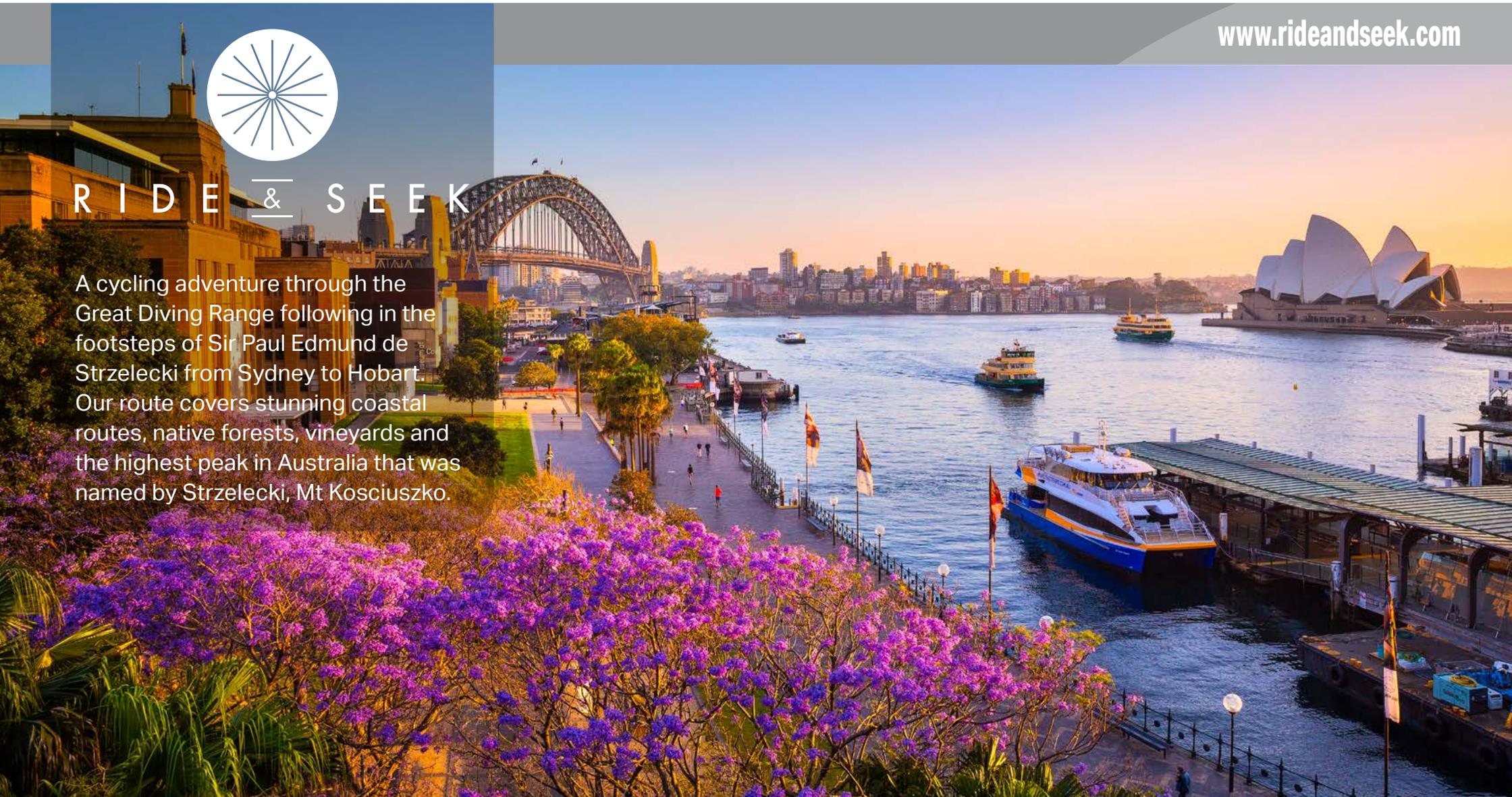




R I D E & S E E K

A cycling adventure through the Great Diving Range following in the footsteps of Sir Paul Edmund de Strzelecki from Sydney to Hobart. Our route covers stunning coastal routes, native forests, vineyards and the highest peak in Australia that was named by Strzelecki, Mt Kosciuszko.



SYDNEY TO HOBART | (FEBRUARY 25 - MARCH 22 | 2023)

Strzelecki Overview

TOTAL DISTANCE:
2222km | 1381mi

ELEVATION:
25,097m | 82,345ft

DURATION:
26 DAYS
25 Nights

AUSTRALIA

MAKE IT EPIC

Tours available from 9 DAYS



STRZELECKI

GRADING:

LONGER ROUTES
ARE AVAILABLE
THROUGHOUT THE TOUR
FOR THOSE WANTING
MORE DAILY RIDING
AND ELEVATION

STAGE 1 | SYDNEY to ALBURY

Tour Day	Destination	Distance (kilometres)	Elevation (metres)	Distance (miles)	Elevation (feet)
1	 Sydney	36	450	22	1476
2	 Woolongong	107	1175	67	3854
3	 Bundanoon	105	1379	65	4524
4	 Bungegore	132	1070	82	3511
5	 Canberra	48	369	30	1211
6	 Cooma	119	1192	74	3910
7	 Thredbo	98	1466	61	4810
8	 Thredbo	Rest Day			
9	 Walwa	141	1877	88	6157
10	 Albury	107	783	67	2569
STAGE 1 TOTALS		893	9760	555	32021
STAGE 1 AVERAGES		9 ride days	99	62	3558

STAGE 2 | ALBURY to MELBOURNE

Tour Day	Destination	Distance (kilometres)	Elevation (metres)	Distance (miles)	Elevation (feet)
1	 Albury	21	139	13	455
2	 Bright	120	1165	75	3821
3	 Bright	Loop Ride / Rest Day			
4	 Omeo	109	2147	68	7046
5	 Bairnsdale	123	1158	76	3800
6	 Traralgon	142	547	88	1795
7	 Warburton	131	1573	81	5162
8	 Melbourne	100	1014	62	3328
STAGE 2 TOTALS		746	7744	464	25407
STAGE 2 AVERAGES		7 ride days	107	66	3630

