

Barrington Insights

10th - 14th October 2016



Images: Hamilton Lund/Brett Gregory; Destination NSW

This relaxing 5 day / 4 night tour travels by chartered coach from Thirroul and visits the Hunter Valley, Barrington Tops, Great Lakes and Mid-North Coast regions. In our customary style, guests will enjoy a range of experiences and insights as we take the road less travelled, visiting historic towns and unique gardens, savouring the good life with wine and cheese tastings, taking an award-winning cruise and exploring the river valleys, forested mountains and coastal lakes of these scenic regions.

We look forward to welcoming you on *Barrington Insights*.

John and Paul Tuckerman



Touring Programme

Day 1 Monday 10th October Thirroul to Cessnock

Morning departure from Thirroul for the historic town of Windsor. We visit St Mathew's church, which is the oldest Anglican church in Australia, commissioned by Governor Lachlan Macquarie and designed and built by Francis Greenway.

From Windsor we follow the Hawkesbury River to Wisemans Ferry where we cross on the punt. We continue along beside the Macdonald River, a tributary of the Hawkesbury, arriving for lunch at the 1836-built Settlers Arms Inn at St Albans. After lunch, we continue to Wollombi by the Great North Road, constructed with convict labour between 1825–1836, with several of the original culverts and embankments still standing.

Overnight at Hunter Valley Travellers Rest Motel, Cessnock

Day 2 Tuesday 11th October Cessnock to Muswellbrook

Our day begins in Pokolbin at the multi-award winning Hunter Valley Gardens. Set over 60 acres, there are ten individual international display gardens, including the delightful Storybook Garden. After exploring the extensive gardens we enjoy lunch in the grounds. In the afternoon, gourmands can tempt their taste buds at the Hunter Valley Cheese Factory and Travertine Winery. Leaving Pokolbin, we head to Singleton where we visit the Australian Army Infantry Museum. The museum is under the command of the Australian Army History Unit and is an impressive and comprehensive collection ranging from pre-Federation to the present and serving both military personnel and civilians. Our day ends in Muswellbrook, where we stay overnight.

Overnight at the Hermitage Motel, Muswellbrook



Image: Jeffrey Drewitz; Destination NSW

Day 3 Wednesday 12th October Muswellbrook to Gloucester

Departing the Hunter Valley, we travel to Gloucester across the scenic Barrington Tops. Morning tea is served at the historic Victoria Hotel Moonan Flat before we ascend to the Barrington Tops National Park. This 74,000 World Heritage area is a window into the ancient Gondwana landscape and features Antarctic beech forests, alpine areas and rainforest. Along the way we stop at the Polblue Swamp, Thunderbolt's Lookout and Devil's Hole, and Honeysuckle Falls, where you can stretch your legs on a short walk or just take in the varied views. We then descend the Tops to the pretty township of Gloucester for our overnight stay.

Overnight at the Bucketts Way Motel.

Day 4 Thursday 13th October Gloucester to Nelson Bay

A short drive brings us to the coastal resort of Forster–Tuncurry. Discover some of the insights of this beautiful region including a stop at Cape Hawke lookout for a magnificent coastal view. Then board the MV Free Spirit for an informative luncheon cruise on Wallis Lake, where some of the finest oysters in NSW are produced. After lunch we take the scenic Lakes Way, passing the southern shores of Wallis Lake and skirting Smiths Lake and the northern reaches of Myall Lake, before crossing the watershed to the southern part of the Myall Lakes system. We follow the quiet Bombah Point route through the beautiful Myall Lakes National Park to the holiday town of Tea Gardens, where we take the ferry to Nelson Bay on the southern shore of Port Stephens.

Overnight at the Nelson Towers Motel

Day 5 Friday 14th October Nelson Bay to Thirroul

We travel to Newcastle, then via the eastern side of Lake Macquarie and Tuggerah Lake to The Entrance where you will have some free time to relax and perhaps enjoy a morning coffee (not included in tariff). Then we head south to the Australian Botanic Garden at Mt Annan for a guided tour and lunch. The Australian Botanic Garden showcases the diverse native collections of the Royal Botanic Gardens and is home to a number of special local ecosystems, including the endangered Cumberland Woodland. Late afternoon arrival at Thirroul where our sojourn comes to an end.



