

A toolkit for the travel trade







SYDNEY SURROUNDS SOUTH - SOUTH COAST NSW





Covering coastal areas to the south of Sydney across to the hinterland and rural villages of the Southern Highlands, a Sydney Surrounds South - South Coast NSW itinerary has endless options.

Over 100 pristine beaches dot the coastline of one of Australia's favourite holiday destinations. The South Coast, stretching from Wollongong in the north to the Sapphire Coast in the south – offers experiences for every traveller, from stunning national parks with amazing bush walks, waterfalls and vistas to the small town charm of coastal villages.

Enjoy the urban hum of Wollongong's emerging dining and drinks scene. Relax into the fishing-village vibe of Kiama, Shellharbour and the Shoalhaven region, offering plenty of fresh seafood – oysters, the local speciality. Wineries, craft breweries and distilleries, farm gates and artisan producer markets also provide opportunities to taste the local flavours and learn.

In the picturesque Southern Highlands plateau, large country estates, farms and vineyards provide abundant world-class local produce. Visitors can explore beautiful flower gardens, browse antique stores, museums and galleries and meet the locals in classic country pubs.

With a temperate climate, think balmy sea breezes in summer and clean crisp air in the winter – it's always a good time to visit.

Getting There and Around		By Car from Sydney Airport	Nearest Airport	By Train from Sydney Central
KEY STOPS	Southern Highlands	1 ½ hours to Bowral	Sydney Canberra	2 hours to Bowral
South Coast Line - Wollongong, Kiama, Bomaderry (Nowra)	Wollongong	1½ hours	Sydney Shellharbour (services to MEL & BNE)	1½ hours
Southern Highlands Line - Exeter, Bowral, Mittagong	Shellharbour	1 ¾ hours		2 hours
Exercit, bowlar, Militagorig	Kiama	2 hours		2 ¼ hours
AVERAGE TEMPERATURE 15°C in Winter 30°C in Summer	Shoalhaven	2 ½ hours to Jervis Bay	Sydney Shellharbour (services to MEL & BNE) Canberra	3 hours to Nowra
	Batemans Bay	3½ hours	Merimbula Moruya	7 hours to Batemans Bay (including bus)



Food, Drink and Oyster Experiences

Looking for world-class dining in a spectacular location? From the artisan farmers and producers of the highlands to the sustainable seafood of the coast, the NSW South Coast is a foodies delight.

The region boasts over 30 wineries, with cellar doors offering wines ranging from the cool climate varieties of the Southern Highlands to the signature French and warm climate varieties of the Shoalhaven wine region. A burgeoning craft beverage scene features a growing number of small batch breweries and distilleries producing everything from seasonal beers to gins with local botanicals.

The Shoalhaven is the start of the South Coast Oyster Trail which extends through the Sapphire Coast region, showcasing the fresh-from-the-farm-gate Sydney Rock Oyster - prized for its intense, tangy flavour and one of the few indigenous oysters still being farmed.

There are also a range of experiences on offer for visitors to meet the makers and learn more about the amazing array of produce, seafood, wine and beverages across the region.

ILLAWARRA

ATTRACTION Buena Vista Farm* | GERRINGONG | buenavistafarm.com.au

Once a dairy farm, this idyllic multigenerational family farm now features chickens, bees, pigs, goats, a coffee grove, a kitchen garden and a commercial kitchen. The focus is sustainable agriculture and encouraging people to learn about the origins of their food. Visitors can take a tour, buy produce or join a hands-on workshop on cheese making, fermentation, or coffee production.



Darkes Glenbernie Orchard* | DARKES FOREST www.darkes.com.au

This sixth-generation family orchard grows apples, peaches, nectarines and persimmons, and is the home of Darkes Cider. Set amongst the Northern Illawarra mountain top and Dharawal National Park bushland, visitors can take a tour of the farm, enjoy tastings, and stop by the shop to grab a cider, honey mead wine, seasonal honey or fresh fruit. Fruit picking is also available mid-November to late April/May.





Illawarra Brewery | WOLLONGONG | thebrewery.net.au

A haven for craft beer lovers, this relaxed bar and grill boasts a modern Australian menu and a large collection of award-winning beers - many brewed locally in the Illawarra. Located opposite Wollongong's City Beach, with scenic ocean views, it's the perfect place to stop on the Grand Pacific Drive. Open seven days - visitors can pop in for a drink or settle in for a meal.



