

RAA TASTING AUSTRALIA

5 DAY EPICUREAN WAY

Sat 29 April 2023



Join us on a true culinary adventure as we 'taste and savour' our way along South Australia's picturesque Epicurean Way, linking the four iconic wine regions of McLaren Vale, Adelaide Hills, Barossa Valley and Clare Valley making for a truly unique road trip of sumptuous local produce, delicious beverages, and spectacular scenery.

DAY 1: (L) MCLAREN VALE

SATURDAY 29 APRIL 2023

Over the next 5 days you will be treated to a fully guided tour within a 32 seat coach (max 20 people) to 4 iconic South Australian Wine regions; McLaren Vale, Adelaide Hills, Barossa Valley and Clare Valley. We start the morning at 7:00am where you will meet either at the Adelaide Central Bus Station, departing at 7:30am (sharp), or 8:00am at Marion Shopping Centre.

Our first stop on this 5-day epicurean adventure takes us to **Willunga** with a visit to the **Willunga Farmers Market**, the first farmers market in South Australia. Browse and buy delicious, fresh, local and seasonal produce in the Willunga Town Square. With over 80 vendors, this farmer's market led to the success of farmers markets throughout South Australia.

We have seen where the grapes are grown, nurtured and harvested, but have you ever wondered what happens after that? Not far away is **Shottesbrooke Winery (1100)** where we explore, wine and dine on a behind-the-scenes look at their winery, its history, their sustainability programs, wine making process, plus exclusive wine tastings - comprising of white wines, rose and red wines - as well as a fortified for good measure. We take a short, **guided walk** through the native woodlot to the award-winning restaurant **The**

Currant Shed to indulge in a regionally inspired 3-course lunch, complete with Shottesbrooke wines and an incredible view of the vineyards.

A vision to create a building in the image of an ice cube has resulted in the architectural extravaganza **The d'Arenberg Cube. (1500)** A visit to **The Alternate Realities Museum**, located on the ground floor stretches the imagination before soaking in the panoramic views across the McLaren Vale region while tasting Chester Osborn's wines who he aims to be "the loudest, most aromatic, fruit-flavored wines". Afterwards, we have time to take a walk in the main street and visit the highly recommended **Menz FruChocs Shop** where many iconic South Australian confectionaries can be purchased. FruChocs are delicious! We continue on to Hahndorf where we settle in for our 2-night stay at The Manna. Enjoy some free time to explore the township or dine at one of the many local restaurants.

Lunch at The Currant Shed | Dinner own arrangements

DAY 2: (BL) ADELAIDE HILLS

SUNDAY 30 APRIL 2023

Today, work our way through the beautiful Adelaide Hills region and uncover some wonderful local produce. We arrive in **Woodside** for some local treats. At **Woodside Cheese Wrights, (1000)** taste the superb hand-crafted cheese, some of which are seasonal and only made when the milk is perfect. Now, you can't have something savory without something sweet! The **Melba's Chocolate and Confectionery Factory, (1100)** produces old Australian favourite sweets using old era chocolate making equipment and is the perfect place to collect some delicious goodies before a delicious lunch.

Our next stop is at **Beerenberg Strawberry Farm**. You may not know but Beerenberg products can now be found in 24 countries, on major airlines and in more than 300 hotels! We enjoy lunch here including one of Beerenberg's delicious ice creams. We have the opportunity to purchase from their large range of jams and preserves.

Only a short distance away is the township of **Balhannah** where we experience a limited **Release Flight from Shaw & Smith. (1430)** Depending on the weather we can be seated outside on the terrace or by the fire in the lounge as we enjoy five single site or aged release wines complemented by an artisan produce plate. We are spoilt with the views of the Adelaide Hills and the quality of the wines produced here. Perhaps take a walk along the main street and try out a local restaurant for dinner tonight.

Breakfast at The Manna Hahndorf | Lunch at Beerenberg | Dinner own arrangements

DAY 3: (BL) BAROSSA VALLEY

MONDAY 01 MAY 2023

Our journey takes us to the **Barossa Valley**, we begin our touring with a drive to the **Whispering Wall (0915)** which is locally known as the "acoustic miracle". It is the huge, curved retaining wall of the Barossa Reservoir and is about 140 metres long. The acoustics are such that you can speak in a normal voice and people at the other end of the wall can hear you clearly. The effect is remarkable. You can speak in a normal voice and be heard quite clearly at the other side. It is one of those strange effects which are produced by a delightful accident! Not only is the Barossa Valley only famous for their wines but also as a centre for gourmet food and produce so it is appropriate that we stop at **Maggie Beer's Farm Shop. (1030)** A brief talk on the history of the property and Maggie's career followed by a cooking demonstration and tasting. Some time for questions and take-home recipes.

