



**ECHIDNA  
WALKABOUT**

## **ECHIDNA GROUPS - Melbourne, Australia**

***In the Wild - Full Day, Half Day & Extended Tours – ex Melbourne***

We are Melbourne's Wildlife and Aboriginal Culture Specialists

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### **Kangaroos & Koalas - In The Wild**

Our excellent one day, half day and extended tour modules, ex Melbourne, Australia, have been chosen by some of the world's top travel and business corporations, both for pleasure and for business.

We have taken our popular FIT Savannah Walkabout and carefully modified it to allow groups to experience wildlife *in the wild* plus, on some tours, to meet Aboriginal people and learn about their Culture.

These exciting tours are suitable for most people in most age groups who have a normal level of fitness and can walk freely up to 500 metres/yards in stages. The tours are ideal for:

- Cruise Ship breakout tours
- Special Interest groups - especially wildlife, birds, indigenous culture, educational, zoos
- Conference and Incentive groups
- Corporate groups

#### **INBOUND GROUP TOUR EXPERTISE**

Echidna Walkabout understands the precise nature and high demands of inbound Group Touring. We operate high quality Group Tours which focus on Wildlife and Aboriginal Culture. Our dedicated division, Echidna Groups, provides the high standard of service and logistical support your group requires. With over 15 years experience we are confident your clients will be totally satisfied.

#### **TRANSPORT, PRICING and TOUR TEXT**

Our prices are provided with or without transport included. All pricing is Net. If you require our rate sheet please contact:- Roger Smith – Echidna Groups [roger@echidnawalkabout.com.au](mailto:roger@echidnawalkabout.com.au)

The **tour text** in the following tour descriptions is indicative only and can be modified by us to suit your groups' requirements. *To avoid misunderstandings please only modify these descriptions with our consent.*

#### **TOUR INDEX – Click on code to go to details on following pages**

**GTSX** – Kangaroos & Koalas – full day with **standard picnic lunch**

**Suggestion:** for groups with lower budgets who want a great day out in the bush

**GTSW** – Kangaroos & Koalas – full day, **Aboriginal Culture & BBQ lunch with beer and wine**

**Suggestion:** for groups who would like a full day of high quality Australian experiences

**GTKK** – Kangaroos and Koalas – **half day** (am or pm) **Suggestion:** for groups with limited time

**GTS** – Sunset dinner - Kangaroos and Koalas – **pm/evening, Aboriginal Culture, 3 course bush dinner with wine and beer.** **Suggestion:** Great as an alternative to dinner in the city at the end or start of Australia-wide touring.

**GTGOR** – See the Great Ocean Road in **2 days including** Kangaroos and Koalas in the Wild, accommodation and meals. **Suggestion:** For groups who like to relax and enjoy their touring

## **ECHIDNA GROUPS - Melbourne, Australia**

### ***In the Wild - Full Day, Half Day & Extended Tours – ex Melbourne***

We are Melbourne's Wildlife and Aboriginal Culture Specialists

**Tour Code: GTSX – full day**

**KANGAROOS & KOALAS *In The Wild***  
**Includes Bush lunch with Billy Tea**



The GTSX is a budget version of our full day group tour. This relaxing full day tour includes our wonderful Kangaroos and Koalas but does NOT include an Aboriginal Culture experience. Lunch is a simple bush picnic without beer or wine. For an Aboriginal component and best quality lunch inclusion on this tour please see the GTSW.

**Duration:** Full Day – 8 hours

**Operates:** any time of year except 25<sup>th</sup> December

**Group Size:** 9 to 40+

**Includes:**

Naturalist Guide, Bush lunch with Billy Tea.

**Transport:**

You can supply transport or we can – please see our Echidna Groups rate sheet.

**Itinerary**

Imagine seeing a mob of kangaroos bounding right past you and seeing wild Koalas in the forest of a National Park! This tour is an informative and dramatic introduction to the unique wildlife of Australia. In the company of an expert nature guide you will see mobs of free ranging Eastern-grey kangaroos in a natural bush setting. You will also see and learn about many other Australian animals and birds at Serendip open-range sanctuary on the vast Western Plains near Melbourne.