STAGE 3 | MELBOURNE to HOBART

Tour Day	Destination	Distance (kilometres)	Elevation (metres)	Distance (miles)	Elevation (feet)
1	 Melbourne	25	191	16	626
2	 Cradle Mountain	84	1717	52	5634
3	 Tullah	56	637	35	2091
4	 Strahan	90	1086	56	3564
5	 Strahan	Rest Day			
6	 Lake St Clair	132	1967	82	6452
7	 Currunga Farm	103	1118	64	3668
8	 Hobart	93	878	58	2882
STAGE 3 TOTALS		583	7594	362	24917
STAGE 3 AVERAGES		7 ride days	83	1085	52

		Distance (km)	Elevation (m)	Distance (miles)	Elevation (feet)
EPIC TOTALS		2222	25097	1381	82345
EPIC AVERAGES		23 ride days	97	1091	60

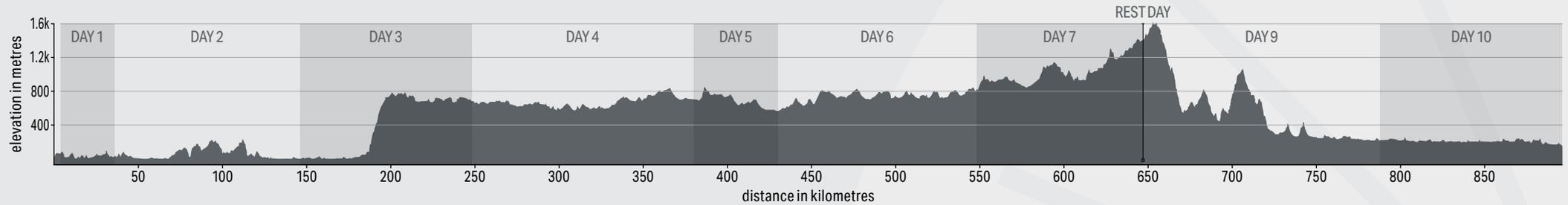
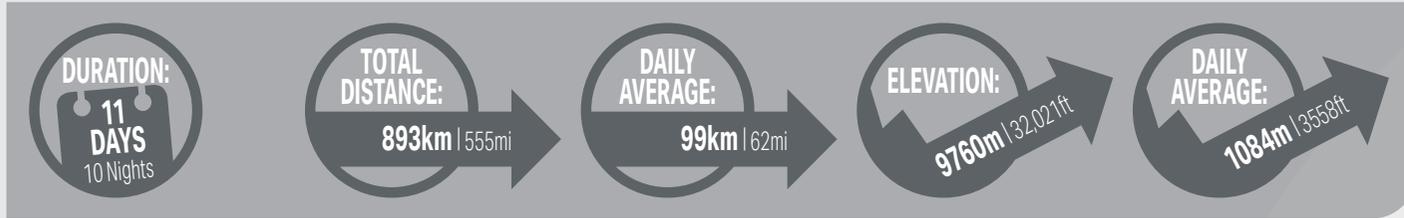
TOTAL DISTANCE:
2222km | 1381mi

ELEVATION:
25,097m | 82,345ft

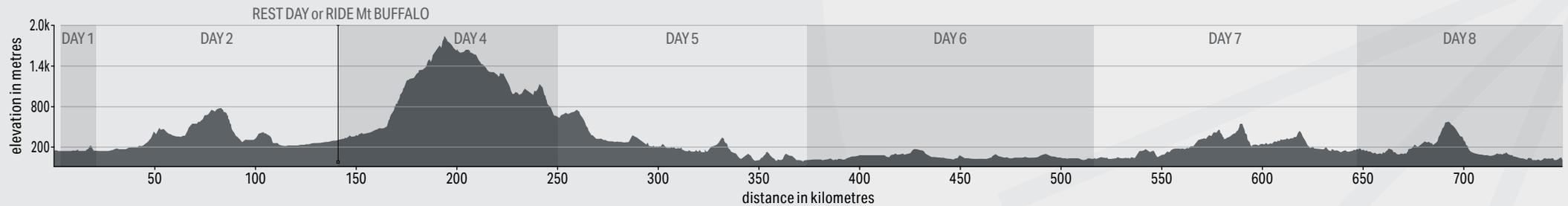
DURATION:
26 DAYS
25 Nights

LONGER ROUTES
ARE AVAILABLE
THROUGHOUT THE TOUR
FOR THOSE WANTING
MORE DAILY RIDING
AND ELEVATION

STAGE 1 | SYDNEY to ALBURY



STAGE 2 | ALBURY to MELBOURNE



Please note, the X & Y axis (distance and elevation) vary between each stage shown.

STAGE 3 | MELBOURNE to HOBART

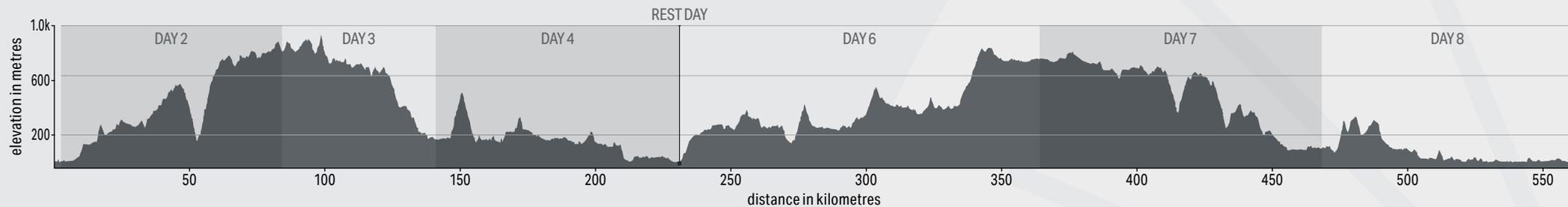
DURATION:
9 DAYS
8 Nights

TOTAL DISTANCE:
583km | 362mi

DAILY AVERAGE:
83km | 52mi

ELEVATION:
7594m | 24917ft

DAILY AVERAGE:
1085m | 3560ft



Please note, the X & Y axis (distance and elevation) vary between each stage profile shown.

The Strzelecki Tour includes some of Australia's most iconic climbs and its highest mountain.



