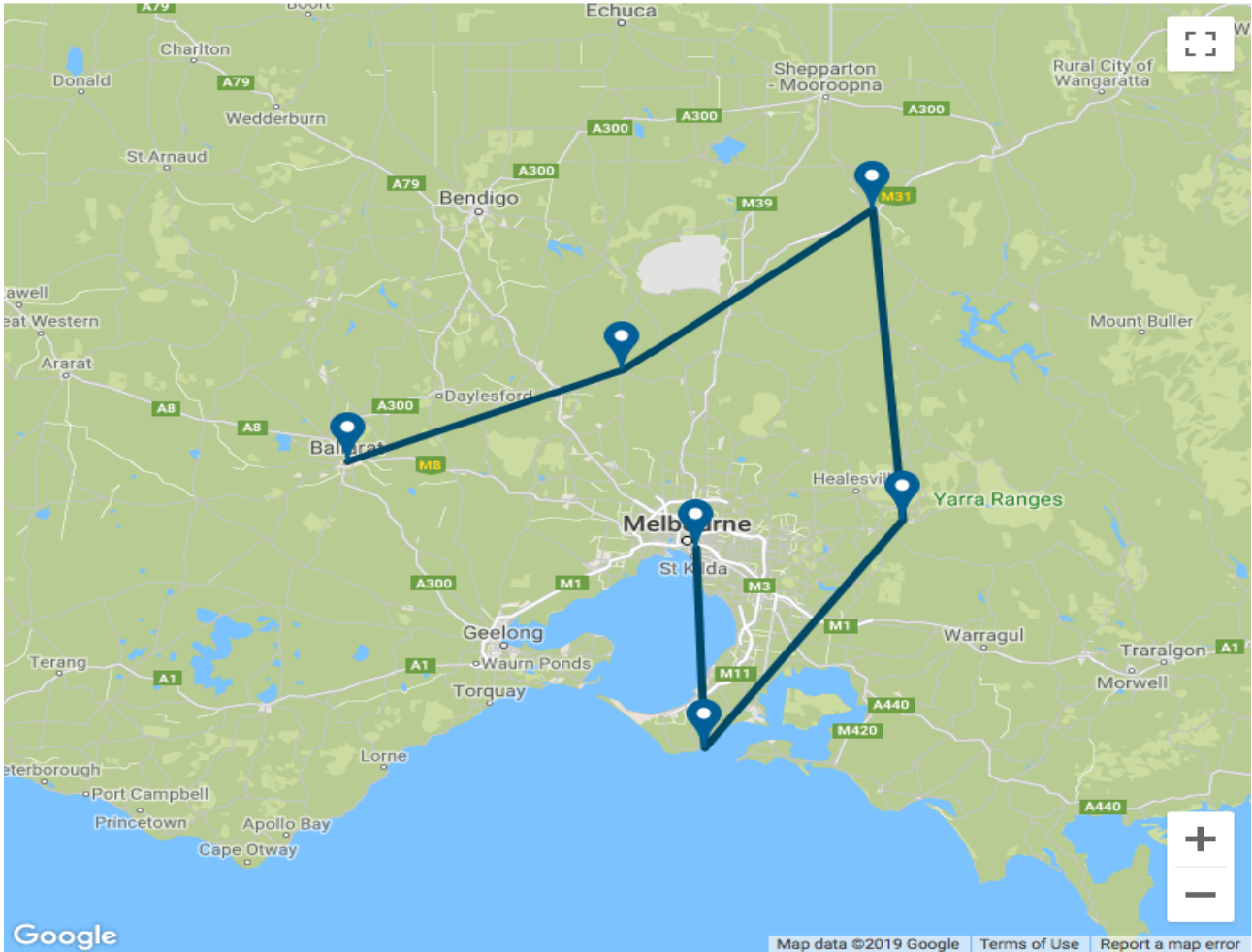
- Ballarat (3 nights): 4-star Craig's Royal Hotel – boasting a rich ambiance of Australian heritage, this hotel features boutique-style rooms with elegant furnishings. www.craigsroyal.com.au
- Lancefield (2 nights): 3-star Cleveland Winery – a welcoming retreat with a backdrop of gardens and vineyards, located 2 kilometres from the township of Lancefield. www.clevelandwinery.com.au
- Euroa (2 nights): 4-star Euroa Motor Inn – a family owned traditional motel located 2 kilometres from Euroa town centre www.euroamotorinn.com.au OR 3-star Jolly Swagman Motor Inn – a centrally located traditional motel. www.jollyswagmanmotorinn.com.au
- Sherbrooke (1 night): Marybrooke Manor – a charming National Trust listed, beautifully restored guesthouse dating to the 1940s, located on the edge of Sherbrooke Forest in the Dandenong Ranges. www.marybrooke.com.au
- Flinders (2 nights): 4-star Quarters at Flinders Hotel – inspired by the natural coastal surroundings, this boutique hotel offers luxurious and relaxing accommodation on the Mornington Peninsula. www.flindershotel.com.au/quarters
- Melbourne (1 night): 4-star Oaks South Yarra – apartment-style accommodation located just off lively Toorak Road, close to public transport, restaurants and shops. www.oakshotels.com/en/oaks-south-yarra

