

Autumn 2021 Rail Tours



vintagerailjourneys.com.au

1300 421 422

G'day and welcome aboard

Step back in time with the team at Vintage Rail Journeys and travel in style on board a fleet of newly restored 1960s ex-Southern Aurora sleeping carriages.

Vintage Rail Journeys has developed a series of iconic rail tours travelling through some of Australia's most breathtaking scenery in regional NSW. Our aim is to celebrate Australia's diverse history and rich culture with visits to regional towns, gardens and attractions.

You will also travel on rail lines which don't have scheduled passenger services, making this a real adventure.

Unpack only once and enjoy everything that slow rail touring provides. Our itineraries are designed so that we only travel during daylight hours. We don't want you to miss any of the spectacular scenery.

Sleep on the train in restored ex-Southern Aurora Sleeping carriages. Your private cabin converts to a day travel configuration.

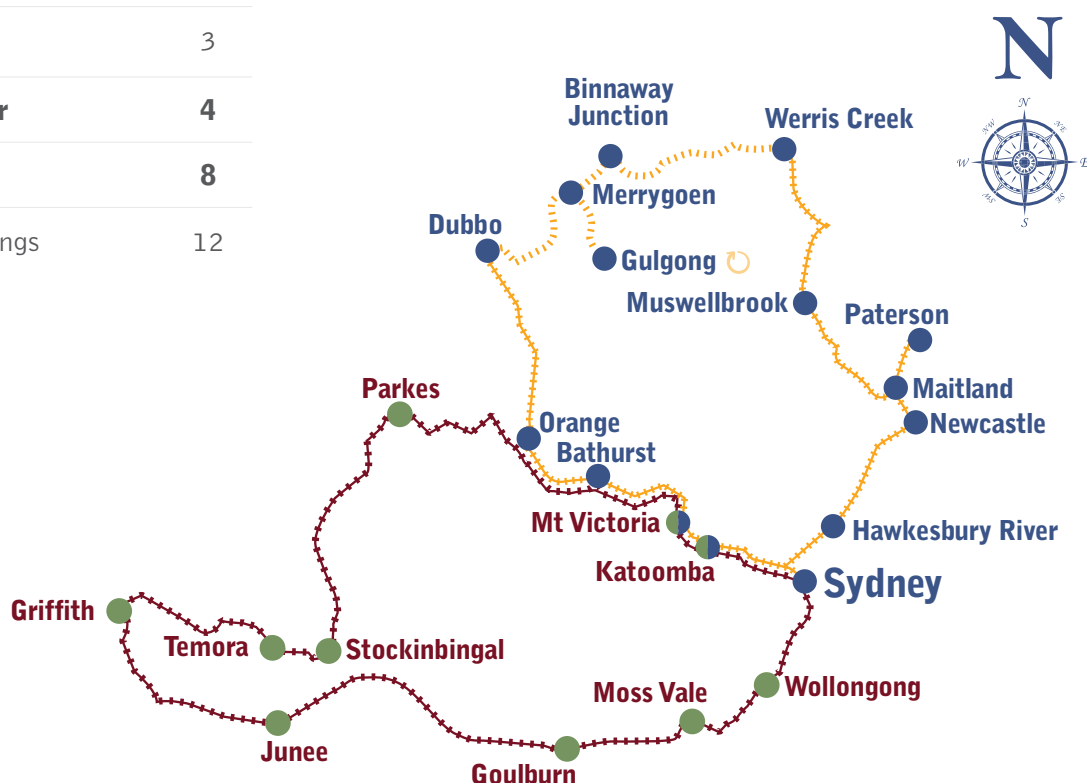
Dining and Lounge carriages are available when travelling.

Meals are as listed in the tour itinerary. Meals served on the train are freshly prepared by our on board chef using local ingredients from each region.

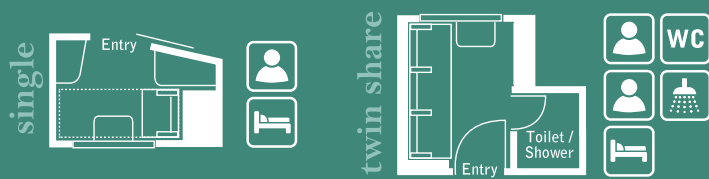
Sightseeing is included at each stop for off-train experiences on our 'Aurora Explorer' fleet of coaches.

