

Great Southern Loop

featuring STEAM heritage rail

May 2019



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A journey unlike any other, combining the thrill of both steam and diesel hauled heritage train explorations of country. Heritage steam locomotive 5917 will haul our privately chartered train throughout NSW, including some lines that seldom see passenger traffic. We then head across the border to join the iconic Spirit of Progress to Melbourne. A highlight will be a rare steam hauled run across the border to Deniliquin for the first time in two decades. We will cruise the Murray River on a paddle steamer at Echuca, enjoy exclusive wine tastings in Griffith and visit 'The Dish' - the famous observatory radio telescope at Parkes. All aboard!

FROM \$3,440 PP

6 DAY UNIQUE HERITAGE RAIL JOURNEY THROUGH NSW & VIC



Our latest heritage rail adventure is a never-before-offered escapade across southern Australia aboard historic, privately chartered trains hauled by both steam and diesel engines. Our nostalgic trip back in time will journey from Sydney along country lines in NSW and Victoria. Over six days, we'll savour the appeal of charming towns like Junee, Albury, Echuca, Griffith and Parkes as well as the magic of marvellous Melbourne.



Enjoy meals in historic railway stations, cruise on the Murray River aboard a paddle steamer, taste wines and dine on fresh, local produce in the Riverina and see the famous 'Dish' radio telescope in Parkes. A highlight will be our steam-hauled run across the border from Melbourne to Deniliquin - the first time in two decades!

You'll be hosted by Cruise Express the whole way, allowing you to relax with friends, old and new, daydream out the window and soak in the ever-changing scenery. Celebrate the genteel joys of historic train travel with us as we explore our Great Southern Land.



Like many of our other unique railway journeys, this new tour will sell out quickly so don't miss out!

INCLUSIONS

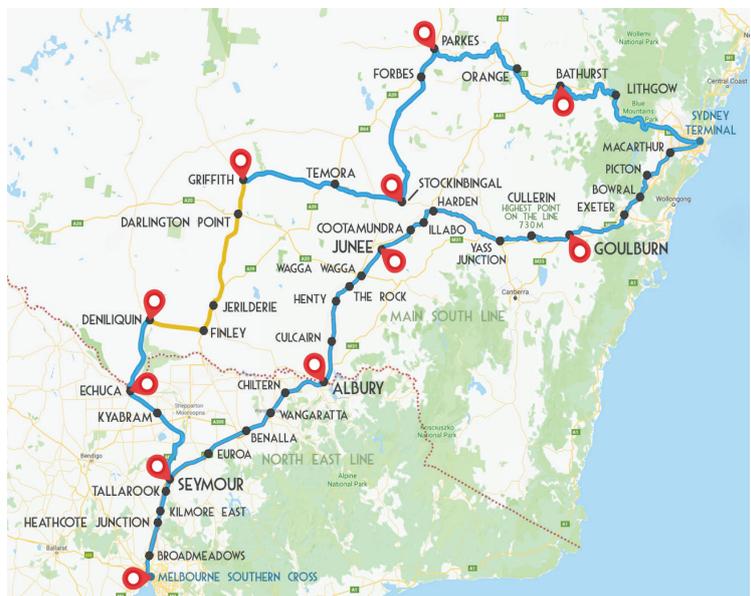
- Daylight service from Sydney Terminal to Albury hauled by diesel locomotive 42103 and steam locomotive 5917 with heritage carriages
- Lunch at the Junee Railway Cafe
- 1 night Albury accommodation with breakfast
- Daylight service from Albury to Melbourne Southern Cross Station aboard the Spirit of Progress (standard gauge)
- 1 night Melbourne accommodation with breakfast
- Daylight service from Melbourne to Echuca and Deniliquin hauled by steam locomotive R711 and diesel locomotive S313 with heritage carriages
- Lunch aboard the Murray River Paddle Steamers at Echuca
- 2 nights Griffith accommodation at local motels
- Local touring in Griffith including wine tasting and lunch
- Daylight service from Griffith to Parkes hauled by diesel locomotive 42103 and steam locomotive 5917 with heritage carriages
- 1 night Parkes accommodation at local motels with dinner and breakfast
- Afternoon tea at the CSIRO Parkes Observatory Radio Telescope
- Daylight service from Parkes to Sydney hauled by diesel locomotive 42103 and steam locomotive 5917 with heritage carriages
- Most meals as per itinerary
- Coach transfers throughout
- Professional Cruise Express Tour Managers

FARES

	TWIN	SOLO
EXCURSION	\$3,440	\$3,790
FIRST private compartments Sydney / Albury & Griffith / Sydney	+ \$300	+ \$500

MAY 2019 ITINERARY

- THU 30 Sydney to Albury** - Embark your heritage train at Sydney Terminal. Travel through the Southern Highlands for a quick stop at Goulburn where steam locomotive 5917 will join the train. Steam to Junee where you will have lunch at the Junee Railway Cafe. Continue by diesel to Albury where you will transfer to your hotel for the night.
Overnight: ATURA Hotel (or similar) (B,L)
- FRI 31 Albury to Melbourne** - return to station and board the Spirit of Progress for your journey to Melbourne Southern Cross Station. Afternoon at leisure to explore Melbourne.
Overnight: Vibe Savoy (or similar) (B)
- JUN 2019 SAT 1 Melbourne to Echuca / Deniliquin** - depart Southern Cross Station hauled by steam locomotive R711 and diesel S313. Stop at **Seymour** for breakfast. Disembark at **Echuca** and transfer to the Murray River for 2-hour paddlewheel river cruise. Return to train and cross the border with steam for the first time in decades to **Deniliquin**. Continue your journey by coach to Griffith.
Overnight: Local Motel (B,L)
- SUN 02 Griffith** - Enjoy a short tour of Griffith followed by a visit to Carreris' Garden and a wine tasting at De Bortoli Wines. Then enjoy a spectacular and exclusive lunch and pasta making demonstration hosted by the Piccolo family at their orchard and farm. Evening at leisure.
Overnight: Local Motel (L)
- MON 03 Griffith to Parkes** - Travel to Temora for a short break then Stockinbingal where 5917 will rejoin the train. Steam to Parkes via Forbes. Transfer to your local motel. Dinner tonight at a local restaurant.
Overnight: Local Motel (B,L,D)
- TUE 04 Parkes to Sydney** - Rejoin your train and relax as we head for a short stop at Orange. We then climb the hills towards Bathurst for our lunch stop. Continue through the ever changing countryside towards the Blue Mountains where 5917 will leave us at Lithgow. Our tour continues by diesel with a spectacular climb over the mountains to Sydney for an anticipated mid evening arrival. (B,L,D)



To find out more call **1300 766 537**
www.cruiseexpress.com.au/Great-Southern-Loop

Fares and inclusions are per person either twin-share or single in AUD. Fares are subject to availability and may change at any time. Train timetables and equipment are subject to change. This tour is subject to minimum group numbers being achieved. Ask your Travel Specialist for details. Cruise Express reserves the right to make changes to any details outlined in this brochure, without notice. **Important: This tour is not suitable for passengers who have mobility impairment or cannot negotiate stairs unaided.** See website for full terms and conditions. Version 1 - 051218