Celebrating our Tourism Award Winners

Summer is... PERFECT PICNICS & REFRESHING CIDERS

Follow in the artists footsteps along the Sorrento-Portsea Artists’ Trail

GRAND ENDEAVOURS among the tall trees of a heritage listed Fern Gully

WIN! a Mornington Peninsula holiday valued at $5,000
How would you find your way?
CLICK TO ENTER

Ts&Cs apply
There's so much to do in summer. You don’t have to stay in the water either... Right across the Peninsula you’ll find fun activities and events to keep you entertained >>>

- The inspiring Sorrento-Portsea Artists’ Trail
- This month’s recipe
- Picturesque picnic locations
- Refreshing Summer ciders to drink

Disclaimer: Mornington Peninsula Regional Tourism (including its officers and agents) has made every endeavour to ensure that the details appearing in this publication are correct at the time of printing, but accept no responsibility for any inaccuracy or mis-description, whether by inclusion or omission, nor does the Publisher accept any responsibility for subsequent change or withdrawal, of prices, details or services shown which are subject to alteration without notice.
Ten Mornington Peninsula tourism businesses enjoyed spectacular success in the recent 2016 RACV Victorian Tourism Awards and showed the world the high quality and diversity of the regions’ visitor experiences.
2016 GOLD AWARD WINNERS FROM TOP LEFT:
- Lakeside Villas at Crittenden Estate - Self-contained Accommodation;
- Peninsula Hot Springs - Eco Tourism;
- Harmony Bed & Breakfast - Hosted Accommodation;
- The Wellness Manor - New Tourism Business;
- Green Olive at Red Hill - Excellence in Food Tourism (Hall of Fame).

The region also celebrated with a Silver Awards going to Moonlit Sanctuary - Tourist Attractions and Find Your Way Mornington Peninsula - Destination Marketing, along with a Bronze Award to Crittenden Estate - Tourism Wineries, Distilleries, Breweries.

Finalists in their categories were McClelland Sculpture Park + Gallery - Cultural Tourism and Bay Fish N Trips - Tour & Transport Operators.
GRAND ENDEAVOURS

Find your way to a rare surviving remnant rainforest and fern gully on a 27 hectare National Trust property.
ENDEAVOUR FERN GULLY

The car park opposite the Red Hill Recreation Reserve on Red Hill Road looks innocuous, with no sign of the treasure that lies just down the path. And when we say down, we do mean down! At the bottom of the quite steep hill path lies the spectacular **Endeavour Fern Gully**. It encompasses the headwaters of Stony Creek and is a real Mornington Peninsula hidden gem. Two thirds of the property is cool temperate rainforest, and the 2km boardwalk starts by meandering through a fern gully overhung with very tall tree ferns - keep your eyes open for yabby holes in the mud! The loop trail then travels through a ‘Riparian Forest’ of tall, elegant, white truncked Manna Gums to the woodlands. The area contains several rare plant species and is a vital source of food and habitat for a wide variety of animals and birds including Powerful Owls. There is some great interpretive signage that tells the story of the area as you wander, and some great photo opportunities!
You can trek thirty kilometres along the Bass Strait coast on the Coastal Walk; from the most southerly part of the Mornington Peninsula at Cape Schanck, to the most westerly point of the region at Point Nepean.
The beauty of this walk is that you can do it all at once, or just a bit at a time.

Although this walk can be done in either direction, more spectacular views are provided when walking west from Cape Schanck to Point Nepean as you get views along the length of the Bass Strait coast. *Cape Schanck to Gunnamatta Beach (6.7km):* Find your way through dense coastal vegetation and past three spectacular lookouts. *Gunnamatta to Rye Ocean Beach (4.5km):* Along the surf beach past Boags Rocks to the stairs. *Rye Ocean Beach to No 16 Beach (4.1km):* Shorter inland track sections loop around two small headlands past the rugged outcrop known as Lizard Rock and through the dunes. *No.16 Beach to Bridgewater Bay (5km):* Along the the historic Lifesaving Track built to rescue people from shipwrecks in the 1890's, to the picturesque Dimmicks Beach, spectacular clifftops and the rockpools at Bridgewater Bay.

*Bridgewater Bay to Sorrento (5km):* Past Spray Point (make a quick detour to check out this spectacular headland) to Koonya Ocean Beach to Diamond Bay (and another detour option to the aptly named Dog's Head). Continue on to Coppins Lookout and the start of the Coppins Track heritage trail. *Sorrento to London Bridge (4km):* Take the short detour to Websters Lookout for stunning views over both Sorrento and Port Phillip. On to the Portsea Surf Beach and the Farnsworth track along the cliff tops past two scenic lookouts. At London Bridge make sure you check out the amazing rock pools visible at low tide. *London Bridge to Point Nepean (1.7km):* Just a short walk through historic Moonah woodlands takes you past Wilsons Folly and into Point Nepean.

