

## Greythorn Probus Presents

### Victoria's Silo Art Trail 5 Day Tour

15<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> March, 2021

#### Day 1 – Monday 15/3/21 (Melbourne/Horsham) (LD)



Country Victoria has become an unlikely art hub in recent years, with the tools of the trade and the canvases used being a little out of the ordinary! We'll spend the next couple of days exploring the north west of the state and admiring the incredible talent of the artists. Departing bright & early this morning, we make our way to Western Victoria. Following the Western Highway, we pass through **Ballarat** and **Ararat**, with the magnificent **Grampians** to our left, as we continue on to **Horsham**. We'll arrive in plenty of time to settle into our home for the next few days before we enjoy our first dinner together this evening. **Lunch provided today.**



**Overnight & dinner: Best Westlander**

#### Day 2 – Tuesday 16/3/21 (Horsham/Boort/Horsham) (BLD)



Today we'll begin to explore as we make our way to **Boort**. This small country town on the banks of Little Lake Boort usually attracts people for water sports, the town has very cleverly carved a future for itself not only with the diversification of industry, but also attracting tourism as well. Visitors to Boort can now see first-hand how these industries operate. Our first stop will be at **Simply Tomatoes & Aussie Wool Quilts**. It is really amazing to see the diversity here: specialty green tomato products, wool bedding, woolly Warmers and more! Continuing on we'll visit **Salute Oliva**. This family owned grove produces first class extra virgin olive oil and a range of table olives. Other produce for sale here includes jams, preserves olive oil soaps and gift packs. Boort has also more recently been gaining attention as the home of the '**Spanner Man**'. Local farmer John Piccoli had collected antique spanners for many years, and in his retirement he decided to do something with them. John now sculpts the spanners into incredible works of art and an ever growing collection of giant sculptures now adorn his garden, with the tallest - The Marlin, coming in at 7m tall and weighing 1200kg's! We are sure to be blown away by these incredible sculptures and John's skills. On leaving John's garden, we return to Horsham. **Lunch provided today.**

**Overnight & dinner: Best Westlander**

### Day 3 – Wednesday 17/3/21 (The Silo Art Trail) (BLD)



This is wheat country, with many of the towns in the region being established as service centres for the farms. Tall cement silos towering over the train line are a familiar sight throughout this part of the state, and at harvest time they are a hive of activity. But times have changed; the silos are getting old, and changes within the agricultural industry have led to many of the silos being decommissioned. In 2015 artist Guido Van Helten captured Australia's imagination and hearts when he saw the silos of the tiny town of Brim as a giant canvas. Van Helten's work is a wonderful tribute to the farming families of the area and inspired the creation of the **Silo Art Trail** which has given a new lease of life to many of these small communities. Today we explore the trail, taking in the silos of **Sheep Hills, Brim, Rosebery, Lascelles & Patchewollock**. We'll take time at each of the silos for photos and be inspired by the scale of the artworks and the incredible talent of each of the artists. Late afternoon we return to Horsham. **Lunch provided today.**

**Overnight & dinner: Best Westlander**

### Day 4 - Thursday 18/3/21 (Horsham/Jeparit/Nhill/Horsham) (BLD)



We head north to the small town of **Jeparit** this morning where we visit the **Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum**. The pioneers of this region had it tough – dry hot conditions in summer, cold winters, and relentless hard work – but they persevered and through their tenacity, innovation and determination they adapted to this harsh land that was so different to where they had come from. Our visit to the Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum today will give us an insight into those that made their home here and how this wild land was tamed into productive and successful farming communities. On leaving Jeparit we head to **Nhill**, on the northern edge of the Little Desert National Park, to visit the **Nhill Aviation Heritage Centre** and learn about their work to restore an Avro Anson aircraft. Late afternoon we return to Horsham via the Western Highway, taking time for a photo stop at **Pink Lake**, so named for the shades of pink that it turns after rains when the algae blooms and intensifies the unusual colour! This evening we head out for dinner, reminiscing about the highlights of our tour. **Lunch provided today.**

**Overnight: Best Westlander**

## Day 5 - Friday 19/3/21 (Horsham/Home) (BL)



We head home today, but before hitting the highway we have a couple of stops to make. On the outskirts of **Murtoa** to visit the **Stick Shed** – one of Australia’s most unusual buildings! During WWII buildings of this type were used as temporary storage for wheat which could not be exported. Although many Stick Sheds were erected through southern & western Australia, sadly this is the only one left. This shed is HUGE – at 900ft by 200ft and approximately 60ft high in the centre, it is the largest rustically-built structure in the world! Today we will learn more about this unusual and impressive building and discover why it is known as the Stick Shed. Next we take in our final silo of the tour at **Rupanyup**. This time two of the huge metal grain bins were given a makeover and now depict the faces of 2 young community members who play in the local football and netball teams. After our final stop on the trail we settle back in our seats and head down the Western Highway, bound for home. With a **lunch break** along the way, we reach Melbourne early evening. **Lunch provided enroute.**