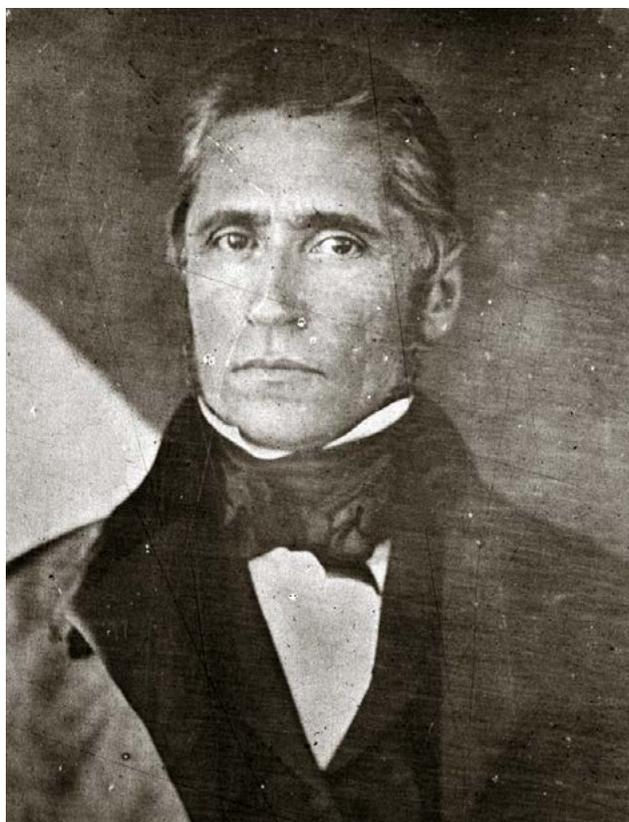
Discover Australia from new heights while immersed in 60,000 years of history

In 1839 Explorer Sir Paul Edmund de Strzelecki set off from Sydney on a journey of scientific discovery. We follow his 5 month journey into the Great Dividing Range through the Snowy Mountains to Melbourne. Spend a rest day in the skiing township of Thredbo NSW giving you a chance to explore Australia's highest peak. Strzelecki climbed and named Mt Kosciuszko in March 1840.

Stage 2 heads into bushranger county and along the Murray River before turning back into the mountains and summiting Mt Hotham, Australia's highest sealed road at 1,840 metres. A beautiful descent through forested wilderness continues over two days to the coast from where Strzelecki's expedition took a turn for the worse and he was forced to leave his horses and mineral

samples behind. Strzelecki would have likely died of starvation had it not been for the knowledge and hunting skills of his two Aboriginal guides as they made a 3 week long dash to Melbourne.

Stage 3 takes us to Tasmania where Strzelecki spent 2 years exploring much of this rugged and beautiful island. Our route begins with an overnight ferry journey from Melbourne to Devonport. Once back on land we ride up to the picturesque Dove Lake and Cradle Mountain. From this high point we continue riding through huge pockets of wilderness around the west coast along what has been described by many as being one of the world's top 10 greatest cycling routes. Our end point is the historically charming city of Hobart.



First day guidance

For meeting at the start of each stage please come dressed in regular clothes. Look out for the guides at the appointed time in their Ride & Seek attire or simply ask at the hotel reception where to find the group and they will direct you accordingly. The usual first day format involves grabbing a bite to eat together and the guides talking about the tour. We then focus on fitting bikes and set a time to meet in bike gear for a warm-up ride before catching up for pre-dinner drinks with the rest of the group.

STAGE 1 – Sydney, NSW to Albury-Wodonga, NSW

Saturday 25th February – Tuesday 7th March

For Stage 1 we will meet you at 12:00, Saturday 25th February, at the QT Bondi (6 Beach Rd, Bondi Beach, NSW).

Both the Sydney domestic and international airports are located approximately 16km drive south-west of our hotel. A taxi or Uber will take you between 25 to 40 minutes depending on the traffic. Bus, train and bus shuttle options also exist. More information can be found [here](#).

We finish Stage 1 in Albury-Wodonga a town split between New South Wales and Victoria on Tuesday 7th March.

A small regional airport is located 4.5km drive, approximately 10 minutes in a taxi from our central hotel.

Another option is departing by train. The Albury train station is a mere 700 metres from the hotel with trains departing daily to Sydney and require an additional small pre-booked fee to transport your bike. [Click here for more info](#). If travelling to Melbourne there are numerous daily departures for the 4 hour journey. For more information click [here](#).

STAGE 2 – Albury-Wodonga, NSW to Melbourne, VIC

Monday 6th March – Tuesday 14th March

For Stage 2 we will meet you at 18.00, Monday the 6th March, at the Mantra Albury Hotel (524 Smollett St, Albury NSW) – [Click for hotel website](#).

The airport is located 4.5km drive, approximately 10 minutes in a taxi from our central hotel.

Another option is arriving by train. The Albury train station is a mere 700 metres from the hotel with trains arriving daily from Sydney and require an additional small pre-booked fee to transport your bike. [Click here for more info](#). If travelling from Melbourne there are numerous daily departures with the earliest arrival time at 11:00 for the 4 hour journey. For more information [click here](#).

Stage 2 finishes in Melbourne, Victoria on the morning of Tuesday 14th March. The airport is located approximately 22km drive from our hotel, the QT Melbourne (133 Russell St, Melbourne VIC 3000) – [Click for hotel website](#).

It's approximately 30 to 40 minutes by taxi or Uber. An airport express bus also runs between Southern Cross Station (2km from our hotel) and the airport. Tickets can be purchased on-site prior to boarding. For more information and to pre-book the Skybus [click here](#).



STAGE 3 – Melbourne, VIC to Hobart, TAS

Tuesday 14th March - Wednesday 22nd March

For Stage 3 we will be available from 11:00, Tuesday the 14th March, at the QT Melbourne (133 Russell St, Melbourne VIC 3000) – **Click for hotel website.**

Those continuing from Stage 2 will be required to check-out by 12:00, storing their luggage with the hotel until we depart for the ferry.

The airport is located approx 22km drive from our centrally based hotel and will take approximately 30 to 40 minutes by taxi or Uber. An airport express bus also runs between Southern Cross Station (2km from our hotel) and the airport. Tickets can be purchased on-site prior to boarding. For more information and to pre-book the Skybus **click here.**

Bikes will be placed in our vehicle, set-up ready to be ridden on arrival in Tasmania. We will provide route information for an optional morning warm-up ride if requested.

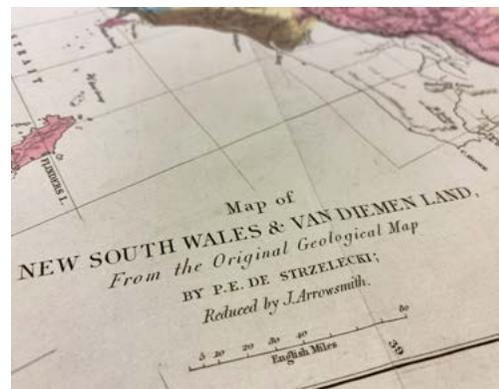
Our official meet time for all participants is 16:00 with luggage at the QT Melbourne. At 16:15 you will depart to the ferry terminal in Port Melbourne, 7km, approximately 20 to 35 minutes drive, where we will have an early dinner before boarding the ferry.

