



Renaissance
Tours

SHORT BREAKS 2018



ART • GARDENS • MUSIC • OPERA • WINE • BALLET



Hamlet. Photo: Richard Hubert Smith



Australian String Quartet – Dale Bartrop (Violin), Francesca Hiew (Violin), Stephen King (Viola), Sharon Grigoryan (Violoncello). At Voyager Estate. Photo: Shane Reid

Adelaide Festival 2018

with Mairi Nicolson

06–12 March 2018 (6 days)

Join us next March for the 2018 Adelaide Festival, one of the world's great art events, featuring the new international opera sensation *Hamlet*, fresh from its premiere at Glyndebourne in the UK, under the helm of Festival Co-Director Neil Armfield AO.

AT A GLANCE:

- Spend five days at the Adelaide Festival, including two days in the Adelaide Hills listening to a specially curated program of chamber music
- Enjoy premium seats for all Festival performances, including Glyndebourne's 2017 opera *Hamlet*, a fresh take on Shakespeare's classic tragedy
- Enrich your appreciation of the Festival performances with talks from your tour leader, ABC broadcaster Mairi Nicolson

TOUR LEADER – Mairi Nicolson



Mairi's career as a broadcaster has taken her from the Sydney Opera House to New York and the Royal Albert Hall London. She presents radio programs for ABC Classic FM.

Tour information available now

TOUR PRICES

Per person, twin-share
Single supplement*
Excluding airfares

from AUD 3,950
from AUD 750

ASQ Weekend of Music

CHAMBER MUSIC IN THE MARGARET RIVER

with Alan Dodge AM | 06–10 April 2018 (5 days)

Enjoy an exclusive weekend of chamber music at its finest, performed in the picturesque vineyards of Western Australia's Margaret River by the Australian String Quartet, supported by renowned guest artists.

AT A GLANCE:

- Enjoy four world-class chamber music concerts held in wineries across the Margaret River area
- Sit down to superb gourmet meals paired with specially selected Margaret River wines
- Meet the musicians of the Australian String Quartet in an informal and relaxed atmosphere
- Take a behind-the-scenes wine tour of famous Leeuwin Estate and enjoy a taste of its fine wines

TOUR LEADER – Alan Dodge



Alan began his career at the Portland Museum of Art in Portland, Maine. He moved to Australia in 1975 and was subsequently appointed Director of the Art Gallery of WA.

Tour information available now

TOUR PRICES

Per person, twin-share
Single supplement*
Excluding airfares

AUD 2,950
AUD 450



Handa Opera on Sydney Harbour. Photo by Lisa Tomasetti



Hazeldean. Photo Courtesy Private Gardens of the Monaro

Sydney Opera, Music and Art

OPERA ON THE HARBOUR, SYDNEY SYMPHONY,
ACO AND THE SYDNEY BIENNALE

with Damien Beaumont | 12–15 April 2018 (4 days)

Experience the unique spectacle of opera on Sydney Harbour, explore the Sydney Biennale on Cockatoo Island, enjoy concerts by the Sydney Symphony Orchestra and the Australian Chamber Orchestra with soprano Nicole Car.

AT A GLANCE:

- Enjoy the best seats for Puccini's *La bohème*, 2018's Handa Opera on the Harbour
- Visit the Sydney Biennale of Contemporary Art on Cockatoo Island, a converted naval shipyard built by convicts in the 1840s
- Attend a concert by the Sydney Symphony Orchestra at the Opera House and a performance of the Australian Chamber Orchestra with soprano Nicole Car at City Recital Hall

TOUR LEADER – Damien Beaumont



Damien currently presents ABC Classic FM's Evenings from Monday to Thursday. He is in demand as a guest speaker and performing narrator, and has presented concerts and other events on ABC TV.

Tour information available now

TOUR PRICES

Per person, twin-share
Single supplement*
Excluding airfares

AUD 2,650
AUD 450

Autumn on Monaro

GARDENS, ART AND HISTORY
OF THE HIGH COUNTRY

with Trisha Dixon | 23–27 April 2018 (5 days)

Explore the historic homesteads, private gardens and artists' studios of the Monaro Plateau at the height of its autumnal glory, where art, horticulture and history come together.