Awaken your senses whilst being guided through a journey of wine discovery, showcasing how glassware influences the taste and enjoyment of **St Hugo Wines. (1200)** The **Riedel Masterclass & Dining Experience** delves into why a varietal specific wine glass is a critical component of enjoying wine to its fullest. Tasting through four St Hugo favorites, we will see how the shape of a glass, draws different characters and

personality from each of the wines. Complete the experience by being seated in the restaurant to enjoy a four-course shared lunch with two glasses of your favourite St Hugo wines.

Our final visit today is at **Barossa Valley Chocolate Company. (1530)** All handmade using premium, sustainable Belgian and Australian chocolate along with locally grown ingredients, enjoy the signature pairing experience where you are taken through an expert matching of five Barossa wines with five of our different types of chocolate (White, Ruby, Milk, Dark 56%, Dark 70%). Finally, we head to **Mengler Hill Lookout (1700)** to take in the incredible vantage point to soak in the panoramic vistas over the valley. Enjoy the walk through some 20 weird and wonderful sculptures. We arrive at our hotel and check in for the night.

Breakfast at hotel | Lunch at St Hugo Wines | Dinner own arrangements

DAY 4: (BLD) CLARE VALLEY

TUESDAY 02 MAY 2023

This morning we make our way to the Clare Valley to experience **Pikes Wines. (1030)** We split into 2 groups, with Group 1 to enjoy a wine tasting and group 2, a Pikes Beer Experience, before swapping tastings. Enjoy the winery which overlooks this unique hill-top location taking in sweeping views of the Polish Hill River Estate.

At **Pauletts Wines. (1200)** enjoy the sensory of Pauletts very own Australian bush food garden as you stroll through taking in the seasonal foods. Many native Australian plants have been used as food and medicine by Aboriginal people for generations and it is here, that Pauletts head chef, Thomas Erkelenz, combines the best local produce with unique native Australian flavours to create sumptuous little Bush DeVine inspired canapes prepared in the Bush DeVine Winery Restaurant that perfectly complement each wine.

This afternoon we arrive at our accommodation and check in. Time to relax and take in this beautiful boutique resort style accommodation that offers an outdoor swimming pool and spa, gymnasium, sauna, billiards table, picturesque resort grounds, tennis court and licensed restaurant & bar. A highlight of the tour as we dine at the **Watervale Hotel (1800)** and experience the **Six Senses Penobscot Farm Tour & Six Course Degustation Dinner**. You will be encouraged to hear, see, smell, feel and taste your way through the **farm tour** as we learn about organic, bio-dynamic and permaculture farming. Activity on the farm is dictated by the moon, the sun and seasons. This magic or alchemy is the aspect that triggers our sixth sense when enjoying the full and fresh flavour as we enjoy our six course Degustation Dinner including matching wines.

Breakfast at hotel | Light lunch at Pauletts Wines | Dinner at Watervale Hotel

DAY 5: (B)

WEDNESDAY 03 MAY 2023

Feeling completely relaxed, a late start this morning as we return to Adelaide but not before one last Clare Valley experience at **Kilikanoon Wines. (1100)** Explore some of the best that Kilikanoon Wines has to offer. Continuing on to Watervale, we stop off at the **Watervale General Store (1230)** for lunch. (Own expense) before returning home. It's been a wonderful journey; with new fond friends we arrive in Adelaide in the afternoon.

Breakfast in hotel | Lunch at Kilikanoon Wines

*All itineraries are subject to change due to occasional restrictions in opening times or days. We cannot be held responsible for any changes due to closures or inclement weather. **A MINIMUM of 15 people is required to ensure the Tour can proceed. If the minimum number is not reached, tickets will be refunded.** This Epicurean Way 5 Day Tour is supplied by Expanding Horizons and is subject to their terms and conditions, available here: [Epicurean Way 5-Day Tour Terms & Conditions](#). Bookings are made via the [Tasting Australia website](#), and are subject to their terms and conditions, available here: [Tasting Australia Ticketing Terms & Conditions](#)*