Enjoy a Bush Lunch with Billy Tea. After lunch we head to a nearby national park to see Koalas in the wild. Your nature guide will share the knowledge of these wonderful pouched animals with you. Our Koala Research Project ensures we regularly have multiple sightings of these shy creatures in the wild.

At the end of the day the tour returns to Melbourne.

**Note:** Depending on weather, season and tour timing the wildlife experiences on this tour may be reversed so that we see the koalas first and kangaroos after lunch

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## **ECHIDNA GROUPS - Melbourne, Australia**

***In the Wild - Full Day, Half Day & Extended Tours – ex Melbourne***

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**Tour Code: GTSW – full day**

**KANGAROOS & KOALAS *In The Wild***

**Includes Aboriginal Culture & BBQ Bush lunch with beer and wine**

The GTSW is a more refined version of our budget GTSX. Like the GTSX this relaxing full day tour includes our wonderful Kangaroos and Koalas but also includes a genuine Aboriginal Culture experience and a delicious BBQ lunch with wine and beer.

**Duration:** Full Day – 8 hours

**Operates:** any time of year except 25<sup>th</sup> December

**Group Size:** 9 to 40+

**Includes:** Naturalist Guide, Aboriginal cultural exchange AND delicious BBQ bush lunch with wine and beer.

**Transport:**

You can supply transport or we can – please see our Echidna Groups rate sheet.

### **Itinerary**

Imagine seeing a mob of kangaroos bounding right past you and seeing wild Koalas in the forest of a National Park! This tour is an informative and dramatic introduction to the unique wildlife of Australia. In the company of an expert nature guide you will see mobs of free ranging Eastern-grey kangaroos in a natural bush setting. You will also see and learn about many other Australian animals and birds at Serendip open-range sanctuary on the vast Western Plains near Melbourne.

During a delicious Bush Lunch you will meet and talk to Aboriginal people and learn about their culture. You'll also hear the evocative music of the didgeridoo.

After lunch we head to a nearby national park to see Koalas in the wild. Your nature guide will share the knowledge of these wonderful pouched animals with you. Our Koala Research Project ensures we regularly have multiple sightings of these shy creatures in the wild.

At the end of the day the tour returns to Melbourne.

**Note:** Depending on weather, season and tour timing the wildlife experiences on this tour may be reversed so that we see the koalas first and kangaroos after lunch

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## **ECHIDNA GROUPS - Melbourne, Australia**

***In the Wild - Full Day, Half Day & Extended Tours – ex Melbourne***

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**Tour Code: GTKK – half day**

**KANGAROOS & KOALAS *In The Wild***  
**Includes morning or afternoon refreshments**



The GTKK is a great trip to offer to groups that have time or budget constraints. It is also suitable where groups can be split to run in the morning and in the afternoon. It is especially suited to very large groups (ie conferences) where pax only have half a day available for touring or can be split into AM and PM groups, for example to:- 120 pax in the morning and 80 in the afternoon

**Duration:** Half Day - 5 hours

**Operates:** any time of year - AM or PM (Except 25<sup>th</sup> December)

**Group Size:** 9 to 120+

**Includes:** Naturalist guide, morning or afternoon refreshments

**Transport:**

You can supply transport or we can – please see our Echidna Groups rate sheet.

**Itinerary**

Imagine seeing a mob of kangaroos bounding right past you and seeing wild Koalas in the forest of a National Park! This tour is an informative and dramatic introduction to the unique wildlife of Australia.

In the company of an expert nature guide you will see mobs of free ranging Eastern-grey kangaroos in a natural bush setting. You will also see and learn about many other Australian animals and birds at Serendip open-range sanctuary on the vast Western Plains near Melbourne.

Next we head to a nearby national park to see Koalas in the wild. Your nature guide will share the knowledge of these wonderful pouched animals with you. Our Koala Research Project ensures we regularly have multiple sightings of these shy creatures in the wild.

At the end of the day the tour returns to Melbourne.