**Overnight: Home, sweet home...**

### **The cost:**

**\$1,060 per person Twin/Double Share, Add \$200 for Single Supplement (Min 25 passengers)**

**Inclusions:** Coach travel, twin share accommodation, cooked breakfasts, 2 course dinners, lunches and inclusions as per itinerary, all admission and tour costs

## **Group Link Terms & Conditions**

1. **\$50 per person** non-refundable deposit & completed booking form due **25/10/19, or immediately upon booking.**
2. **\$50 per person** non-refundable second deposit, **due by 16/10/20.**
3. Balance of payment **due by 8/2/21.**
4. Any special dietary (vegetarian/vegan or medically diagnosed conditions such as diabetes, food allergy, coeliac) or rooming requests, e.g. ground floor, must be advised at time of submitting rooming list. Special requests after the submission of the rooming list cannot be accepted. Special dietary requests cannot be catered to for morning/afternoon teas.
5. Group Link reserves the right to vary the content of its tour should the need arise, to ensure the smooth running, safety, wellbeing and/or enjoyment of the passengers.
6. In the event of a cancellation **by an individual** (providing total numbers don't drop below minimum group costing), the following fees apply:
  - a. Up to 15/10/20 – loss of \$50 deposit
  - b. 16/10/20 – 7/2/21 – loss of \$100 deposits
  - c. 8/2/21 onwards – 100% cancellation fee
7. Further, no refund shall be made for any unused portion of any itinerary. Alterations to an itinerary, made by a passenger, shall be wholly at the expense of that passenger.
8. Some accommodation properties may require a room bond or credit card number to cover incidentals not otherwise covered in the cost of the tour. Please note that this will be the responsibility of individual passengers.
9. Amendments to rooming/passenger lists must be advised in writing and will take effect during business hours (Mon to Fri 9am to 5pm). Bookings made after submission of rooming list are subject to availability and re-costing. A late booking/amendment fee may apply.
10. 'Forced Singles' are only accepted according to the policy of individual accommodation properties.
11. In the unlikely event of mechanical failure of a vehicle, Group Link Travel reserves the right to substitute the best available alternative vehicle within reason and at its discretion.
12. This tour has been planned and booked in good faith that all inclusions shall be available. However due to the ongoing issues surrounding COVID-19, some inclusions may be withdrawn or altered in accordance with government requirements, and/or at the supplier's discretion. Group Link will make all effort to offer the itinerary as described, but reserves the right to substitute inclusions where necessary.
13. **Force Majeure** If by any means of any event of force majeure (which shall include terrorism, pandemic or any cause or event outside Group Link Travel's control) we shall be delayed in or prevented from performing our obligations, then such delay or non-performance shall not be deemed a breach or entitlement to a damages claim against Group Link Travel. Our obligations shall be suspended whilst such event of force majeure continues. Refunds requested by an individual as a result of such an event will have irrecoverable third party costs and fixed overhead charges deducted from the refund amount.
14. Group Link Travel and contracted operators will not accept responsibility for financial loss or delays resulting from services not being provided as listed due to reasons outside Group Link Travel's control including the cessation of trading of a service provider due to financial bankruptcy or any other reason.
15. It is a requirement of Group Link Travel that any passenger joining this tour is mentally and physically capable of caring for themselves and negotiating coach stairs without the aid of our coach crew or other passengers. Should a passenger require care, they will be required to travel with a personal carer. Further, objectionable behaviour towards other passengers will not be tolerated and behaviour deemed as such in the opinion of Group Link Travel staff, will require the passenger to leave the tour, wholly at the passenger's expense.
16. In booking this tour, we agree that we have read and will abide by these terms and conditions.

**Special Dietary Requests:** Please note that while Group Link makes every effort to ensure special dietary requests are met by suppliers, any passenger with a special dietary request should confirm the supply of such meal on arrival at each venue where a meal is provided. Whilst Group Link will request these dietary requirements, Group Link will not be held responsible for the non-supply of such meal, it is the responsibility of the individual to confirm such supply before the meal.

**Travel Insurance:** We highly recommended that passengers take out Travel Insurance once first deposit is paid to cover any unforeseen circumstances that may arise prior to or during travel.

**\*\*** Cancellations must be made in writing and such notice is not effective until received by Group Link. Days of notice commence from the day notice is received (during office hours not being weekend or public holiday) by Group Link. Cancellations made on weekends or public holidays are deemed to have been received by Group Link at the commencement of business on the next working day. Days of notice are based on the first date on which the passengers commence arrangements.

### **CONTACT GROUP LINK TRAVEL:**

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Our Office Number is answered 24 hours / day, 7 days / week in case of emergency.

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