Note: *Hotels are subject to change, in which case a hotel of similar standard will be provided.*

Single Supplement

Payment of this supplement will ensure accommodation in a double/twin room for single occupancy throughout the tour. People wishing to take this supplement are therefore advised to book well in advance.

Tour Map



Tour Price & Inclusions

AUD \$6980.00 Land Content Only – Early-Bird Special: Book before 31 December 2020

AUD \$7180.00 Land Content Only

AUD \$1180.00 Single Supplement

Tour Price (Land Content Only) includes:

- Accommodation in twin-share rooms with private facilities in 3-star and 4-star hotels and motels
- Meals as indicated in the tour itinerary where: B=breakfast, L=lunch & D=dinner. Please note that while breakfast is included daily, in Euroa and Melbourne this will be provided in guest bedrooms rather than served as a buffet.
- Drinks at welcome and farewell meals. Other meals may not have drinks included.
- Transportation by air-conditioned coach
- Airport-hotel transfers if travelling on the ASA 'designated' flights
- Porterage of one piece of luggage per person at hotels (where available)
- Lecture and site-visit program
- Entrance fees
- Use of audio headsets for site excursions
- Tips for the coach driver, local guides and restaurants for included meals

Tour Price (Land Content Only) does not include:

- Airfare to/from Melbourne
- Personal spending money
- Airport-hotel transfers if not travelling on the ASA 'designated' flights
- Luggage in excess of 20kg (44lbs)
- Travel insurance



Physical Endurance & Practical Information

Physical Ratings 

The number of flags is a guide to the degree of difficulty of ASA tours relative to each other (not to those of other tour companies). It is neither absolute nor literal. One flag is given to the least taxing tours, seven to the most. Flags are allocated, above all, according to the amount of walking and standing each tour involves. Nevertheless, all ASA tours require that participants have a good degree of fitness enabling 2-3 hours walking or 1-1.5 hours standing still on any given site visit or excursion. Many sites are accessed by climbing slopes or steps and have uneven terrain.

This 12-day Garden Tour of Victoria involves:

- A moderate amount of walking, mainly during outdoor site visits, often up and down hills and/or flights of stairs and uneven terrain.
- A moderate amount of coach travel, sometimes on winding mountainous roads.
- The daily schedule generally involves an early-morning departure (between 8.00-8.30am), concluding in the late afternoon (between 5.00-5.30pm).
- 3-star and 4-star hotels and motels with 5 accommodation changes.
- You must be able to carry your own hand luggage. Hotel portage only includes 1 piece of luggage per person. Portage service is not available in all hotels on this tour.