Alternatively, you may meet us at Mr Hobson waterfront restaurant by 17:00. (9 Waterfront Pl, Port Melbourne) For the Google map link **click here.**

At 18:30 we will depart with our overnight luggage for the 400m walk onto the ferry. At the point of check-in you will receive a boarding pass with your cabin number and key-card. Your cabin contains bed linen, towels and soap. Please be aware that any fruit, vegetables, plants and fish products cannot be brought onto the ship and must be declared and/or disposed of prior to boarding.

The ferry will depart at 19:30 for the 11 hour journey. Disembarkation will begin at 18:30 the following morning in Devonport, Tasmania.

The views back towards Melbourne at sunset are great from the rear deck. Your mobile phones work most of the way during the voyage.



Tour conclusion

Wednesday 22nd March

We will ride into Hobart on Tuesday afternoon on the 21st March. The final hotel of the tour is Hotel Grand Chancellor, (1 Davey St, Hobart, TAS) – **Click for hotel website.**

After breakfast on Wednesday, the 22nd March the tour concludes with the guides departing in the morning after breakfast with the support vehicle. The airport is an 18km drive from our hotel, a 20 minute taxi ride. Alternatively, an express bus departs from the hotel. For more information on the Skybus **click here** or enquire at the hotel reception on arrival.

Hobart is a city that shouldn't be overlooked as it offers some fantastic attractions both indoors and outdoors. Stay a few extra days and explore the Hobart Travel Centre website for some inspiration by **clicking here.** If you're looking to explore some more of regional Tasmania have a look at the Tourism Tasmania site **here.** There is no need to pre-purchase your National Parks Pass as we will have already purchased a 2 month pass for you.

Visa

All visa holders who are fully vaccinated for international travel purposes can travel to Australia without a travel exemption. For more information on Australian visas and entry requirements **click here.**

Strzelecki | Australia



STAGE 1 - Sydney to Albury, NSW



STAGE 2 - Albury-Wodonga to Melbourne, VIC



STAGE 3 - Melbourne to Hobart, TAS



- Cycle the length of the Great Dividing Range from the Pacific Ocean to the Southern Ocean.
- Test yourself over Australia's most iconic climbs.
- Ride through the Capital to Parliament House.
- Wind through the alpine wilderness within the Snowy Mountains.
- Cycle over Australia's highest road.
- Climb Mt Kosciuszko and enjoy the 360 degree views.
- Explore the small country towns and meet some of the local characters.
- Experience a landscape rich in iconic Australian history: convict settlement, early explorers, frontier wars, gold rushes, Ned Kelly and the bushrangers and stockmen like the Man from Snowy River.
- Beautiful environments; coastal forests, rolling farmland, the vistas of the high-country, the Red Gums that line Australia's longest river, the views that accompany the alps and Australia's tallest trees standing amongst fern-filled forests.
- Delicious local produce and wine from the vines that parallel our route.
- See Australia's wildlife, its vibrant birdlife, the kangaroos that dot the fields in the mornings and the wombats that appear at the day's end.
- Beautiful hotels located in stunning locations.
- Experience and learn from the many World and Heritage listed places we cycle through and visit.





DAY 1 - Sydney warm-up loop ride

TOTAL
DISTANCE:

36km | 22mi

ELEVATION:

450m | 1476ft

From your saddle enjoy multiple vistas of Sydney Harbour, the Opera House and the Harbour Bridge.

Accommodation

This hip hotel opposite Bondi Beach has an artistic vibe, where chic meets mellow, art meets fashion, gin meets tonic and travellers and locals meet to make the world their canvas.



QT Bondi

DAY 2 - Sydney to Wollongong

TOTAL
DISTANCE:

107km | 67mi

ELEVATION:

1175m | 3854ft

The route out of Australia's largest city quickly leaves the high-rises behind entering the world's 2nd oldest National Park before our snack stop. Amazing coastal views along the Pacific Ocean make up the rest of the day.

Accommodation

A beachside 4.5 star hotel on Wollongong's Northbeach with stunning ocean views. New modern furnishings, on trend lighting and designer touches lend to the coastal chic vibe.



Novotel Wollongong Northbeach

DAY 3 - Wollongong to Bundanoon

TOTAL
DISTANCE:

105km | 65mi

ELEVATION:

1379m | 4524ft

Up Macquarie Pass onto the Great Dividing Range. The 80m high Fitzroy Falls provide a lovely visual reward after the climb.

Accommodation

Set on an acre of gardens on the doorstep of Morton National Park, The Bundanoon Guest House is located in a restored Edwardian home originally built in 1910.



The Bundanoon Guest House

DAY 4 - Bundanoon to Bungendore

TOTAL
DISTANCE:

132km | 82mi

ELEVATION:

1070m | 3511ft

Rolling hills and quaint country towns. Bungendore is famous for its art, especially wood crafts and there is a fantastic gallery well worth a visit.

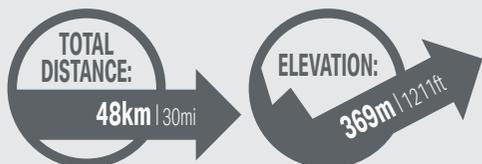
Accommodation

The Carrington Inn, established in 1885, has enjoyed an adventurous life. Initially a coaching inn for travellers on the Cobb & Co route the Carrington has in its century and a half existence, also been a general store and a private residence.



The Carrington Inn

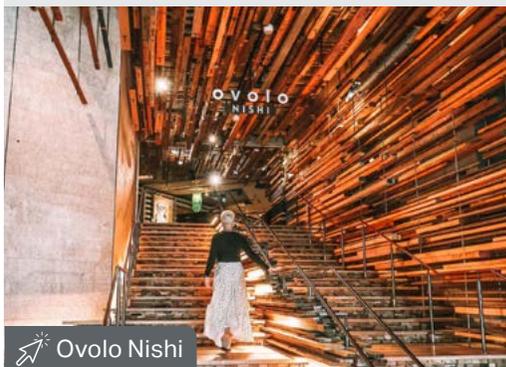
DAY 5 - Bungendore to Canberra, ACT



A shorter ride along the old highway to give you time to explore some of the national treasures housed in the many galleries. Alternatively explore some more on our extra route or simply relax at the hotel.