SHOALHAVEN

ATTRACTION Cupitt's Estate | MILTON | cupittsestate.com.au

With an onsite brewery, from agerie, restaurant, and accommodation, this family owned and operated winery gives visitors the chance to taste the local flavour or fully immerse themselves in the delights of the region. Tucked behind the hills of Milton with beautiful views over the vineyard to Burrill Lake and the Budawang Ranges, visitors can enjoy a range of experiences from tours, workshops and tastings to fine dining or a casual meal.



Jervis Bay Brewing Co* | JERVIS BAY | jervisbaybrewing.co

This local brewery and bar is a relaxing sanctuary on the outskirts of Huskisson. The beer garden welcomes visitors with a backyard party vibe: picnic benches shaded by big umbrellas, scattered plants, and a fire pit for chilly evenings. Behind-the-scenes brewery tours and guided tastings are available 7 days a week.



Wine Knot Tours | MOLLYMOOK | wineknottours.com.au

Wine Knot Tours offer a range of single or multi-day small-group tours of the Shoalhaven region, all designed with luxury in mind. Tours include the Whales & Wine Tour, pairing a whale watching cruise with award-winning wineries, The Milton Run featuring lunch and a cocktail, and 'Let the Tour Beer-Gin', which takes visitors to a local distillery and a brewery.



Valley Outdoors* | KANGAROO VALLEY www.valleyoutdoors.com.au

Valley Outdoors offers adventure options throughout the Kangaroo Valley and surrounds. From guided tours to self-guided canoe hire, multi-day trips, and tailored experiences including paddling, bushwalking, abseiling and camping experiences. Unique experiences are available which combine the pristine natural environment with gourmet local produce.













SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS

ATTRACTION

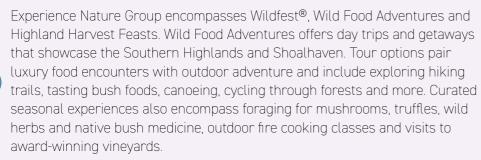
Bowral Beekeeping* | BOWRAL | www.bowralbeekeeping.com



Bowral Beekeeping is the leading beekeeping training provider in the Southern Highlands and a must-see for all things bees and honey. They offer regular workshops and experiences at their Bowral apiary where visitors can learn the art of beekeeping alongside an enthusiastic educator and sample delicious honey.



Experience Nature - Wild Food Adventures | BERRIMA experiencenature.com.au





Italian Cooking Experience with Stefano Marvello* | BOWRAL stefanomarvello.com



Local Italian cook Stefano Marvello offers interactive cooking experiences showcasing local produce where participants can enjoy feasting on the final product together. Stefano teaches you how to make homemade pasta, bake traditional bread and make Italian desserts and pastries against the backdrop of cows grazing on the rolling hills behind Stefano's home. Classes include the Long Italian Lunch 3-course Italian feast with pasta making class or the 4-hour Pasta Master Italian cooking class.



PepperGreen Estate | BERRIMA | peppergreenestate.com.au



Nestled in the undulating slopes of Canyonleigh, PepperGreen Estate is a premium cool-climate vineyard. Visitors can head to the cellar door and tasting room in Berrima to enjoy a unique venue to sample wines or try a wine-centric menu. Choices include a wine tasting paired with matched food samples, a sparkling breakfast, or a 3-course meal.





ATTRACTION The Mill* | BOWRAL | themillbowral.com.au



Originally built in 1885, the Mill is a restored communal hub offering fresh local food, quality coffee, a cellar door and retail spaces. Visitors can sit by the fire at the café or stroll out to the courtyard and meet the locals. Merrigangs bar offers local wine, beer, cider, cocktails, special events and live music. Other food options at The Mill include Ms Pho Canteen (Vietnamese), Veggie Nook (vegetarian) and Black Sheep (smoked meats).