Of course for those still with energy to burn, you could tie this into the **Mornington Peninsula 100km Walk** that includes walks around Point Nepean, the Bay Trail and the Two Bays Walk.
“If ever a region was made for walking, it’s the Mornington Peninsula.”
The Mornington Peninsula has three very different lighthouses for you to find in three very different locations. Interestingly in the early days they all had their own lighthouse keepers - even the one in the middle of the bay! At Cape Schanck (the most southern tip of the Mornington Peninsula) you will find the second coastal lighthouse ever built in Victoria. Standing high on the clifftops 80 metres above the ocean, it was built of local limestone in 1859. A wander around the base of the 21 metre tall lighthouse takes you to the nearby lookout with great coastal views to Portsea. The McCrae Lighthouse (also known as South Channel Lighthouse or the Eastern Shore Light) was originally timber and built in 1854. It was replaced by the current metal structure in 1883 and is the tallest lighthouse in Port Phillip. At night there is a chance to see its distinctive form illuminated by pretty light displays. The rotund South Channel Pile Light was built in 1872 three kilometres off the Rye coast. Public access is only by boat and limited to viewing the structure - and the noisy resident fur seals!
Follow the trail

For many years the Mornington Peninsula has been an inspiration to famous artists. The Sorrento-Portsea Artists’ Trail brings their works to life.
Fourteen paintings by famous Australian artists of the mid 1800’s to mid 1900’s are reproduced on signs around the Sorrento and Portsea area.

The beauty of the Mornington Peninsula has long been a favourite site for artists to gain inspiration. The views from the most westerly tip of the region extend along the beaches and sheltered coastline of Port Phillip to the Bellarine Peninsula, Melbourne and Mount Dandenong. This contrasts with the rugged splendour of Bass Strait and the Mornington Peninsula National Park on the Bass Strait side.

The Sorrento Portsea Artists’ Trail takes you to where the artist would have originally sat to paint and reproduces the painting in situ with the corresponding view. Some works include the buildings of the time, such as the views of the hotels of Sorrento. But most use the stunning natural beauty of the area as their subject and are easily recognisable. Sometimes there are two paintings of almost the same view and it is fascinating to see the artists interpret it in their own style. The trail includes works by Albert Tucker, Sir Arthur Streeton, John Perceval and Arthur Boyd, (as well as his son Penleigh Boyd) among others, and some of the original paintings are held in the Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery collection, the Nepean Historical Society collection and the National Gallery of Victoria collection.

With three stops near the Sorrento Pier, four near Point King, one at Shelley Beach, two at Sorrento Beach and four scattered along the Bass Strait coast from Portsea to Diamond Bay, the Trail covers quite a wide area and needs to be covered by both car and by foot. However, finding each one makes for an interesting (and educational) experience and is worth the effort.
The trail includes a section along the Portsea clifftops that is known locally as ‘Millionaires Walk’. This stunning clifftop walk section lies between Lentell Avenue and Point King Road and boasts spectacular views over private beach boxes, jetties and piers, against a backdrop of some very exclusive and expensive real estate.
INGREDIENTS - SERVES 6
- 300ml thickened cream
- 1 cup milk
- 75g caster sugar
- 2 tsp vanilla essence
- 2 ½ tsp gelatine
- 600g Sunny Ridge strawberries, washed, hulled & sliced
- 2 punnets raspberries, washed
- 2 punnets blueberries, washed
- 2 punnets blackberries, washed
- 60ml orange juice
- 2 tbsp icing sugar
- Icing sugar for dusting
- 6 stemless wine glasses

METHOD
Combine the cream, milk and caster sugar in a small saucepan and stir over a low heat until the sugar is dissolved. Stir in the vanilla essence and remove from the heat. Bring a small saucepan of water to the boil. Place two tablespoons of the boiling water in a heat-proof bowl and sprinkle with the gelatine. Remove the saucepan from the heat and place the heat proof bowl of gelatine in the simmering water, stirring until the gelatine is dissolved. Combine the gelatine and cream mixtures and stir gently. Pour the mixture evenly into the 6 wine glasses. Cover with cling wrap and refrigerate for about 6 hours or until set. Meanwhile, combine the strawberries, orange juice and icing sugar in a medium bowl, cover with cling wrap and refrigerate for an hour.

TO SERVE
Once the panna cotta has set, spoon the strawberry mixture evenly into the glasses. Prior to serving, pile a handful of mixed raspberries, blueberries and blackberries on top and dust lightly with icing sugar.

With strawberries now in season, this light and luscious dessert is perfect with fruit picked fresh from the fields of Sunny Ridge Strawberry Farm.
LET’S GO GET US A PIC-A-NIC BASKET!