It is important to remember that ASA programs are group tours, and slow walkers affect everyone in the group. As the group must move at the speed of the slowest member, the amount of time spent at a site may be reduced if group members cannot maintain a moderate walking pace. ASA tours should not present any problem for active people who can manage day-to-day walking and stair-climbing. However, if you have any doubts about your ability to manage on a program, please ask your ASA travel consultant whether this is a suitable tour for you.

Please note: it is a condition of travel that all participants agree to accept ASA's directions in relation to

their suitability to participate in activities undertaken on the tour, and that ASA retains the sole discretion to direct a tour participant to refrain from a particular activity on part of the tour. For further information please refer to the ASA Reservation Application Form.

Practical Information

Prior to departure, tour members will receive practical notes which include information on weather, clothing and what to pack.

Booking Conditions

ASA RESERVATION APPLICATION FORM

Please complete the ASA RESERVATION APPLICATION and send it to Australians Studying Abroad together with your non-refundable deposit of AUD \$500.00 per person payable to Australians Studying Abroad.

Passport Details

All participants must provide no later than 75 days prior to the commencement of the program a photocopy of the front page of their current passport.



Reservation Application

TOUR NAME _____

TOUR DATES _____

Please complete **one application, per person in block letters and sign**. Parental signature is required for participants under 18 years of age. Please mail this form with the appropriate deposit to: **P.O. Box 8285, ARMADALE, VICTORIA, 3143**. On receipt of this Reservation Application and deposit, ASA will process your booking and if approved, send you a tour confirmation.

Applicant Details (as in passport)

TITLE Mr Mrs Ms Miss Dr Other _____

FIRST NAME _____ Preferred FIRST NAME _____

MIDDLE NAME _____ SURNAME _____

POSTAL ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ COUNTRY _____ POSTCODE _____

TEL. (AH) () _____ TEL. (BH) () _____ Mobile Tel: _____

EMAIL address _____

Date of birth ____ / ____ / ____ GENDER Male Female

Passport Number _____ Expiry date ____ / ____ / ____ Nationality _____

Colour copy of my current valid passport enclosed I'm renewing my passport ASA has a colour copy of my current passport

Travel Plans

I wish ASA to book my airfare, please contact me to discuss my options. Business Class Economy Class

I plan to leave Australia before the tour commences. Planned departure date ____ / ____ / ____

I will be arranging my airfare independently and taking the Land Content Only option.

Frequent Flyer _____ Name of Airline _____ Airline Seat preference _____
Membership # _____ (please note request only)

Tour Accommodation (rooming preferences)

I/we would like: a twin-bedded room a double-bedded room a room for sole occupancy

I am travelling: on my own with a friend/family member Travel Companion _____

Meals

I do not have any specific dietary requests

Please **X** the box if you **CAN NOT** eat any of the following:

fish poultry red meat dairy products

eggs pork nuts

Other _____

Allergies: Refer to the Medical Information

Correspondence

Your preferred method of correspondence Postal Mail Email Address _____

Emergency Contact Details

Note: this person **MUST** be available by telephone and be present in Australia for the duration of your tour with ASA

Name _____ Relationship to Traveller _____

Address _____

TEL. (AH) () _____ TEL. (BH) () _____ Mobile Tel: _____

EMAIL address _____

The purpose of seeking this information is to assist ASA to determine, where necessary, whether ASA is able to make reasonable adjustments to accommodate your specific needs and whether your health and safety (or that of your fellow travellers) is likely to be compromised given your choice of tour. It will also assist you and ASA if you fall ill or have an accident whilst travelling.

