

Snorkel with sea dragons, swim with seals

The seas around the Mornington Peninsula are simply alive with adventure – on, in and under the water.

Large, comfortable launches speed visitors to the hot fishing spots, or simply cruise along the coastline where there's an excellent view of Portsea's famous multi-million dollar cliff-top mansions.

Swimming with whiskery seals, diving with playful dolphins or snorkelling with sea dragons gives visitors a chance to experience these intriguing creatures in their natural environment. But non-swimmers don't miss out, as they can watch the aquatic antics from the cruise boat or take a sea kayaking tour along coastal waters where dolphins play. With our vast coastlines, the Peninsula is naturally blessed with some great surf breaks (boards and guides can be hired). And experienced divers with a real thirst for adventure can explore the shipwrecks which were victims of treacherous ocean waters.

With 25,000 hectares of national parks to explore, those with a love of walking simply never run out of options. There are easy, short boardwalks through bird-filled wetlands, day walks that take in beautiful bush and bays, and longer walks right up to the memorable 26km Two Bays Walk.

Morning Activity



Polperro Dolphin Swims (p23)

Enjoy the experience of a lifetime swimming with wild dolphins and seals in Port Phillip Bay. Groups are kept small to ensure high standards of customer and environmental care.



Fish 'n' Ships (p22)

Enjoy site seeing on the Bay with a 360° view of wildlife and scenery. Take your journey below the surface diving and snorkelling with qualified locals who will locate the best dive sites in the region.



Gunnamatta Trail Rides (p35)

Specialising in horse trail rides to the spectacular St Andrews ocean beach and through the Greens Bush National Park. Suitable for beginners to advanced riders, take a thrilling ocean beach ride or a countryside jaunt.

Lunch Options



The Portsea Hotel (p38)

In the heart of Portsea, the hotel offers Bistro or à la carte dining, with a superb terrace, beer garden and deck boasting spectacular views across Port Phillip Bay.



Carrington Park Club (p34)

Built in the 1940s, the building is pure Australian art deco architecture. The bistro chef prepares locally inspired menus based on market fresh produce.



Blue Mini Catering (p27)

Great casual food and drink, incorporating fresh, local produce with a seasonally changing menu. Dine in the café or book a 'lunch box tour' with Gunnamatta.

Afternoon Activity



Bayplay Adventure Tours (p25)

Explore the wonder of our local marine life. Dive on living reefs and old shipwrecks, or take a guided sea kayak tour along the southern coastline.



The Park at Point Nepean (p25)

This significant National Park has spectacular views and a rich history as a former quarantine station and defence outpost.



Cape Schanck Boardwalk (p46)

Looking out across the wild waters of Bass Strait, climb down the timber staircase to Pulpit Rock and the thundering beach below the Lighthouse.

Evening Activity



Peninsula Hot Springs (p30)

Natural hot mineral springs flow into the public pools and private baths, 10 treatment tables and a relaxation room invite you to see in the evening with pure indulgence.



Moonlit Sanctuary (p29)

See many rarely seen endangered species and enjoy 'hands on' encounters with Australian native animals under the cover of darkness.



Moonraker Dolphin Cruise (p25)

Take a late afternoon cruise on board a fully equipped luxury 70ft launch and see Port Phillip Bay shimmer as it winds down into evening.



With a different theme each year – Sand Sculpting Australia offers visitors of all ages a wonderful experience to view 3,500 tonnes of sand that has been transformed by over 20 Australian and

International sand sculptors into intricately carved sand sculptures that tower upwards of 18 metres.

From 26 December to 26 April annually.

Accommodation Options

- Aquabelle Apartments (p45)
- Best Western One Four Nelson (p46)
- Cape Schanck Lightstation Motor Inn (p47)
- Moonlight Bay Resort (p47)