Yogi Bear was right! There is a lot of joy to be found inside a picnic basket. Especially if it’s one created for you by the produce-passionate-people of the Mornington Peninsula.

You can book a basket to go at Merricks General Wine Store, or have it delivered and all set up for you in a delightful location; try Montalto Vineyard and Olive Grove or Polperro Winery. If you just want to enjoy the picnic atmosphere try ‘Prawns On The Lawn’ at Max’s at Red Hill Estate.

All you need to bring is your appetite!
SUMMER CIDER...
The deep red soils of Red Hill grow the most delicious apples, and it follows that there is delicious cider made here. In sweet, traditional or dry styles. Take your pick!
The Mornington Peninsula has amazing wine, food and farmgate experiences. Meet the makers, growers and chefs as you find your way around the region.

Find out more >
Discover key regional experiences; attractions and adventure, marine activities, arts and culture, golf, hot springs and wellbeing, tours, transport, markets and shopping, and more.

**FIND YOUR WAY TO**

**ARTS & CULTURE**
McClelland Sculpture Park + Gallery >
Merricks House Art Gallery >
Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery >

**ADVENTURE & ATTRACTIONS**
Arthurs Seat Eagle >
Ashcombe Maze & Lavender Gardens >
Boneo Maze & Mini Golf >
Gunnamatta Trail Rides >
Heronwood Historic House & Gardens >
Lantasia at Boneo Maze >
Moonlit Sanctuary Wildlife Conservation Park >
Mornington Racing Club Events >
Mornington Railway >
Sunny Ridge Strawberry Farm >
The Big Goose >
The Enchanted Adventure Garden >

**GOLF**
Mercure Portsea Golf Club >

**MARINE ACTIVITIES**
Bayplay Adventure Tours >
Moonraker Dolphin Swims >
Peninsula Standup Paddle >
Polperro Dolphin Swims >
Searoad Ferries >

**TOURS**
Gunnamatta Trail Rides >

**SPA & WELLBEING**
Peninsula Hot Springs >
The Wellness Manor >
Woodman Estate Spa Retreat >

**MARKETS AND SHOPPING**
Mornington Racecourse Market >
Peninsula Gourmet Emporium >
Wells St & Point Nepean Markets >
SUITE DREAMS

What will your wake up call be?
The murmur of the sea? Bird calls in the bush? The rustling of the vines or the first golfers to the tee?

Arthurs Views >
Best Western Plus Brooklands of Mornington >
Big 4 Mornington Peninsula Holiday Park >
Blue Range Estate Villas >
Happy Glamper >
Harmony Bed & Breakfast >
Lakeside Villas at Crittenden Estate >
Lindenderry Country House Hotel >
Mercure Portsea >
Mornington Peninsula Foreshore Camping >
Peppers Moonah Links Resort >
Polperro Winery Villas >
Quarters at Flinders Hotel >
Woodman Estate >

FIND GREAT PACKAGES HERE >
SAND SCULPTING AUSTRALIA - LANDS OF IMAGINATION
26 December - 25 April 2017
In a larger than life experience, walk amongst towering giants, journey through Candy Land into Gingerbread Village, turn back time and join the dinosaurs in Prehistoric Valley, explore the Enchanted Forest and head down the rabbit hole to Wonderland.
See website for more details >

LANTASIA AT BONEO MAZE
26 December - 31 January
A light sculpture event in the night garden. Coming to the Peninsula for a limited season, the gardens will open at night with over 100 silk light sculptures. Enjoy night mini golf, experience the magic of our 1864 vintage carousel, picnic under the stars and watch our garden glow.
See website for more details >

MORNINGTON SUMMER TWILIGHT CRAFT MARKET
Saturday 17 December, 4 - 9pm
Come and enjoy the wonderful ambiance of the Twilight Market at the Mornington Racecourse. Enjoy dinner on the lawn after browsing the market stalls and purchasing those unique quality hand made goods that this market is famous for.
See website for more details >
You see, there’s so much to see and do on the Mornington Peninsula and it’s our job to help you Find Your Way.

**Try the online Trip Planner Tool.**

You can choose all the things you’d like to do, places you’d like to see and add in your accommodation, then put them all together in a shortlist. The Trip Planner will then pull it all together into an itinerary and even put it onto a map with directions.

You can personalise your trip with a name, download it to your mobile or tablet, print it to use as a guide as you travel around the region and even email it to a friend.

Go!
WHAT WILL YOU FIND?

Follow us to join the conversation and keep up to date with what’s happening in region.

As you discover all of the great things to do and places to see on the Mornington Peninsula share your pics on social media using our hashtags.

Hashtagged images stream into social media feeds on our campaign websites so that we can inspire others to get out and explore the region.

We’d love to see what you find!
#winefoodfarmgate
#findyourwaymorningtonpeninsula