- ASA reserves the right to decline your Reservation Application if this Medical Information section is not completed properly and may reject or cancel your reservation, or terminate your participation on any tour, if ASA subsequently learns that you have failed to make full and proper disclosure.
- ASA is committed to protecting the privacy of your personal information. ASA's privacy policy is available for viewing at www.asatours.com.au
- If ASA has any concerns about the information you have provided, it will contact you to request clarification before considering your Application.
- ASA requires you to consider carefully your limitations in light of ASA's Physical Endurance Star Rating System in ASA's Brochure and Itinerary when choosing your tour.
- If you are not likely to satisfy ASA's Participation Criteria (see below), ASA, in its sole discretion, may reject your Reservation Application.
- It is a condition of your tour that you agree to accept the directions of ASA's Tour Leaders in relation to your suitability to participate in activities planned on tour.
- ASA reserves the right to cancel your participation on a tour if your behaviour is in ASA's opinion causing undue distress or damage to any person or their property.
- If your participation is discontinued during a tour, ASA will assist by arranging your onward travel (if required) at your own cost, but you will not be refunded for forfeited parts of the tour.
- ASA tour groups are not accompanied by a medical practitioner. ASA recommends that you see your doctor for advice about your specific needs while overseas. You may also wish to contact a travel and vaccination clinic for advice. www.traveldoctor.com.au tel: 1300 658 444; www.travelvax.com.au tel: 1300 360 164.
- Travel insurers require you to declare all existing medical conditions.
- Please carry a complete list of medications with you during the ASA tour. Include **generic names** of each medication (consult your local pharmacy for information).

Please mark **X** in the YES or NO box to every question below and provide details where necessary:

Participation Criteria

To participate in an ASA tour, you must be reasonably fit, in good health and able to participate in all activities without assistance from Tour Leaders or other tour members. If you require assistance, a fit and able travel companion must undertake to accompany and assist you with all tasks for the duration of the whole tour. The responsibility of the Tour Leader is to ensure that the larger group enjoys a relaxing and informative journey, and he or she cannot be relied upon to provide ongoing individual assistance to any one guest.

- | | YES | NO |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Can you walk and stand unassisted for at least 2-3 hours a day in hot, humid conditions? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 2. Can you walk unassisted on and over uneven surfaces? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 3. Can you climb at least 3 flights of stairs and/or walk up and down steep slopes unassisted? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 4. Can you walk at a steady pace and no less than 1km every 15 - 20 minutes unassisted? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 5. Can you organise, manage and carry your own luggage? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 6. Can you follow and remember tour instructions and meet punctually at designated times and places? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 7. Can you administer your own medication? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 8. Do you have impaired vision or hearing which may impact your capacity to participate on this tour? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

Mobility and Fitness

As many of ASA's international sites do not provide access to wheelchairs or similar mobility aids, we regret that ASA tours are not suitable for people who require the use of a walking frame, wheeled walker, wheelchair or motorised scooter.

1. Do you suffer from any medical conditions that may compromise your mobility and/or fitness to participate on this program? YES NO

 If yes, please specify

If yes, how will you manage this on tour?

Allergies and/or Food Intolerances

ASA will make reasonable endeavours to organise meals to suit you, provided that you give ASA adequate notice of your specific dietary requirements or allergies. You may be required to research dietary alternatives, as not all destinations may be able to offer suitable food substitutes.

1. Do you have any food allergies or intolerances? YES NO

 If yes, please specify

2. Have you ever had an anaphylactic reaction to anything?
 If yes, please specify

Do you carry an epipen?

3. Do you have any other allergies or reactions to anything, including medical drugs?
 If yes, please specify

Existing Medical Conditions

You alone are responsible for managing any existing medical conditions, your medication and any medical equipment that you may need when on your tour. Please plan for contingencies and take extra medication, dietary supplements and/or fully charged batteries for medical equipment if your health and safety depends on these. You should take into consideration that power sources at some destinations may be unavailable, inadequate, inconvenient or unreliable.

1. Have you any significant medical conditions that may impact your capacity to complete this tour? YES NO

 If yes, please specify

If yes, how will you manage this on tour?