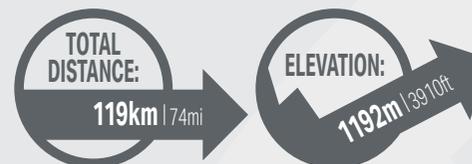
Accommodation

The Ovolo Nishi is teeming with new-school charisma, a darkly lit hub of design-driven chic with an art and foodie focus. Decidedly sexy, it's easily Canberra's coolest hotel.



Ovolo Nishi

DAY 6 - Canberra to Cooma



Ride across Lake Burley Griffin to Parliament House before heading back into NSW to Cooma, the gateway to the Snowy Mountains.

Accommodation

This family owned motel aims to set a new benchmark for regional motels across Australia and focuses on providing travellers with a home away from home. With all the modern comforts you would expect to find in the highest of standard.



Altair Motel

DAY 7 - Cooma to Thredbo



We pass by huge granite boulders on the Monaro Plains to Jindabyne, where a large statue commemorates Strzelecki. The road into Kosciuszko National Park with its mountain views is a stunning ride.

Accommodation

The Thredbo Alpine Hotel serves up a mix of cosmopolitan amenities and pristine beauty. A historic property with an alluring sense of alpine culture – great character, charm and warmth.



Thredbo Alpine Hotel

DAY 8 - Thredbo rest day

Take a well earned rest in this beautiful resort town or enjoy a hike to the top of Tar-gan-gil / Mt Kosciuszko following in Strzelecki's 1840 footsteps. If you want to make the experience more authentic, take a pass on the chairlift and hike up the 1000m elevation gain, but that won't make it much of a rest day.



DAY 9 - Thredbo to Walwa



Cross the Great Dividing Range at Deadhorse Gap and be treated with one of the country's best descents. Today's ride through the National Park and along the Murray River is this stage's most scenic.

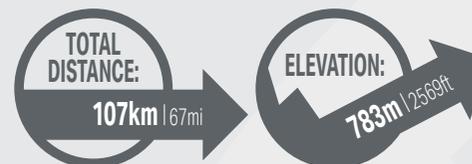
Accommodation

The Upper Murray Cottages is situated on 180 acres of natural bushland with sweeping views over the Murray River and across the valleys of the Upper Murray. A stunning location fit for a memorable stay in beautiful self-contained cottages.



Upper Murray Cottages

DAY 10 - Walwa to Albury



A flatter ride today that follows the mighty Murray and its ancient river red gums that line the banks to the border town that marks the end of Stage 1.

Accommodation

The Mantra Albury Hotel combines a superb central location with all the contemporary design features and cutting-edge equipment of a newly built hotel. With spacious guest rooms and Mantra's trademark friendly hospitality.



Mantra Albury Hotel

DAY 11 - Departure day

After Breakfast the tour continues onto Stage 2 crossing over to Victoria. To return to Sydney or Melbourne take a 1 hour flight or enjoy a relaxing train journey that departs a few minutes walk from our hotel.



DAY 1 - Albury-Wodonga - warm-up loop ride

TOTAL
DISTANCE:

21km | 13mi

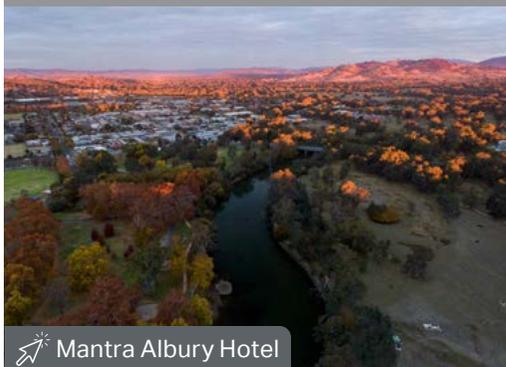
ELEVATION:

139m | 455ft

Explore the town and its surrounds with our self-guided loop ride or get settled in at our hotel. The riders from Stage 1 will arrive this afternoon from Walwa. The Ride & Seek guides will be available to help with any bike set up once they arrive and anytime before our group dinner.

Accommodation

Mantra Albury Hotel features modern stylish accommodation. Situated in the bustling Riverina city and offering Mantra's trademark friendly hospitality, enjoy the spacious, air-conditioned rooms or grab a drink in the onsite bar.



 Mantra Albury Hotel

DAY 2 - Albury-Wodonga to Bright

TOTAL
DISTANCE:

120km | 75mi

ELEVATION:

1165m | 3821ft

Stage 2 begins riding through a region made famous by the gold rushes of the 1800's and the infamous Bushranger Ned Kelly. When we stop for our morning coffee visit the gaol in the historic town of Beechworth where Ned Kelly was housed after his final stand.

Accommodation

This hotel, complete with a lively cafe with retro cycling memorabilia, is located in the foothills of the High Country and serves as a starting point to some of Australia's best cycling ascents.



 Bright Velo Hotel

DAY 3 - Bright loop ride or rest day

There are unlikely any towns in Australia more geared to welcome cyclists than the valley town of Bright, which hosts several large cycling events each year. Take the day off and enjoy the views of the mountains from the riverside local brewery or from one of the many great cafes and restaurants. Alternatively ride up Mt Buffalo and its winter ski fields – 88km return or the slightly less challenging Tawonga Gap – 40km return.



 Bright Velo Hotel

DAY 4 - Bright to Omeo

TOTAL
DISTANCE:

109km | 68mi

ELEVATION:

2147m | 7046ft

With its formidable length and unforgettable moon-like summit, the ascent of Mt. Hotham is among Victoria's most iconic cycling climbs. It's also Australia's highest sealed mountain pass at 1,862m above sea-level. The climb is around a 30km long with 1,279m gain. It has an average gradient of 4.2 percent.

Accommodation

The Golden Age is one of Omeo's iconic buildings built in 1940. With a history dating back to 1854 the hotel provides excellent accommodation, fully licensed bar and restaurant with open wood fires.



 Golden Age Hotel

DAY 5 - Omeo to Bairnsdale



Shortly after leaving Omeo a long descent through the Snowy River National Park along forest lined roads is a beautiful reward for yesterday's efforts. The route rolls out of the mountains to Bairnsdale, situated on the Mitchell River just before it enters Jones Bay.