AT A GLANCE:

- Explore the historic houses and gardens of the Monaro, including Hazeldean Merino Stud, Michelago Station, Curry Flat and Shirley
- Visit the gardens and studio of renowned Australian contemporary artist Imants Tillers
- Enjoy a poignant commemoration of ANZAC Day in Jindabyne
- Extend your experience with our tour to the 2018 Canberra International Music Festival (see overleaf)

TOUR LEADER – Trisha Dixon



An experienced tour leader in Australia and abroad, Trisha Dixon is a writer and photographer with a passion for landscape, literature, architecture, design and history.

Tour information available now

TOUR PRICES

Per person, twin-share
Single supplement*
Excluding airfares

AUD 2,850
AUD 500



Festival Artistic Director Roland Peelman conducting The Combined Festival Artists. Photo: Anthony Browell



Photo Courtesy of Musica Viva

2018 Canberra International Music Festival

with Genevieve Jacobs

27 April – 01 May 2018 (5 days)

Spend four days at the Canberra International Music Festival for a wealth of fine music by Australian and international musicians.

AT A GLANCE:

- Attend nine performances at the Festival, including the Opening Gala and music ranging from established classical works to exciting world premieres
- Enjoy pre-performance talks by tour leader, Genevieve Jacobs
- Warm up for the Festival by taking advantage of our tour to the historic houses and gardens of the Monaro, including Hazeldean Merino Stud, Michelago Station, Curry Flat and Shirley, and the studio of Australian contemporary artist Imants Tillers

TOUR LEADER – Genevieve Jacobs



Prize-winning journalist and broadcaster Genevieve is passionate about the arts, gardens, the environment, history and politics. Since 2006 she has presented a daily morning show on 666 ABC radio Canberra.

Tour information available now

TOUR PRICES

Per person, twin-share
Single supplement*
Excluding airfares

AUD 2,950
AUD 500

Melbourne International Chamber Music Competition

with Mary Jo Capps

05–09 July 2018 (5 days)

Witness the rise of ten of the world's finest emerging ensembles as they compete at Melbourne's prestigious International Chamber Music Competition.

AT A GLANCE:

- Premium category seats to the semi-finals and grand finals
- Enjoy a performance by the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra conducted by Simone Young and featuring internationally-renowned German violinist Kolja Blacher
- Enrich your experience of the Competition with the insights of Mary Jo Capps, CEO of Musica Viva
- Attend an enlightening panel discussion by some contestants, judges and other music experts

TOUR LEADER – Mary Jo Capps



Mary Jo Capps has worked in the Australian cultural industry for more than 30 years after graduating with an MA in Musicology from the University of Toronto, Canada.

Since joining Musica Viva as Chief Executive Officer in 1999, she has worked towards broadening the access to and understanding of fine music throughout Australia.

Tour information available now

TOUR PRICES

Per person, twin-share
Single supplement*
Excluding airfares

AUD 2,950
AUD 350

Edward Hopper (American, 1882–1967)
Gas, 1940 (detail), Oil on canvas,
26 1/4 x 40 1/4" (66.7 x 102.2 cm),
The Museum of Modern Art, New York.
Mrs. Simon Guggenheim Fund



Conductor Asher Fisch with
Stuart Skelton and
Eva-Marie Westbroek
Image Courtesy of WASO



Masterworks from MoMA in Melbourne

Private viewing with John McDonald

17–20 August 2018 (4 days)

Enjoy an exclusive private viewing of outstanding works of modern art direct from New York's celebrated Museum of Modern Art, together with visits to four distinctive Victorian galleries.

AT A GLANCE:

- Explore the iconic collection of modern and contemporary painting, sculpture, printmaking and photography from MoMA, in an exclusive private viewing at the National Gallery of Victoria
- Experience two important collections of Australian modern and contemporary art at Heide Museum of Modern Art and the TarraWarra Museum of Art
- Enjoy a performance by the MSO under the baton of Bramwell Tovey of some of the highlights of 'Bernstein on Broadway', including music from *West Side Story* and *Candide*

TOUR LEADER – John McDonald



John is the art critic of *The Sydney Morning Herald* and since 2011 he has also been the regular film critic for *The Australian Financial Review*. A former Head of Australian Art at the National Gallery of Australia, he is a busy lecturer and author of several widely acclaimed books including *Art of Australia: From Exploration to Federation*.

Tour information available now

TOUR PRICES

Per person, twin-share
Single supplement*
Excluding airfares

AUD 2,250
AUD 450

Tristan und Isolde in Perth

PLUS DAY TRIP TO YORK

with Alan Dodge | 17–20 August 2018 (4 days)

Under the baton of Asher Fisch, WASO continues its presentation of Wagner's masterpieces with the dramatic, philosophical and profoundly influential opera, *Tristan und Isolde*.