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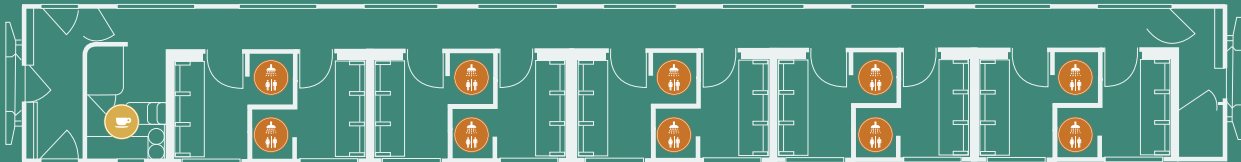
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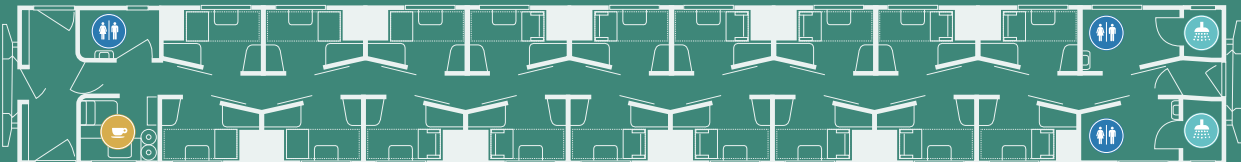
Carriage plans



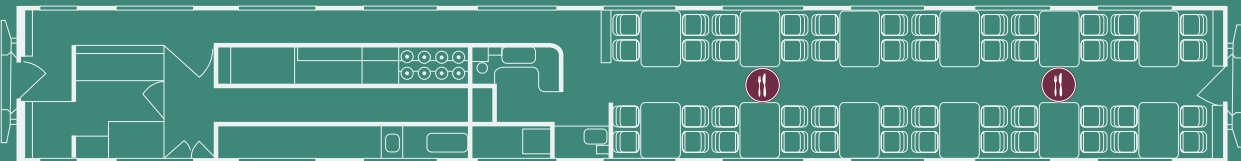
TWIN-COMPARTMENT



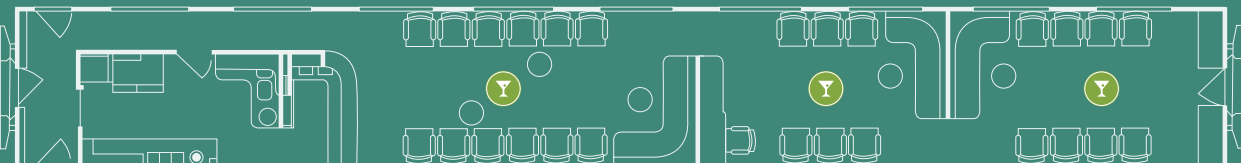
SINGLE COMPARTMENT



RESTAURANT



LOUNGE CAR





Golden West Rail Tour

Celebrate Australia's diverse history and rich culture with visits to regional towns, gardens and attractions. You will also travel on rail lines which don't have scheduled passenger services, making this a real adventure.

This exceptional journey through some of Australia's most breathtaking scenery features sandstone cliffs by the Hawkesbury River, the stunning coastline to Newcastle, the far regions of the Central West and the Jurassic rainforest of the Blue Mountains.

Stroll around the Hunter Valley wineries, roam the spectacular Mayfield Garden, while sampling the finest produce that the region has to offer.

5 Days and 4 Nights

Departs: Katoomba Station
8:25am Wednesday

Returns: Sydney Central
4:30pm Sunday

Pricing (GST inclusive)

Twin Share: \$3,995 per person

Single: \$3,995 per person

Please contact your travel agent or see
www.vintagerailjourneys.com.au for
available dates.

Highlights include:

- Mayfield Garden,
- Adagio Mill in Orange,
- Historic town of Gulgong,
- The Hunter Valley,
- Paterson Rail Motor Society,
- A 'Riverboat Postman' cruise on the Hawkesbury River.

B Breakfast

L Lunch

D Dinner



During the Golden West Rail Tour we spend time in the ancestral lands of the Darkinjung; Darug; Eora; Kuringgai; Wonnarua; Wiradjuri and Gundungurra people.