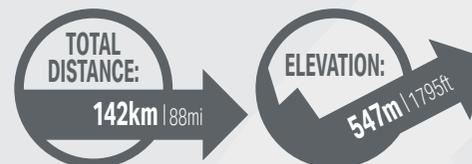
Accommodation

This 4 star hotel, set on a leafy thoroughfare, offers spacious, well appointed rooms. The hotel restaurant specialises in local fare and the staff are friendly and helpful. It's a perfect vacation venue in every way.



Bairnsdale International

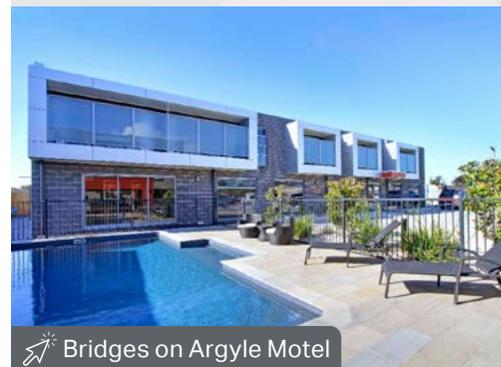
DAY 6 - Bairnsdale to Traralgon



A day free of any long climbs as the route travels through rolling farmland and open eucalyptus forest. Strzelecki named this area Gippsland after the Governor Sir George Gipps who had requested the expedition of him.

Accommodation

Bridges on Argyle is a 4 star hotel offering stylish, sophisticated accommodation with a licensed bar. The rooms are modern and quiet. Guests can relax by the pool or in the lounge by the fire.



Bridges on Argyle Motel

DAY 7 - Traralgon to Warburton



Today's route skirts along the edges of the Great Dividing Range entering Yarra Ranges National Park famous for its impressive 300 years old Mountain Ash, one of the largest known flowering trees in the world. Our route ends in a quaint gold mining town turned timber town.

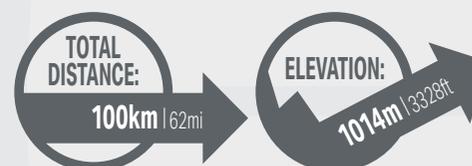
Accommodation

This grand old building began as a little farm house in 1890 and was extended to become a guesthouse in the 1920's. Set on 12 green rolling acres, right on the bank of the Yarra with views of Yarra Ranges National Park.



Oscar's

DAY 8 - Warburton to Melbourne



It is hard to imagine you are only a day's ride from a city of over 4 million people. Ferns and temperate rainforest line the road as we head west, with one final climb, Mt Dandenong before we get a view of Australia's most cycle friendly city. Excellent bike paths lead us into its centre.

Accommodation

Boldly Melbourne, you'll be waking up smelling the batch-brew coffee amidst design that toes the industrial divide. Rooms are alive with edgy essence and punchy chic – luxury accommodation that weaves you into the fabric of the city.



QT Melbourne

DAY 9 - Departure day

Stage 2 and the mainland route of the tour ends here. There is much to see and do with numerous galleries and museums within a few minutes walk of our hotel. On the bike, the trails along the Yarra are a great way to experience the city and there is always the option to get an early start and ride along the famous Beach Road. This coastal road is frequented by thousands of cyclists each week, often so busy on weekends that a visitor could easily mistake the wave upon wave of cyclists as an organised event.



DAY 1 - Melbourne and Ferry to Tasmania

TOTAL
DISTANCE:

25km | 16mi

ELEVATION:

191m | 626ft

Meet the Ride & Seek team and those already on the tour at the QT Melbourne Hotel before heading to Port Phillip Bay in the late afternoon to board our ferry to Tasmania. There's an option for a leisurely ride around Melbourne.

Accommodation

There's plenty to do onboard the ferry as we cross the Bass Strait to Tasmania, there's live music, a cinema, 3 bars and a gaming lounge or you can simply enjoy the stunning vistas and sunset. When you're ready, you'll sleep in supreme comfort in your private cabin.



 Spirit of Tasmania Overnight Ferry

DAY 2 - Devonport to Cradle Mountain

TOTAL
DISTANCE:

84km | 52mi

ELEVATION:

1717m | 5634ft

Off the ferry and straight on the bike – passing through classic places like Nook, Nowhere Else, Crackpot and Sheffield, a town famous for murals depicting the region's history. Then begins a tough climb, the reward of magnificent mountain scenery is well worth the effort.

Accommodation

Located in one of the world's most precious parks is one of Lonely Planet's Top 10 Most Extraordinary Places To Stay. Peppers Cradle Mountain overlooks a hinterland filled with birds, plants and ancient forest.



 Peppers Cradle Mountain Lodge

DAY 3 - Cradle Mountain to Tullah

TOTAL
DISTANCE:

56km | 35mi

ELEVATION:

637m | 2091ft

Spend the morning taking in the views of Cradle Mountain while walking around Dove Lake. Early risers could even attempt a climb up to its peak. The ride is a relatively short one through rugged and isolated mountains and is mostly downhill.

Accommodation

A warm welcome awaits you at this tranquil comfortable haven, beside a trout-filled lake, in the midst of ancient rain forest and surrounded by moody mountains – Farrell and Murchison. Enjoy the views from the guest lounge with huge stone fireplace.



 Tullah Lakeside Lodge

DAY 4 - Tullah to Strahan

TOTAL
DISTANCE:

90km | 56mi

ELEVATION:

1086m | 3564ft

A stunning forest ride, skirting the Southern Ocean, broken up by occasional sleepy historic mining towns. Strahan is a cosy little fishing village on Macquarie Harbour, steeped in the convict and pining history of the rugged West Coast. Tonight's restaurant is a real highlight.

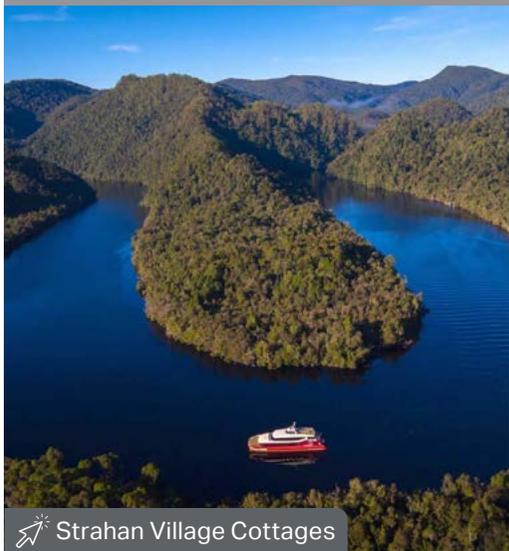
Accommodation

Enjoy the views of the harbour from your waterfront cottage set in beautiful gardens. The cottages recall an old-world charm with every modern facility. Breathe the world's cleanest air and explore world heritage wilderness from your doorstep.