Tractorless Vineyards | BRAEMAR | tractorlessvineyard.com.au



Tractorless Vineyards is a biodynamic, minimal intervention winery, even using sheep to help maintain the land. Visitors can immerse themselves in a unique and sustainable food and wine experience combining traditional knowledge and skills with new-world techniques. Offerings include a guided tour, sheep feeding barrel tasting with the winemaker and themed masterclasses. Visitors can also pop into the urban cellar door in Bowral to sample award-winning wines.



EUROBODALLA



Region X (Oyster Tasting Kayak Tour) | BATEMANS BAY regionx.com.au



The magnificent Clyde River Estuary system is home to some of the most successful oyster farmers on the South Coast of NSW. Fourth-generation oyster farmers and an award-winning kayak tour operator provide visitors a unique insight into Australia's Oyster Coast. Visitors can paddle and taste the finest oysters from the purest Australian waters, and learn about the local cultivation techniques, the science behind farming, oyster varieties and life as an oyster farmer.



Southbound Escapes | NAROOMA | southboundescapes.com



Southbound Escapes showcases the flavours of the region through bespoke, interactive food experiences. Visitors can discover the stories of the land, the origins of local cuisine and the dedication of the region's producers. Experience include a half and full day local produce trail touring local oyster farms and sampling farm-fresh cheese and ice cream, and a custom catered picnic.



SAPPHIRE COAST



Captain Sponge's Magical Oyster Tour* | PAMBULA magicaloystertours.com.au



Captain Sponge's Magical Oyster Tours offer a unique on-the-water oyster farm experience where passengers are taken to an oyster farm and shown the how, where and when behind this mysterious form of farming. Onboard an oversized oyster punt, passengers learn the secrets of beautiful Pambula Lake before sampling the world-famous Sydney Rock Oyster and learning the trick to shucking. Various natural and Aboriginal cultural sites also dot the banks of this ancient waterway.



Featured experiences are ready to work with the travel trade, unless marked with asterix (*). These products generally do not, currently, provide commissions, however they can add value to a guest's experience. Businesses without an asterix (*) include commission, however this is subject to change.

The guide is accurate as of May 2022. Please note that COVID-19 is regularly changing the way businesses operate. Please confirm operational details directly with the business



Tours, Activities and Attractions

A long list of experiences to suit a broad range of tastes and curiosities are on the menu for visitors to the NSW South Coast.

Take a cruise from Jervis Bay to explore the coastline and get up close with the marine life. Skydive, learn to surf, take a helicopter flight, kayak or swim and surf at one of over 100 beaches. Bush walk through a rainforest, coastal plains or the hinterland. Explore museums, galleries and quirky village shops. Or see the wildlife up close on the beach, a tour or at a wildlife park.

ILLAWARRA



Aquilla Fishing Charters* | WOLLONGONG aquillacharters.com.au

With over 40 years' local experience, Aquilla Fishing Charters offer deep sea reef fishing options for everyone. Novices can enjoy a day on the water with everything taken care of. The team visits all the best spots, supplies high-end fishing gear, and guts and cleans your catches, ready for you to cook.



TOUR

Just Cruisin' Harley Davidson Motorcycle Tour | WOLLONGONG justcruisintours.com.au

Just Cruisin' Harley Davidson Motorcycle Tours offer the ultimate road adventure. Visitors can hit the road in style, riding the Grand Pacific Drive along the Sea Cliff Bridge and beyond. A range of packages and tours are available to cruise the Illawarra and surrounds on a chauffeured trike, sidecar or solo motorcycle.





Skydive Wollongong | WOLLONGONG | skydive.com.au



Skydive Wollongong offers skydives over the beach from 15,000 feet. Skydivers reach speeds of up to 220 km/h as they freefall for up to 60 seconds, before floating serenely back down to ground under the parachute, taking in uninterrupted views of the Wollongong coastline for the eight-minute descent, and landing directly on the beach.





Symbio Wildlife Park | HELENSBURGH | symbiozoo.com.au



Symbio Wildlife Park is home to koalas, kangaroos, wombats, possums, cheetahs, lemurs, red pandas, meerkats, monkeys and so much more. Visitors can enjoy a range of behind-the-scenes and close encounter animal experiences. Set amongst 16 acres of manicured gardens, it offers a splash park, adventure playground and an abundance of picnic areas.