**Note:** Depending on weather, season and tour timing the wildlife experiences on this tour may be reversed so that we see the koalas first and kangaroos later

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## **ECHIDNA GROUPS - Melbourne, Australia**

***In the Wild - Full Day, Half Day & Extended Tours – ex Melbourne***

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**Tour Code: GTS – afternoon and evening**

**SUNSET DINNER WITH KANGAROOS & KOALAS *In The Wild*  
Includes Aboriginal Culture and Bush Dinner with beer and wine**



Because Melbourne is often the first or last port of call for Australian group tours the GTS is the perfect day module to begin or end a trip in Australia. As a starting module it is a wonderful introduction to all that is iconic to Australia – wildlife, Aboriginal people and outdoor living. It will bond the group together and help them feel at ease in Australia. It is also used as a farewell module - a way of saying goodbye over dinner in the bush with all the sights and sounds of Australia nearby -including an Aboriginal farewell to the evocative sounds of the Didgerdoo!

**Duration:** afternoon and evening – 6 hours

**Operates:** any time of year – PM (afternoon and into the evening) Except 25<sup>th</sup> December

**Group Size:** 9 to 40+

**Includes:** Naturalist guide, Aboriginal cultural exchange, 3 course bush dinner with wine and beer

**Transport:** You can supply transport or we can – please see our Echidna Groups rate sheet.

### **Itinerary:**

Enjoy the peace of the evening and a bush dinner on this informative and dramatic introduction to the unique wildlife and Indigenous Culture of Australia.

You will see Koalas *in the wild* in the beautiful Australian bush. Your expert nature guide will share the knowledge of these wonderful pouched animals with you. Our Koala Research Project ensures we regularly have multiple sightings of these shy creatures in the wild.

Imagine seeing a mob of kangaroos bounding right past you! In the company your nature guide you will see mobs of free ranging Eastern-grey kangaroos in a natural bush setting. You will also see and learn about many other Australian animals and birds at Serendip open-range sanctuary on the vast Western Plains near Melbourne.

The tour is timed to coincide with sunset which is the best time to see large flocks of waterbirds return to the Serendip Sanctuary to overnight in safety and to see four species of kangaroos and other animals arouse themselves for their night time feeding. There is majesty and movement right across the sanctuary as the sun drops quietly into the savannah.

During dinner you will meet and talk to representatives of the Aboriginal tribal community. You will hear Aboriginal stories direct from the lips of Aboriginal people and hear the evocative music of the Didgeridoo. This is not a staged show but a shared experience where cultural interchange occurs in the traditional oral fashion. You will also learn about modern Aboriginal life. A delicious three course bush dinner is provided at Serendip.

The tour returns to Melbourne mid evening.

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## **ECHIDNA GROUPS - Melbourne, Australia**

***In the Wild - Full Day, Half Day & Extended Tours – ex Melbourne***

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**Tour Code: GTGOR – two days**

**GREAT OCEAN ROAD + KANGAROOS & KOALAS *In The Wild*  
Includes Accommodation and Meals**



Wildlife abounds on the golden grasslands and rocky cliffs of the famous Great Ocean Road. Pockets of forest are home to Koalas; Kangaroos graze the plains, Echidnas amble through dense coastal heathland. Sea-birds and outback cockatoos share the rocky cliffs. Waterbirds are found on the largest permanent lakes in Australia contained in the huge craters of extinct volcanoes. West of the city of Melbourne a vast volcanic plain of golden grasses stretches into the distance broken by isolated forested ranges and bounded by miles of rocky cliffs, pounded by the Southern Ocean. The Great Ocean Road hugs this coastline providing spectacular views of the rugged coastal scenery. Wildlife abounds throughout this region. The plains contain the biggest permanent lakes in Australia contained in huge craters of extinct volcanoes.

**Duration:** 2 days

**Operates:** any time of year except 25<sup>th</sup> December

**Group Size:** 9 to 40+

**Includes:** Naturalist guide, accommodation, 2 lunches, 1 dinner and 1 breakfast

Relaxed touring of the Great Ocean Road

**Transport:** You can supply transport or we can – please see our Echidna Groups rate sheet.

**Itinerary: (Included meals: B=continental breakfast, L=lunch, D=2 course dinner)**

### **Day 1: Kangaroos & Koalas in the Wild – and the Great Ocean Road**

This fully guided journey begins with a detailed introduction to Australian wildlife starting with a visit to our Koala Research site in the You Yangs Park where we search for Koalas in the wild followed by a walk with wild Kangaroos in a nearby woodland. After a bush lunch we head along the Great Ocean Road with spectacular views of the coastline before finishing the day in the pretty coastal town of Lorne. (L,D)