Image: The Australian Botanic Garden

General Information & Booking Conditions

Cost

The cost of this tour is \$1,475 AUD.

The cost includes:

- ✿ all transportation as per the itinerary
- ✿ all sightseeing excursions
- ✿ accommodation on a twin-share basis
- ✿ guided touring as specified in the itinerary
- ✿ all meals
- ✿ all taxes and fees
- ✿ complimentary water bottle
- ✿ services of Insights Tours' tour-guide throughout the tour

To make a booking

- ✿ Please complete the booking form and return it to Insights Tours with your payment.

Cancellation Policy

For cancellations on or before Monday 29th August 2016

Refunds will be subject to a cancellation fee of \$250. For this reason Insights Tours strongly recommends that you consider obtaining travel insurance for loss of deposit in the event that you need to cancel.

For cancellations after Monday 29th August 2016

If you need to cancel your booking after Monday 29th August, the cancellation fee is 100% of the total tariff, that is, there is no refund of the total tariff.

Insights Tours strongly recommends that you consider travel insurance in case you need to cancel.

Insurance

We strongly recommend considering travel insurance to cover cancellation fees as well as medical emergencies, lost luggage and unforeseen delays during the tour. Insights Tours can provide information about obtaining insurance. We are an accredited agent of Aussie Travel Cover insurance.

Coach

Insights Tours will be chartering a 21 seat air-conditioned coach that has comfortable and well-spaced seating with excellent visibility.

Accommodation

All accommodation is in good standard motels. The cost of the tour is based on twin share ensuite accommodation.

Single accommodation is available for an additional cost of \$175.

Luggage

Please limit your luggage to 1 suitcase and 1 piece of hand luggage per person.

Water

In the interests of reducing the use of plastic, Insights Tours provides each guests with a complimentary refillable metal water bottle

About Insights Tours



Insights Tours is a tour company operated by Paul and John Tuckerman. We arrange tours which utilise chartered trains, coaches and aeroplanes and provide passengers with spacious and ample accommodation. Our philosophy is to provide a tour with a spectrum of interesting visits, inspections and conveyances. Each tour is uniquely arranged to encompass the most interesting sights of the regions visited. Insights Tours engages our own guides to ensure that our passengers have the best insight into the location being visited.

Passenger numbers are limited to ensure a commodious travelling experience and to ensure that visits and guided tours are of maximum benefit. This tour is for a maximum of 16 passengers. Each of our tours is personally escorted ensuring you can relax in the confidence that all of the pesky administrative details and arrangements are being taken care of. This tour will be escorted by Paul Tuckerman.

There is always the chance that our itinerary could be delayed or curtailed in some way beyond our control. Except for prolonged or unexpected events, the tour will be conducted as closely as possible to the itinerary stated above. Every reasonable endeavour will be made to conduct the advertised itinerary however we reserve the right to alter the itinerary in the event of unforeseen circumstances.

If you would like details or assistance with any booking, please contact Paul:

Telephone: (61) 02 4267 2535

Facsimile: (61) 02 4267 5530

Email: paul@insightstours.com.au

Postal: PO Box 180

Thirroul NSW 2515

In person: by appointment at 14 Allenby Parade Bulli

Barrington Insights

Booking Form

	Guest 1	Guest 2
Name		
Address		
Telephone		
Email		
Emergency Contact Person & Telephone		
Any special requirements or requests (especially dietary)		
Room type (please circle)	<input type="checkbox"/> Twin (2 beds) <input type="checkbox"/> Double (1 large bed) <input type="checkbox"/> Single supplement (additional \$175)	
Deposit * Cheque enclosed - Please make cheques payable to "Insights Tours" * Electronic transfer/direct deposit Account Name: Insights Tours Client Travel Account BSB: 062607 Account Number: 10131313		

I/we acknowledge the terms and conditions of booking

Signature/s

Guest 1

Guest 2

Please return to: Insights Tours
 PO Box 180
 THIRROUL NSW 2515
 Facsimile: +61 2 42 675530