Day 1

Katoomba - Bathurst - Orange



Wednesday

- L** Your Golden West adventure starts at
 - D** Katoomba Station in the Blue Mountains.
- Once on board, you can choose to sit in the lounge or dining cars, or your private cabin while we travel through the Blue Mountains to the highest point at Mt Victoria. Travelling across the Darling Causeway through the 10 tunnels that replaced the Lithgow Zig-Zag and on through Lithgow as we cross the Great Dividing Range.

By mid morning we will arrive in Bathurst, where we will board buses to transfer to Mayfield Garden, one of the world's largest privately owned cool climate gardens. Covering more than 64 hectares, the scale of the gardens is truly breathtaking.

Lunch will be provided for you at the garden where you can enjoy it at your leisure in numerous picnic spots.

Our bus will return us to Bathurst, where we can visit the National Racing Museum at Mt Panorama, the Australian Fossil and Mineral Museum or the newly opened Bathurst Rail Museum.

We will re-board our train and make our way to Orange in the late afternoon.

Dinner will be served on-board the train at Orange Station, where we will be stabled for the night.

Subject to change due to circumstances beyond our control.

Day 2

Orange – Merrygoen – Gulgong

Thursday

B After breakfast on board, we have a range of activities for you to choose as you spend the morning in Orange. Visit the beautiful Cook Park, 4.5 hectares of parkland in the heart of Orange. Spend time at Adagio Mill which specialises in alpaca fibre.

We will re-board our train, and enjoy lunch on board as we head towards Dubbo before changing direction at Merrygoen.

From here we head to Gulgong - famous as the birth place of Henry Lawson, and as the town on the original ten dollar note. Dinner will be served on board the train at Gulgong Station where we will be stabled for the night. After dinner, we will be entertained at the Prince Of Wales Opera House by the locals and their 'Lawson's Gulgong Mates' show, reliving the days of the gold rush.

Subject to change due to circumstances beyond our control.



Day 3

Gulgong - Binnaway Junction - Werris Creek

Friday

B Enjoy breakfast on board the train before spending the morning in historic Gulgong. We have a range of activities for you to choose from to give you just a taste of what this great town has to offer. Visit the Gulgong Gold Experience, Pioneer Museum or spend time in the historic town centre.

We are back on the train for lunch and are headed to Werris Creek, arriving at Binnaway Junction by mid-afternoon.

Dinner will be served on-board the train at Werris Creek Station, where we will be stabled for the night. Make sure to visit the Rail Journeys Museum and the Australian Railway Monument after dinner.

Subject to change due to circumstances beyond our control.





The Hawkesbury River
Img: Destination NSW

Day 4

Werris Creek - Maitland - Paterson

Saturday

- B** Enjoy Breakfast on board as we head to
- D** Maitland Station where we will disembark to enjoy the best that the Hunter Valley region has to offer using our private Aurora Explorer shuttle bus. Our first stop is the spectacular Hunter Valley Gardens featuring 10 amazingly themed gardens with influences from all over the world. Included in the Aurora Explorer shuttle bus circuit will be cellar door wine tastings at selected wine makers.

Your Explorer circuit will also include the Hunter Valley Gardens Shopping Village with its unique collection of boutique retailers promoting the best local produce, artistic talent, contemporary cafe dining and cellar door wine tasting.

Lunch today is at your own choice and cost.

Your Aurora Explorer buses will return you to Paterson Station throughout the afternoon where we will be stabling at the Paterson Rail Motor Museum. The museum will be open for after hours visitation.

Dinner will be served on-board the train this evening.

Subject to change due to circumstances beyond our control.

Day 5

Paterson - Hawkesbury - Sydney

Sunday

- B** Enjoy breakfast as we travel to the spectacular
- L** Hawkesbury River. This morning we travel alongside Brisbane Water and right by the river at Mullet Creek. We will depart the train at the Hawkesbury station for a lunch cruise with the 'Riverboat Postman'. The Riverboat Postman started its run in 1910 and still to this day delivers mail and other essentials to the river-access-only residents on behalf of Australia Post.

After our cruise we will board the train for the last time and our return trip to Central Station. You will have had a truly memorable Vintage Rail Journey!

Subject to change due to circumstances beyond our control.





Riverina Rail Tour

Experience the heart of Australia's food bowl, stopping at regional towns and attractions throughout the Riverina. You will also travel on rail lines which don't have scheduled passenger services, making this a real adventure. Come with us to discover acclaimed wines, taste gorgeous fresh produce and explore the natural scenery throughout the region.