Touchdown Helicopters | SHELLHARBOUR touchdownhelicopters.com.au



Touchdown Helicopters at Shellharbour Airport offer scenic flights and aerial safaris around the Illawarra South Coast and Southern Highlands. They cruise above spectacular hidden valleys, breath-taking waterfalls and the pristine coast-line. A highlight is the Seacliff Bridge Scenic Experience, which follows the sandy coastline and sandstone cliffs to the Seacliff Bridge, an icon of the Illawarra.



SHOALHAVEN



Discover Jervis Bay | JERVIS BAY | discoverjervisbay.com.au



Need help organising a tour package for overseas visitors? Discover Jervis Bay specialises in experience packages that include accommodation, tours, attractions and restaurants. They create fresh itineraries designed to give international visitors the best experience of the region. Tours include scenic cruises, museum visits, natural wonders such as the Kiama Blowhole, and foodie experiences such as visiting oyster farms and orchards.



CRUISI

Dolphin Watch Cruises | JERVIS BAY | dolphinwatch.com.au



Get up close to majestic marine life with Dolphin Watch Cruises. Specially designed vessels explore the pristine waters of Jervis Bay, providing comfort and unparalleled access to seal colonies, 120 resident bottlenose dolphins and famous Jervis Bay landmarks. Tours are offered year-round with whale watching also available from May to November.





Jervis Bay Wild | JERVIS BAY | jervisbaywild.com.au



Jervis Bay Wild offers a range of tours to explore the beauty of the bay from dolphin watching to a sunset river cruise. Spot abundant and diverse wildlife in their natural habitat, sail along the white sand beaches and marvel at the cliffs and caves. Their fleet includes an easy-to-access, wheelchair-friendly catamaran designed to suit all ages. Kayak, canoe, and stand-up paddle board hire is also available.



SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS



The Bradman International Cricket Hall of Fame | BOWRAL international Crickethall.com



The Bradman Museum International Cricket Hall of Fame is located in Sir Donald Bradman's hometown of Bowral. The site houses state-of-the-art interactive experiences, a collection celebrating Bradman and other cricketing greats, and takes visitors on a journey from the origins of cricket through to the Big Bash League.



TTRACTION

Illawarra Fly Treetop Walk | ROBERSTON | illawarrafly.com.au



The Illawarra Fly Treetop Walk is a 1.5km trek through temperate rainforest along walkways nestled in the treetop canopy some 20-30 metres above the ground. Take in the stunning panoramic view of the Illawarra escarpment, from the rainforest canopy to the coastal towns and out across the Pacific Ocean. Thrill-seekers can try the Illawarra Fly Zipline – officially the highest in Australia.



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Accommodation

WOLLONGONG	****	Adina Apartment Hotel	Wollongong	adinahotels.com
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	***	Best Western City Sands	Wollongong	bestwestern.com
	****	Mantra Wollongong	Wollongong	mantra.com
	***	Novotel Wollongong North Beach	Wollongong	accorhotels.com
	****	Sage Hotel	Wollongong	nexthotels.com
	***	Quality Suites Pioneer Sands	Towradgi	<u>choicehotels.com</u>
KIAMA	***1	Comfort Inn Towradgi Beach	Towradgi	<u>choicehotels.com</u>
	****	The Sebel Harbourside	Kiama	accorhotels.com
	****	Big 4 Easts Beach Holiday Park	Kiama	big4.com.au
	***1	Discovery Holiday Park	Gerroa	discoveryholidayparks.com.au
	****	Crystal Creek Meadows Luxury Cottages and Spa Retreat	Kangaroo Valley	crystalcreekmeadows.com
SHOALHAVEN	***1	Ulladulla Guest House	Ulladulla	guesthouse.com
	Unique	Bangalay Luxury Villas	Shoalhaven Heads <u>bangalayvillas.com.au</u>	
	Unique	Bay and Bush Cottages	Jervis Bay <u>bayandbush.com.au</u>	
	Unique	Cupitt's Estate	Milton	cupittsestate.com.au
	Unique	Paperbark Camp	Jervis Bay	paperbarkcamp.com.au
SOI	****	Peppers Craigieburn	Bowral	peppers.com.au
ILAN	****	Peppers Manor House	Sutton Forest	peppers.com.au
E G	***	Milton House Country House and Spa	Bowral	miltonpark.com.au
Z Z	Unique	Downunder Farmstays	Bowral	downunderfarmstays.com.au
SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS	Unique	Vine Lodge	Exeter	vinelodge.com.au
SO	Unique	The Loch	Berrima	theloch.net.au

Planning a South Coast experience

The South Coast's scenery and country roads are ideal for self-drive itineraries.