 Strahan Village Cottages

DAY 5 - Strahan rest day



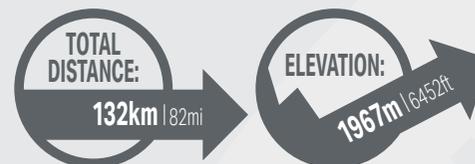
 Strahan Village Cottages

Piners used to row wooden boats up through the rapids of the Gordon, Franklin and other rivers of Tasmania's South West wilderness, in their quest for the endemic Huon Pine. Explore their history and the beautiful wilderness from the comfort of a cruise into this World Heritage Area.

Accommodation

After a day spent exploring, soak up the views from your waterfront cottage. Refresh yourself with a tour of Tasmania's fine food and wine at View 42° Restaurant & Bar, or swap stories with the locals by the log fire at Hamer's Hotel.

DAY 6 - Strahan to Lake St Clair



 Lake St. Clair Lodge

Today will prove to be a memorable ride with some long climbs, spectacular mountains, a mining town with an fascinating history, magical rainforest, wild rivers and vast high country lakes.

Accommodation

Lake St. Clair Lodge is one of only 2 resorts built within a World Heritage listed area in the world. To achieve this status, Lake St. Clair has developed state of the art eco-friendly cabin accommodation that makes your experience of this beautiful location unforgettable.

DAY 7 - Lake St Clair to Curringa Farm



 Curringa Farm

A day spent cycling through thick forest and past the large lakes that power Tasmania's hydroelectricity. We have a snack at Tasmania's geographical centre and towards the end of the ride leave the remote high country with a long descent to our cottages on a sheep farm.

Accommodation

National award winning farmstay cottages, set in natural bushland and overlooking picturesque Lake Meadowbank. Deluxe accommodation and attractions. Enjoy a taste of life on a real working sheep farm. Tassie's favourite farm stay.

DAY 8 - Curringa Farm to Hobart

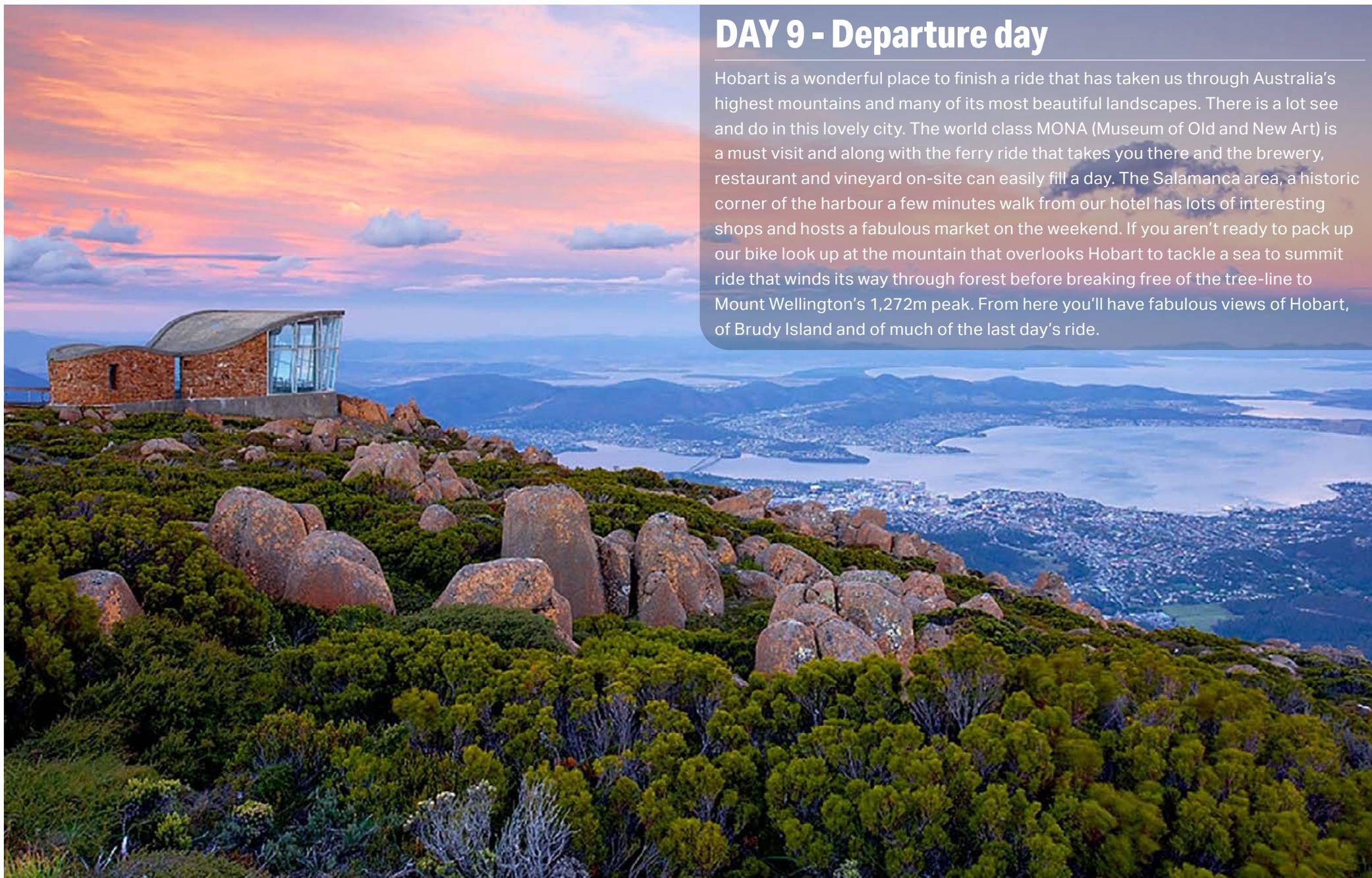


 Hotel Grand Chancellor Hobart

The final ride of the Strzelecki Epic follows the Derwent River through a landscape and towns like New Norfolk that are reminiscent of the english countryside. We pop in on a raspberry farm and salmon ponds before following a cycle path into the historic capital of Hobart.