AT A GLANCE:

- Enjoy the best seats in the house for a concert performance of Wagner's magnificent *Tristan und Isolde*, under renowned Wagner conductor Asher Fisch, with an exceptional array of Australian and international singers, including Stuart Skelton and Eva-Marie Westbroek
- Travel in the company of music enthusiast, gallery director and internationally-acclaimed art curator Alan Dodge AM
- Discover the Gold Rush town of York

TOUR LEADER – Alan Dodge AM



Alan began his career at the Portland Museum of Art in Portland, Maine. He moved to Australia in 1975 and was subsequently appointed Director of the Art Gallery of WA.

Tour information available now

TOUR PRICES

Per person, twin-share
Single supplement*
Excluding airfares

from AUD 1,500
from AUD 300



The Australian Ballet, *Spartacus*.
Photography Justin Ridler



Stonefields © Kent Bangay

Spartacus

AT THE ARTS CENTRE MELBOURNE

with Donna Cusack | 25–27 September 2018 (3 days)

Join ballet expert Donna Cusack in springtime Melbourne for The Australian Ballet's premiere season of the full-scale staging of *Spartacus*.

AT A GLANCE:

- Enjoy premium seats for Lucas Jervies' *Spartacus* with The Australian Ballet
- Attend an exclusive *Spartacus* pre-performance talk and dinner
- Enjoy a private visit to the recently-opened Primrose Potter Australian Ballet Centre
- Spend a morning visiting the National Gallery of Victoria's exhibition of masterworks from New York's Museum of Modern Art

TOUR LEADER – Donna Cusack



Donna has had a long-standing association with The Australian Ballet. In 2015 Donna spent time in New York upon receiving the Noel Pelly Scholarship and led The Australian Ballet patrons' tour to China with Renaissance Tours.

Tour information available now

TOUR PRICES

Per person, twin-share
Per person, single
Excluding airfares

from AUD 1,500
from AUD 1,750

Spring Gardens of Victoria

DAYLESFORD AND MOUNT MACEDON

with Julie Kinney | 24 Oct – 02 Nov 2018 (10 days)

In the spring, blossoms bedeck the charming towns of rural Victoria and the gardens of Daylesford and Mount Macedon, where Melburnians go to escape the summer heat among glorious ferns, trees and waterways.

AT A GLANCE:

- Visit a dozen private gardens in the Daylesford and Mount Macedon areas and meet some of the gardeners
- Experience spring at Stonefields with a guided tour led by Paul Bangay
- Enjoy a picnic at Hanging Rock, setting for Peter Weir's eponymous film
- Explore specialist nurseries at The Garden of St Erth and a special tour of the gardens and working horse stud at Swettenham Stud in Nagambie

TOUR LEADER – Julie Kinney



A passionate gardener and enthusiastic tour leader, Julie is author of a book, *The Garden Wanderer*, about the gardens of her home in the Margaret River region of Western Australia.

Tour information available now

TOUR PRICES

Per person, twin-share
Single supplement*
Excluding airfares

AUD 5,500
AUD 1,150



Clarendon House © Tourism Tasmania & Kathryn Leahy



© Old Wesley Dale Gardens

Tasmanian Chamber Music Festival

MUSIC, GARDENS, FOOD AND WINE
IN NORTHERN TASMANIA

with Christopher Lawrence | 25–28 October 2018 (4 days)

After the spectacular success of its debut last year, the Tasmanian Chamber Music Festival returns to serve up a feast of fine classical music and gourmet cuisine in historic homes and gardens.

AT A GLANCE:

- Enjoy a series of concerts by solo and ensemble performers, with past performers including the likes of the Tinalley Quartet, Marshall McGuire, Van Dieman's Band and Genevieve Lacey
- Explore the colonial heritage of Van Diemen's Land in Brickendon Estate and Woolmers Estate, including the spectacular National Rose Garden
- Visit wineries in the Tamar Valley, where the gentle riverine terroir and easy rains produce fine Chardonnay and Pinot Noir

TOUR LEADER – Christopher Lawrence



Christopher Lawrence is best known as a presenter on *ABC Classic FM*. As a recording producer, he has been awarded an international Emmy for Performing Arts, three ARIA awards and a Churchill Fellowship. He has published several books, worked as a BBC Proms commentator, and has contributed numerous articles and critiques for Australian & international publications.

