

WINTER WHALE TRAIL



185KM SELF DRIVE ITINERARY

ADELAIDE

PORTLAND

PORT FAIRY

WARRNAMBOOL

Great Ocean Road

MELBOURNE

PLAN YOUR WHALE SPOTTING ROAD TRIP AT
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WE KNOW THAT CHILLY DAYS CAN BE A REAL DRAG, BUT THAT'S NO REASON TO MELTDOWN YOUR TRAVEL PLANS.

Winter along the Great Ocean Road isn't all grey skies and rainy days. Rainforests come to life, the ocean adds powerful drama to the coastline, fireplaces crackle and invite cosy evenings, and crowds dwindle. And of course, our giant flippered friends return to the southern shores for their annual babymoon.

Our winter is a whale's summer and from May to September, the giants of the deep journey from the Antarctic to the warmer waters of the Southern Ocean to breed, birth and raise their calves. This is what we call that 'whale corridor'. It's the only place in the world where you can watch whales breeding so close to the shore, and we're not at all surprised our mammal friends love to come here and play. It is one of the most spectacular stretches of coastline in the world – if we do say so ourselves.

Warrnambool, Port Fairy and Portland offer some of the best whale spotting vantage points to watch the Southern Right, Humpback, Blue, and the occasional Orca whale breaching, chin slapping, flippering and spyhopping. And if you're lucky enough, you might even see a few young calves splashing about, too.

But the region offers much more beyond blow holes and flipper slaps.

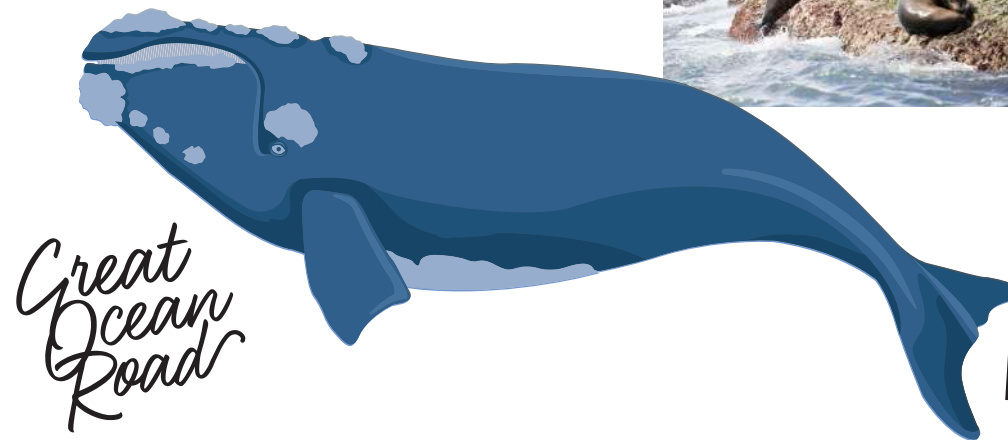
Sure, the limestone structures of the **12 Apostles** and **London Bridge** are pretty remarkable, but there are some lesser selfie-ed spots just as worthy of a snap'n'brag. Visit **Flagstaff Hill Maritime Village** to see the resurrection of the 19th century village brought to life with a dazzling **sound and light show**. Warm up at the **Deep Blue Hot Springs**; then brunch, lunch, wine and dine on lip-smacking local produce in one of

Warrnambool's cafés or restaurants - is there a better way to spend a winter's day? We'll wait.

Uncover the secrets of the Shipwreck Coast at **Loch Ard Gorge** and **Wreck Beach** in **Port Campbell National Park**. Give the native land animals some attention as you explore the ancient volcanic landscapes of **Tower Hill**. Brush up on your knowledge of the local Indigenous cultures at the **Worn Gundidj Visitor Centre** and make your activity trackers buzz with one of the many walking trails, like the **Port Fairy Historic Town Walk**. There's also the **Portland Maritime Discovery Centre**, which will give you an old-school perspective of the whaling industry, and **Cape Bridgewater** will offer a marine-life view of a furrier kind thanks to the colony of fur seal that call it home.

Talk about a whale of a time.

Winter is no time to curl up and while the days away, why not whale the days away instead and let that adventurous spirit fly free. The full itinerary on the Winter Whale Trail can be found at WWW.VISITGREATOCEANROAD.ORG.AU



THIS WINTER
TAKE THE JOURNEY

#WINTERWHALETRAIL

I AM WARRNAMBOOL I AM PORT FAIRY I AM PORTLAND