5 Days and 4 Nights

Departs: Sydney Central
9:00am Wednesday

Returns: Sydney Central
6:30pm Sunday

Pricing (GST inclusive)

Twin Share: \$3,995 per person

Single: \$3,995 per person

Please contact your travel agent or see
www.vintagerailjourneys.com.au for
available dates.

Highlights include:

- Spectacular sea views from the Illawarra Railway Line;
- Historic Goulburn;
- Coolamon Cheese Factory;
- Piccolo Farm;
- Emeri De Bortoli's Private Garden;
- Temora Rural Museum and Ambulance Museum;
- Blue Mountains Villages.



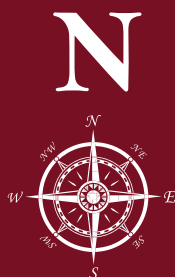
Breakfast



Lunch



Dinner



During the Riverina Rail Tour we spend time in the ancestral lands of the Gundangara; Wiradjuri; Darug; and Gundungurra people.

==== Main train line ---- Freight line ● Stable overnight

Day 1

Sydney - Moss Vale - Goulburn



The Big Merino
Img: Destination NSW

Wednesday

L Your Riverina adventure starts at Sydney's Central Station. Once on board the *Aurora Australis*, you can choose to sit in the lounge or dining cars, or your private cabin while we travel along the Illawarra Railway Line, through the Royal National Park and offering spectacular views of the South Coast to Wollongong. We then travel on a freight only line up the Illawarra escarpment, pausing at Summit Tank Railway Station, where you are provided with a rare opportunity to take photos of the stunning vista out to sea.

Lunch will be served onboard the train today, so that you can experience all that the *Aurora Australis* has to offer. We join the Main South Line at Moss Vale and continue to Goulburn where we depart the train and hop onto our private Aurora Explorer shuttle bus to explore the sights and historic offerings of Australia's oldest inland city. The train will be stabled for the night at Goulburn Station.

Subject to change due to circumstances beyond our control.



Coolamon Cheese Factory
 Img: Destination NSW

Day 2

Coolamon – Griffith

Thursday

B Enjoy breakfast on board as we leave Goulburn and continue along the Main South Line. We pass many interesting villages and towns today as well as travel through the Canola Trail, keeping an eye out for the many grain silos adjacent to the rail line. Today we spend time in Coolamon, stopping at the Coolamon Railway Station dated 1881. Coolamon is named after the Wiradjuri word for a vessel carrying goods, children and water, "Gullaman" and this little town offers us a warm welcome.

Flanked by the Train Station at one end of the street and the Fire Station at the other, we have developed an afternoon of ambling the beautifully preserved heritage main street of Coolamon. A stop at the Coolamon Cheese Factory is a must for anyone who likes cheese or is interested in the cheese making process. The Up-To-Date Store, built in 1909 plays host to a variety of museum displays and collections, a stroll through this heritage listed building will bring back memories for some and offer interesting stories for others. The Coolamon Fire Museum hosts a truly amazing private collection of fire fighting equipment, uniforms and memorabilia. Along with heritage museums and buildings, the main street contains many local shops, restaurants and cafes, making this afternoon an unforgettable experience for all.

We will return to the Coolamon Railway Station for an afternoon departure. We will travel along the Yanco to Griffith Line. Dinner will be served on-board the train at Griffith Station, where we will be stabled for the night.

Subject to change due to circumstances beyond our control.



Day 3

Griffith – Temora

Friday

B The Piccolo Family (owners of Limone Dining Restaurant) is hosting our breakfast this morning on their 20 acre farm just outside of Griffith. Using sustainable farming practices, all of their produce is harvested by hand and free of chemicals and pesticides. An excellent way to experience farming in Griffith as well as sample their delicious produce.

After breakfast we will enjoy the best that Griffith has to offer using our private Aurora Explorer shuttle bus. Explorer stops include the Griffith Regional Art Gallery, the Griffith War Memorial Museum, Emeri De Bortoli's Garden 'Il Campo', various wineries, providores and local shops so that you can experience Griffith's distinctive food and wine culture.

Lunch today is at your own choice and cost.

Your Aurora Explorer buses will return you to Griffith Station throughout the afternoon. We will then be travelling on the freight only Lake Cargellico Line. Dinner will be served on-board the train at Temora Station, where we will be stabled for the night.