*Accommodation: Lorne Coachman Inn (or similar)*

### **Day 2: Highlights of the Great Ocean Road – the 12 Apostles, Loch Ard Gorge and more**

We continue along the wildest section of the Great Ocean Road, explore the rainforests of the Otway National Park, see the huge sea stacks known as the Twelve Apostles set against a magnificent backdrop of huge limestone cliffs, overlooking the Southern Ocean. We take time to enjoy other dramatic locations along the coast including Loch Ard Gorge before returning to Melbourne across the vast grasslands beside the volcanic lakes of the Western Plains, arriving in the Melbourne city late afternoon (B, L)

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## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

### **EXPERT GUIDES**

First class standards in guidance are the hallmark of Echidna Groups. Our in-house nature guide training program ensures that all guides have an in-depth working knowledge of how to look after large groups. On top of this our guides also have a thorough understanding of the places and environments your guests will encounter. Vehicles and guides carry two way radios which link them to our office and to emergency services at all times.

### **AIRPORT MEET & GREET AND TRANSFERS**

Many groups require Meet & Greet services and airport and/or intra-city transfers. We have many years experience in these service areas and are more than happy to provide pricing for Meet & Greets and Transfers as required.

### **ABORIGINAL CULTURE (and add on DANCE PERFORMANCE)**

Echidna Walkabout works closely with the Wathaurong Aboriginal people to provide genuine Aboriginal involvement in many of our tours. Our GTSW and GTS group tours both have an Aboriginal Cultural component in them.

Add on Dance Performance: You can incorporate a spectacular Aboriginal Dance performance into most of our tours. Please ask us for prices for this wonderful add on.

### **TRANSPORT**

We provide a wide range of modern 4 star, air conditioned and heated coaches to suit any group size. Seats are cloth covered, fully upholstered and comfortable. High quality interpretation is provided by our guides through state of the art public address systems. Reduced rates are applied if you wish to use your own coach.

### **GROUP SIZES**

Our Group Tours Rate Sheet covers groups from 9 people upwards. We can however arrange special tours for smaller parties. Please contact us with your request and we'll be happy to price it for you.

### **PRICING POLICY**

Our Group Tours are priced at very competitive Net Rates. These Rates are generally set annually from 1<sup>st</sup> April through to 31<sup>st</sup> March. At times we may amend prices in the current period due to external factors such as variations in fuel and food prices. We suggest that you always check with us prior to finally pricing a tour. However we will always adhere to pricing that has been provided at the time of booking. Please request our Group Tours Rate Sheet. All tours have two price structures – with or without transport.

**FOC POLICY** All tours include ONE ONLY FOC guide/tour leader per vehicle.

### **PICK UPS**

All Group tour departures are ex Melbourne city from your designated location.



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**For more information please contact:**

**Roger Smith – Manager Echidna Groups**

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NB for international calls do not include (0)

web: [www.echidnawalkabout.com.au/group.html](http://www.echidnawalkabout.com.au/group.html)

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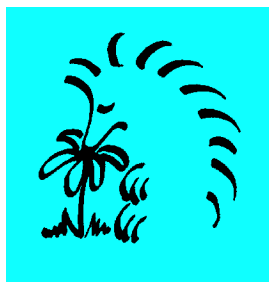
### **EXTENDED GROUP WILDLIFE TOUR MODULES**

We organise and have guided thousands of international visitors on extended wildlife tours throughout south-eastern Australia.

We have expertise in wildlife, bird watching, Aboriginal Culture, land forms, biology, botany and many other nature based activities.

Tour duration varies from 3 days to 14 days in Victoria, NSW and South Australia. Accommodation can be anything from 4 star tented camping all the way up to 5 star hotels or a mixture of these. Transport includes anything from small coaches to large coaches, charter aircraft or multiple transport options. Send your tour concepts to us and we will help you get the very best out of your itinerary.

**Please ask for separate information sheets on extended tours**



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