Cruise the 140-kilometre long <u>Grand Pacific Drive</u>, through the rainforests of the Royal National Park, over the Sea Cliff Bridge and down to Wollongong, Shellharbour, Kiama and Shoalhaven. Return to Sydney via the Southern Highlands or head south along the South Coast Oyster Trail to Batemans Bay, Merimbula, and Eden - time it right and catch the annual Narooma Oyster Festival.

Take the journey on its own or as part of a longer itinerary such as the Sydney to Melbourne Touring Route.

SUGGESTED ITINERARY Surrounds South - South Coast NSW 3-Day Itinerary

DAY 1 SYDNEY - SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS

MORNING

Start with breakfast in the city before driving to Bowral.

Explore Bowral's beautiful gardens, galleries and museums including the **Bradman Museum and**International Cricket Hall of Fame. Stop for lunch at one of the many cafes and restaurants in town.
Explore delightful local shops and the treasure trove of Dirty Janes*.

AFTERNOON

Discover the excellent wine the region produces at one of the 17 cellar doors, including **PepperGreen Estate** and the biodynamic **Tractorless Vineyard**. Visit **Bowral Beekeeping*** for a class, learn to cook with **Stefano Marvello*** or join a unique **Wild Food Adventures** tour.

EVENING

Dine on local produce at one of many restaurants in Berrima, Bowral, Moss Vale or Mittagong. **The Mill*** has a range of relaxed, local options. For a fine dining experience try **Birch*** or **Eschalot***. Turn in for the night at one of the many cosy historic guest houses or cottages.

DAY 2 SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS - SHOALHAVEN

MORNING

After a country breakfast, head through Morton National Park, stopping off at Fitzroy Falls.

Continue on to Kangaroo Valley and the historic Hampden Bridge. Stop for lunch in the charming village. Book a tour and explore with **Valley Outdoors***.

AFTERNOON

Head to the coast via Berry township with its heritage buildings and boutique stores, and treat yourself with a visit to **The Famous Berry Donut Van***.

Explore the Shoalhaven's coastal gems, Jervis Bay, Hyams Beach, Milton and Mollymook.

Spend the afternoon exploring vineyards. Book in for a tour, tasting experience or masterclass, or sample local ales at **Jervis Bay Brewing Co***. Tour options are available with **Wine Knot Tours**.

EVENING

Take a twilight cruise with **Jervis Bay Wild** or a Sunset Winery Tour at **Cupitt's Estate**.

Dine on fresh local seafood, including oysters at **Cupitt's Estate** Ulladulla, **Bangalay Dining***, Shoalhaven Heads or **Bannisters by the Sea*** at Mollymook.

Choose from many unique accommodation options for your overnight stay.

DAY 3 SHOALHAVEN - WOLLONGONG

MORNING

Breakfast at a beachside café then cruise Jervis Bay with **Dolphin Watch Cruises Jervis Bay** or **Jervis Bay Wild**. Or get an early start and join a fishing charter with **Aquilla Fishing Charters***.

Stop at the **Illawarra Fly Treetop Walk** before heading north along the **Grand Pacific Drive** to the seaside towns of Kiama, Shellharbour and Wollongong. Visit farm gates of **Buena Vista Farm*** or **Darkes Glenbernie Orchard***.

AFTERNOON

Head skyward with **Touchdown Helicopters** or **Skydive Wollongong**, or hit the road with **Just Cruisin' Harley Davidson Motorcycle Tours**.

Have a close-up encounter with koalas and kangaroos at **Symbio Wildlife Park**. Visit Minnamurra Falls or tackle part of the Kiama Coastal Walk.

Explore Wollongong's surf beaches and rock pools then enjoy a beer at the **Illawarra Brewery**.

EVENING

Experience Wollongong's dining scene, craft breweries, distilleries and bars.

Enjoy a seaside stay in Wollongong or Kiama, or if you need to keep moving, continue through to Sydney.