Subject to change due to circumstances beyond our control.

Day 4

Temora – Parkes

B Saturday

L Breakfast this morning is on board the *Aurora*
D *Australis* before experiencing Temora. Today you can choose one of two Temora tours.

1. The Aurora Explorer Bus takes you directly to the Bundawarra Centre which houses the Temora Rural Museum. Spend the morning experiencing the history of the region including a cottage of hardwood slabs that was Sir Donald Bradman's first home, a one room public school, bush church, country dance hall, printery, flour mill and ambulance station. The Ambulance Museum includes ambulance vehicles and conveyances dating back to 1897 and originating from throughout Australia, including NSW, ACT and Victoria.
2. The Aurora Explorer Bus will take you directly to the Temora Aviation Museum which was built on the site of the biggest and longest lasting RAAF Elementary Flying Training School during World War II. Spend the morning in the three main exhibit buildings, the Museum which is in the original 10 EFTS Guardhouse; the second exhibition area, located in the Engineering Hangar overlooking the aircraft which are currently in maintenance; and the Display Hangar which houses the new exhibitions area along with the aircraft.

Your Aurora Explorer buses will return you to Temora Station and lunch will be served in the Dining Carriages as we travel on freight only lines via Stockinbingal.

Dinner will be served on-board the train at Parkes Station, where we will be stabled for the night.

Subject to change due to circumstances beyond our control.

Day 5

Parkes – Katoomba – Sydney

Sunday

B Enjoy breakfast as we travel along the Broken Hill Line towards Orange and the Great Dividing Range. On through Lithgow and through the 10 tunnels that replaced the Lithgow Zig-Zag, then cross the Darling Causeway on the way to Mount Victoria.

Stopping at Mount Victoria, you will depart the train and board your Blue Mountains Explorer Bus, which gives you access to the 'Hop-on, Hop-off' service to explore the vibrant Blue Mountains Villages in your own time. Walk out to the edge at Echo Point, see the majestic Three Sisters. Take a 'Scenic World' ride (optional extra – tickets may be bought on the train). Check the waterfalls and the vibrant villages. Visit Everglades Historic House and Gardens. Leuralla Toy and Railway Museum is a must visit!

Lunch is at your own arrangements in the picturesque Blue Mountains villages.

In the afternoon the bus will return you to Katoomba Station where we will board the train for our return to Central Station. You will have had a truly memorable Vintage Rail Journey!

Subject to change due to circumstances beyond our control.



Katoomba
Img: Destination NSW



Information and Bookings

How to make a reservation

Phone Vintage Rail Journeys on **1300 421 422** to make your reservation. You will be asked to complete and send in a booking form (20% deposit required).

Full payment is due 90 days prior to tour departure as per the booking form. Cancellation charges are detailed on the booking form.

Joining and departing the tour

The Golden West Rail Clockwise tour commences at Katoomba Railway Station. The Riverina Rail Tour commences at Sydney Central Railway Station. Both tours conclude at Sydney Central Railway Station. Approximately 10 days prior to departure you will receive a welcome letter confirming the tour departure time and also any information specific to the tour on which you are travelling.

Fitness & mobility

Our tour does not require a special level of fitness, however you must have a good level of mobility. Heritage trains are not designed to accommodate wheelchair bound or walker reliant passengers. If booking a twinette room, 1 member of your party will need to be able to climb a ladder up to and down from the top bunk. You will need to be able to embark and disembark trains, coaches and other methods of transportation without assistance, handle your own luggage, walk moderate distances, stand comfortably and climb steps and stairs.

Fully escorted

Your heritage Rail tour will be led by a professional, trained Tour Manager, assisted by on board crew to ensure you will enjoy a trouble free adventure.

Luggage

As a guide, the space for luggage in the Twinette cabins is 98cm length x 24cm width x 59cm height. There is also hanging space available in the cabin. In the Roomette cabins, the luggage can be placed on the luggage racks above your footrest. Slim or soft luggage can be stowed under your seat. If this rail tour is part of a longer tour, you will be able to store larger items in our luggage van.

Wine and alcoholic drinks

Water, Soft drinks and Juices are included. The bar on the *Aurora Australis* is licensed to sell alcoholic drinks and are at an additional cost.

Tours are planned by G'Day Rail (Australia) Pty Ltd trading as Vintage Rail Journeys

Legend

B Breakfast **L** Lunch **D** Dinner