

Senior Traveller



YOU'RE WELCOME: The Whiskery (Bellarine) owner Russell Watson; and the mussels which have made Point Lonsdale famous across the state.

Bellarine simply beautiful

JUST an hour from Melbourne, Geelong and The Bellarine is the perfect choice for a short break when restrictions ease.

Accessible by car, train, ferry and soon-to-be air, the region is synonymous with world-class food, cool-climate wine, small coastal villages, a burgeoning cultural scene, beautiful beaches and nature-based activities.

The region has released a 60-second video featuring nine businesses. Among those appearing are Russell Watson from gin and whisky distillery The Whiskery; Lorraine Golightly, owner-operator of the BIG4 Beacon Resort in Queenscliff; and Terry Jongbloed, owner-operator of Clyde Park Vineyard in Bannockburn.

The region has a range of boutique accommodation venues offering privacy, wide open spaces and bespoke experiences. Here are our top picks:

Lon Retreat and Spa, on 80 hectares overlooking the ocean, is an adult-only retreat with seven suites and mineral spa. An Ocean Escape offer for August includes a two-night stay, with 50 per cent off the second night.

Campbell Point House is an ultra-private waterfront boutique hotel accommodating a maximum of 30 guests. Set on the banks of Lake Connemara, it is modelled on the extravagant chateaux of rural France. There are eight suites, each with ensuite, sitting areas and stunning views.

The Nest just outside Point Lonsdale offers panoramic views from Portsea to Port Phillip Heads, Barwon Heads to the Otways. There are three purpose-built pods with king-size beds, Bluetooth music, smart television, coffee machine and balcony spa bath.

Nestled in the vines at

McGlashans Estate are eco-villas designed for two. There are discounts for multi-night stays, complimentary award-winning wine on arrival, guided wine tastings and 15 per cent discount on all take-away wine purchases.

Starhaven at Indented Head is a bed and breakfast with views across Port Phillip Bay. There's a jet stream swim spa, rooftop terrace, games room and 15-seat theatre room. A gourmet cooked breakfast is provided.

Vue Apartments is across the road from Geelong's Eastern Beach and a swathe of waterfront restaurants and cafes. Choose from studio, one- or two-bedroom apartments or family rooms.

Perched high on a hill, Nomads Nest is a new property offering private accommodation a few steps from the heart of Geelong.

■ visitgeelongbellarine.com.au - 5250-6861.

COFFEE table books

LITTLE FARMERS
Kim Storey

From the Author of What Does A Farmer Look Like? comes Kim's second book, Little Farmers. Focusing on farm life as told by kids. Some of these amazing kids will take on leadership roles in agriculture in the future, some kids already have their own farm business and some kids just love farm life & are bursting at the seams to tell you all about it!

\$79.95

CAVAN STATION
Nicole Crichton-Brown

Its early history, the Riley Legacy and the Murdoch Vision. Cavan Station near Yass, is one of the most important grazing properties in the history of the Australian wool industry. Cavan Station, takes us on a journey that brings to life the astonishing rise of the Australian wool industry and the contribution it owes to some remarkable individuals.

\$59.99

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<p>GREAT OCEAN RD & PORT FAIRY (COACH) 12 - 16 October \$1499 (\$250 s/s)</p> <p>BRIGHT & THE SPRING FESTIVAL (COACH) 20 Oct - 2 Nov \$1099 (\$225 s/s)</p> <p>DAYLESFORD & THE HEPBURN REGION (COACH) 9 - 12 Nov 2020 \$1350 (\$225 s/s)</p> <p>SILO ART TRAIL N.E VICTORIA (COACH) 16 - 20 November \$1599pp (\$300 s/s)</p> <p>Includes Benalla Street Art</p>	<p>BUSHFIRE RECOVERY TOUR (COACH) 23 - 28 November \$1899 (\$325 s/s) Includes East Gippsland and S.E NSW</p> <p>KING ISLAND (FLY / FLY) 1 - 5 February 2021 \$2899 (\$390 s/s) *Early bird price expires 31/8/20</p> <p>PERTH & MARGARET RIVER REGION (FLY / FLY) 18 - 24 October 2021 TBC</p> <p>NSW NORTH COAST & THE JACARANDA FESTIVAL (FLY/FLY) 4 - 10 November 2020 TBC Includes Clarence Valley</p>
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