Accommodation

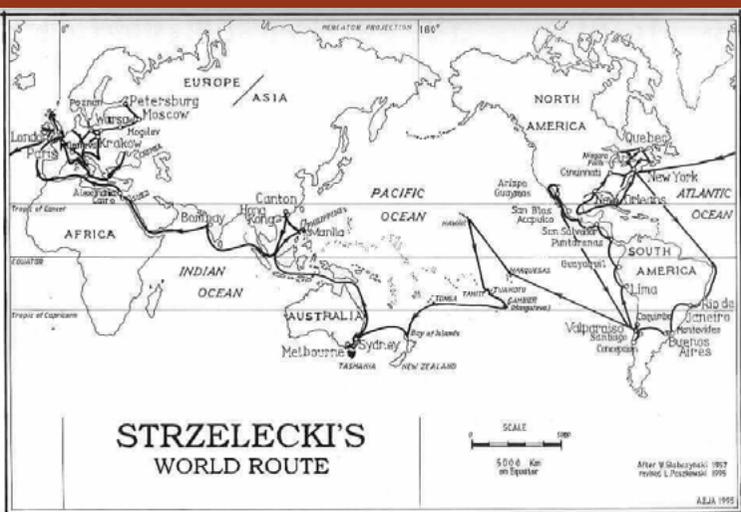
Enjoy the Harbour and Mountain views from this 4.5 star luxury, waterfront hotel. The hotel Grand Chancellor is conveniently located amongst the action and offers great facilities including gym, sauna and an indoor heated pool.



DAY 9 - Departure day

Hobart is a wonderful place to finish a ride that has taken us through Australia's highest mountains and many of its most beautiful landscapes. There is a lot to see and do in this lovely city. The world class MONA (Museum of Old and New Art) is a must visit and along with the ferry ride that takes you there and the brewery, restaurant and vineyard on-site can easily fill a day. The Salamanca area, a historic corner of the harbour a few minutes walk from our hotel has lots of interesting shops and hosts a fabulous market on the weekend. If you aren't ready to pack up our bike look up at the mountain that overlooks Hobart to tackle a sea to summit ride that winds its way through forest before breaking free of the tree-line to Mount Wellington's 1,272m peak. From here you'll have fabulous views of Hobart, of Brudy Island and of much of the last day's ride.

Explorer, environmentalist, scientist, philanthropist



Sir Paul Edmund de Strzelecki, to give him his full title, was a Polish-born explorer, scientist and nobleman. Prior to landing in Australia in 1839, he'd briefly served in the Prussian Army and was an experienced explorer with several expeditions under his belt. He initially set sail from Liverpool, England to New York in 1834, where he began an epic geological

trip in the Americas, which included discovering copper in Canada, and travelling the west coast from Chile to California. He visited Cuba, Tahiti and the South Sea Islands before eventually arriving in Sydney. With an ambitious dream of conducting a geological survey of Australia, Strzelecki's expeditions would see him cover over 7,000 miles in New South Wales, Victoria and Tasmania. While studying the mineralogy of the country he was the first person to discover gold and silver near Hartley and Wellington, but Governor Gipps, in office at the time, asked him to keep his discovery a secret to avoid a gold rush and to maintain discipline among the convict population. Strzelecki agreed, and in doing so apparently forfeited his claim to a fortune.

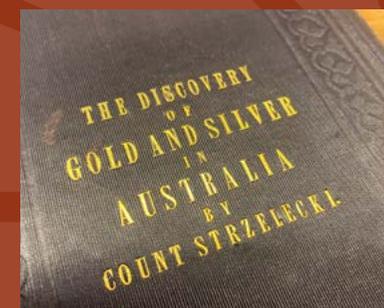
His expedition led him through the Snowy Mountains, where he climbed the highest peak in Australia, naming it Mount Kosciuszko, after Polish leader Tadeusz Kosciuszko. Kosciuszko was a worthy namesake, considered a national hero not just in his native Poland, but also in Lithuania, Belarus, Ukraine and the USA. He fought on the US side in the American Revolutionary War, and is honoured with statues in several US cities – to fight against the British and then have a mountain named after him in a British Colony is pretty impressive! If Strzelecki had marked his map with the local indigenous name

of 'Targangal' however, Australians would have had a far easier time spelling out their highest mountain for the last 160 years.

Strzelecki then travelled south through the area he named Gippsland, after the Governor. After passing the la Trobe River things took a turn for the worse and the party were forced to abandon the horses and minerals and make a dash for Melbourne. They reached it on the edge of starvation and exhaustion, but thankfully alive, in May 1840.

He was accompanied on his trip by James Macarthur and James Riley, and it was mainly thanks to their Aboriginal guides, Charlie Tarra and Jackey, that the group survived. Strzelecki then travelled Tasmania (or Van Diemen's Land as it was then known) for two years, discovering coal while he was there, before returning to Australia. He eventually set sail back to England in 1843, managing to squeeze in further expeditions in China, the East Indies and Egypt on his way back. On his return, he published his findings to great acclaim from the scientific community. His snappily-titled *Physical Description of New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land* won him praise from Charles Darwin himself and was awarded the Gold Medal of the Royal Geographical Society.

He later became a British Citizen, and in 1869 was knighted, an honour specifically for services to the British Commonwealth, most notably his work done as a famine relief agent, which he refused to accept payment for and it has been estimated that the various works in which he was involved in during those horrible famine years saved 200,000 lives.



What our guests have to say...

www.rideandseek.com



We have ridden with Ride & Seek a number of times and always thoroughly enjoyed everything about their tours. The Strzelecki tour was the first organised multi-day tour we've done in Australia, and it exceeded our expectations! The riding, the guiding, the accommodation, and food were all top-notch and a great bunch of people to tour through Victoria and Tasmania with.

Nick M



The Strzelecki tour provides a great opportunity to experience some of the best cycling on Australia's East Coast and in Tasmania. Some iconic climbs, beautiful forests, and the opportunity to experience World Heritage areas provided highlights, combined of course with Ride & Seek's renowned hospitality!

Cathy V



Another great trip with Ride & Seek. My 6th overall. Certainly, the hardest tour they've organised due to the difficulties associated with COVID-19. In spite of that however, it was a fantastic tour. Chapeau to the guides!

Lew T



These kinds of rides make you realise what you can ask your body to do. Normally I ride about 40-50km, 4 times a week, with a reasonable amount of climbing. 100km a day with 1200m of climbing is tough but manageable – even day after day. Give it a go.

Wendy H

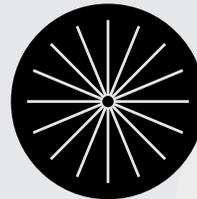


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R I D E & S E E K



Strzelecki Overview