Tour information available Feb/Mar 2018

APPROX TOUR PRICES	Per person, twin-share	from AUD 2,750
	Per person, single	from AUD 3,250
	Excluding airfares	

Gardens of Tasmania

MEANDER VALLEY, BAY OF FIRES AND THE DERWENT
AND HUON VALLEYS

with Jennifer Stackhouse | 28 Oct – 05 Nov 2018 (9 days)

Traverse the Island State with garden writer Jennifer Stackhouse to explore springtime gardens from the Meander Valley and Bay of Fires in the north to the Derwent and Huon Valleys in the south.

AT A GLANCE:

- Visit Culzean Gardens and Old Wesley Dale in the Meander Valley and Panshanger Estate near Longford, and explore the stunning Bay of Fires National Park
- Discover cottage gardens in the Huon Valley, and visit Crawleigh Wood Nursery, set within lush rainforest
- Wander through the 19th century gardens of Oakdene and the brick-and-timber edifices of Mara Ponds in Scottsdale, and gain access to private gardens in the Derwent Valley

TOUR LEADER – Jennifer Stackhouse



Jennifer made a big move from New South Wales to a Federation house in the little village of Barrington beneath Mt Roland in northwestern Tasmania. She is the author of several gardening books including *Garden*, which won a Book Laureate for 2013, as well as *The Organic Guide to Edible Gardens*, *Planting Techniques* and *My Gardening Year*, written with her mother Shirley.

Tour information available Feb/Mar 2018

APPROX TOUR PRICES	Per person, twin-share	AUD 5,000
	Single supplement*	AUD 1,000
	Excluding airfares	



Huon Valley © Tourism Tasmania & Dan Uglow



© Royal Opera House. Photo by Clive Barda

Food and Wine in Tasmania

HOBART, HUON VALLEY AND BRUNY ISLAND

with Peter Bourne | 02–06 November 2018 (5 days)

Spend five days sampling the best of Tasmania's gourmet food and fine wine, in the company of Peter Bourne, 'The Wine Man'.

AT A GLANCE:

- Explore Moorilla Estate and other vineyards around Hobart, and enjoy the innovative art and cuisine of the capital
- Discover the vineyards and restaurants of the Huon Valley, the heart of Tasmania's fruit-growing industry and the home of some of its finest gastronomy
- Visit Bruny Island on the eastern coast of Tasmania, where stunning landscape combines with well-finished red and white wines
- Enjoy gourmet meals prepared from the fresh, local produce that has made Tasmanian agriculture the envy of the world

TOUR LEADER – Peter Bourne



Known as *The Wine Man*, Peter has been involved in the Australian wine industry for over 35 years, initially as a merchant and more recently as an industry consultant and magazine writer. He presents a variety of wine appreciation courses and specialised tastings. He has won the Wine Communicator of the Year award (2010) and is a founding member of the Gourmet Traveller WINE team.

Tour information available Feb/Mar 2018

APPROX TOUR PRICES

Per person, twin-share
Single supplement*
Excluding airfares

AUD 3,000
AUD 850

Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg

IN MELBOURNE with Heath Lees | (4 days)

Four tour dates available:

12–15; 15–18; 17–20 or 20–23 November 2018

In November 2018, Opera Australia puts on a spectacular production of Wagner's *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg* at the Arts Centre in Melbourne to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the opera's premiere.

AT A GLANCE:

- Enjoy the best seats in the house in the State Theatre at the Arts Centre, Melbourne for Opera Australia's *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg*
- Deepen your appreciation for Wagner's work with a special pre-performance talk with Prof Heath Lees, a leading world expert on Wagner
- Experience some of the artistic highlights of Victoria's vibrant capital city and surrounding areas

TOUR LEADER – Heath Lees



Heath Lees is Emeritus Professor of Music at Auckland University, and divides his year equally between New Zealand and France. Heath has presented many arts programmes on television, including the music series *Opus*, and the weekly arts show *Kaleidoscope*. In 1994, Heath founded the Wagner Society of New Zealand.

Tour information available now

TOUR PRICES

Per person, twin-share
Per person, single
Excluding airfares

from AUD 2,150
from AUD 2,550

For a detailed brochure or further information,
call 1300 727 095 (AU) or 0800 403 621 (NZ),
visit renaissancetours.com.au or
contact your travel agent.



TarraWarra Museum of Art
Photo: John Gollings Photography



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*All prices are per person. *Single travellers may request to share. Please advise at time of booking.*

Travel agent