2. Do you require some form of powered medical aid, such as a CPAP machine?

These machines may not be operable on certain international flights, modes of transport, in remote or other areas with inadequate or unreliable power sources without a fully charged independent long life battery or batteries.

Diabetics: You may be travelling and sightseeing for many hours at a time. Insulin dependent diabetics must carry extra supplies of insulin (as this medication cannot be obtained in some destinations), regulators, applicators, storage and refrigeration equipment, as well as any necessary supplements. Accommodation may not provide refrigerators in rooms.

3. Are you diabetic?

Are you insulin dependent?

4. Do you suffer from travel sickness?
 Remember to use an appropriate medication while on tour.

Declaration

I declare that: I have read and understood the ASA Tour Itinerary, Reservation Application and Booking Conditions. I am aware of ASA's terms as relating to refunds, cancellations, responsibility and liability. I understand that ASA relies upon this declaration when considering this Application. I accept the inherent dangers, risks and uncertainties in travel and those beyond ASA's control and understand they may occur before or during any tour. I have made full and complete disclosure and have not knowingly withheld any medical information about myself from ASA. I have completed this Reservation Application honestly and accurately. I warrant that I am able to participate independently in all activities described by ASA in the itinerary without assistance from any person.

I will advise ASA in writing if any aspect of my fitness and or health conditions change materially at any time before my departure date. I understand and accept that the itinerary, accommodation and lecturers scheduled for this tour may change.

I agree and consent that ASA may give my personal information in this Reservation Application to tour service providers and relevant authorities as required by law, but only for the purpose of making bookings with and engaging services associated with the tour. I understand that if I do not consent to the use of my personal information for this purpose, ASA will decline my Reservation Application.

In consideration of ASA's acceptance of my Reservation Application, I irrevocably release and indemnify ASA from all claims that I, or any other party, may have against ASA its employees, invitees, agents and contractors, however arising in respect of any loss, damage, injury, death or expense incurred in the course of booking, preparing for, travelling to, on and from or cancelling any tour.

I release and indemnify ASA with respect to:

1. Every general risk to which I or my personal belongings may be exposed in the course of preparing for, travelling to, on or from any ASA tour;
2. Every special risk, in particular medical risks, to which I may be exposed in the course of preparing for, travelling to, on or from any ASA tour arising from, including, but not limited to:
 - a. intermittent power cycles and/or the temporary or permanent loss of power (beware CPAP or any other medical machine users);
 - b. dietary, food or other allergies (ASA cannot guarantee that traces of items to which you are allergic are not present in food or drink you are served, medication you are administered or other substances with which you may come into contact);
 - c. any event or situation that may compromise the administration of necessary medication or my health, safety and wellbeing generally; and
 - d. any event or happening beyond ASA's control
3. All claims arising as a result of my or ASA's cancellation or termination of any tour, part of a tour or of my continued participation on a tour for any reason (subject to ASA's refund conditions below).

Limitation of Liability

ASA is not a carrier, event or tourist attraction host, accommodation or dining service provider. All bookings made and tickets or coupons issued by ASA for transport, event, accommodation, dining and the like are issued as an agent for various service providers and are subject to the terms and conditions and limitations of liability imposed by each service provider. ASA is not responsible for their products, services, terms and conditions. If a service provider cancels or does not deliver the product or service for which you have contracted, and does not give a refund, your remedy lies with the service provider, not ASA.

ASA will not be liable for any claim (e.g. sickness, injury, death, damage or loss) arising from any change, delay, detention, breakdown, border closures, cancellation, failure, accident, act, omission or negligence of any tour service provider or authority however caused (contingencies). You must take out such travel insurance as is available against such contingencies.

ASA's liability in respect of any tour cancelled or changed will be limited to the partial refund of amounts you have paid, less an administration fee of \$500 and other costs and charges of third party service providers. No compensation will be payable to you by ASA where ASA cancels or changes a tour, or any part of a tour.

ASA reserves the sole discretion to cancel any tour or to modify itineraries in any way it considers appropriate and in the best interests of health, safety and wellbeing of tour participants. Tour costs may be revised, subject to unexpected price increases or exchange rate fluctuations.

Booking Conditions

DEPOSITS

A deposit of \$500.00 AUD per person is required to reserve a place on an ASA tour.

CANCELLATION FEES

If you cancel your booking the following charges apply:

- More than 75 days before departure: \$500*
- 75-46 days prior 25% of total amount due
- 45-31 days prior 50% of total amount due
- 30-15 days prior 75% of total amount due
- 14-0 days prior 100% of total amount due

*This amount may be **credited** to another ASA tour departing within 12 months of the original tour you booked. We regret, in this case early-bird discounts will not apply.

We take the day on which you cancel as being that on which we receive written confirmation of cancellation.

UNUSED PORTIONS OF THE TOUR

We regret that refunds will not be given for any unused portions or services of the tour, such as meals, entry fees, accommodation, flights or transfers.

WILL THE TOUR PRICE OR ITINERARY CHANGE?

If the number of participants on a tour is significantly less than budgeted, or if there is a significant change in exchange rates ASA reserves the right to amend the advertised price. We shall, however, do all in our power to maintain the published price. Occasionally circumstances beyond the control of ASA make it necessary to change airline, hotel or to make amendments to itineraries. We will inform you of any changes in due course.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

ASA requires all participants to obtain comprehensive travel insurance. A copy of your travel insurance certificate and the **reverse charge** emergency contact phone number must be received by ASA no later than 75 days prior to the commencement of the tour.

FINAL PAYMENT

The balance of the tour price will be due 75 days prior to the tour commencement date.

PLEASE READ THE ABOVE CAREFULLY, PRINT AND SIGN BELOW

- I accept the conditions on this booking form I have read the information about the physical requirements of the tour in the detailed itinerary and confirm that I am able to meet these requirements

Applicant's Signature

Print Full Name

Dated

Tour / Course Name

Name of Traveller 1 _____

Name of Traveller 2 _____

I have enclosed a payment to the value of \$ _____ (including CC or bank fee if applicable) for this tour

The above amount is payable for:

- Intention to Travel Tour Deposit
 Balance of Payment Upgrade from Intention to Travel to a Deposit
 Travel Insurance Other (eg. Airfares, Accommodation) _____

International Payments

Welcome to our international travellers! If you are making a payment and do not have an Australian bank account/credit card, we can only accept payment as follows:

- via credit card with the applicable fee - the credit card company/bank will set the exchange rate
- via bank transfer; please give your surname and tour code (eg. Smith 21705) as a reference and ask your bank to allow for all charges.

Bank cheques or personal cheques will not be accepted.

By Cheque (accept Australian cheques only)

Please make cheques payable to *Australians Studying Abroad*

Direct Deposit or Internet Banking

You will need to:

1. Provide your bank with ASA's bank details (see below) and the amount you wish to transfer OR make a direct deposit through any ANZ branch
2. Include any fees levied by the banks
3. Provide a reference number (Mobile or last name recommended).
4. Complete section below, including confirmation no. (given when transaction completed).

Australians Studying Abroad bank details

Bank ANZ
Branch 420 St Kilda Road, Melbourne Vic
Swift Code ANZBAU3M
BSB 013-423
Account No 3472-32759

Bank confirmation No. _____

Reference used: Mobile or last name recommended

Date Money Transferred _____

Credit Card Payment

Credit card fees apply: Mastercard, Visa & American Express 2%

Please debit my: Mastercard Visa American Express

I authorise ASA to debit my credit card for the amount due plus the applicable fee as above

Credit Card Number _____

Expiry Date _____ Security Code (CVC) _____

Bank the Card is linked to (eg. NAB or ANZ) _____

Cardholders Name _____

Cardholders Billing Address _____

Postcode _____

State _____ Country _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Cardholders Signature _____