

**6 Day On the Trail of Ned Kelly and the Kelly Gang**

*Join us on our tour as we follow the Kelly Trail and trace the life and times of Ned Kelly from birth to his ultimate fate on the scaffold in Melbourne!*

**Departing Thursday 10 May 2018 – Tuesday 15 May 2018**

***Ned Kelly – hero of downtrodden Irish immigrants, Robin Hood figure, or just a plain criminal - has become a legend in Australian folklore. Born in Victoria in December 1854 to an Irish convict and an Australian mother of Irish heritage, Ned met his end in Melbourne’s Gaol where he was hanged on 11 November 1880 at the age of 26.***

***Join us on our tour as we follow the Kelly Trail and trace the life and times of Ned Kelly from his birth in Beveridge, Victoria, his life as a notorious Bushranger in Victoria’s high country to his ultimate fate in Melbourne.***



**Day 1: HOME TO MELBOURNE – Thursday 10 May 2018 (LD)**

Today is a travel day, so sit back and relax as we head towards the border. Lunch today will be at the Morning Loaf Bakery in Bordertown. This afternoon, we continue to Melbourne and have time to settle in and freshen up before our dinner. *(Lunch at the Morning Loaf Bakery / dinner at the hotel)*

**Mercure Caroline Springs (subject to availability)**

## Day 2: MELBOURNE TO WANGARATTA - Friday 11 May 2018

(BD)



It's a busy day today as we hit the Kelly Trail, travelling north along the Hume Freeway to **Beveridge**, Ned Kelly's birthplace. Located on the corner of Kelly Street and Stewart Street is the weatherboard cottage that Ned lived in as a child. Ned's father John 'Red' Kelly built the home using local materials including bluestone. While in town you can also see Beveridge Catholic School which the Kelly kids attended. Re-joining the Hume Freeway we travel on to **Avenel**, where the Kelly family moved after they sold their Beveridge home. Avenel is also the town where John 'Red' Kelly died, Ned, only a 12 year old boy, registered the death himself. We will see the grave in Avenel cemetery. We continue north up the Hume Freeway where we'll see the bank the Kelly Gang held up in **Euroa** as well as the

Euroa Inn, the oldest building in Euroa, where Ben Gould stayed whilst reconnoitring for the bank raid. We then make our way to **Benalla**, located on the banks of the Broken River noted for its public gardens. We enjoy the sights including the bootmaker's shop in Arundel Street where Ned hid after being charged with drunkenness and riding his horse on the footpath! When he gave himself up to Constable Fitzpatrick after a fracas he was taken in handcuffs across the road to the old court house. Ned's cell is situated behind the building and is open to the public. We also visit the **Costume and Pioneer Museum**. Here we can view period costumes and two permanent exhibitions. **'The Ned Kelly Story'** is housed in a portable cell in which Ned was once imprisoned on his journey to Melbourne by train. It contains memorabilia such as Ned's sash and bridle, the bloodstained silk cummerbund he was wearing when he was captured at Glenrowan, the witness box from the old Benalla courthouse and the door of the old Benalla Gaol Joe Byrne's body was tied to for photographs after the Glenrowan siege in 1880. From Benalla it's only 25km trip to **Glenrowan**, the heart of Kelly Country where the Kelly Gang made their last stand against the police and the town where Joe Byrne, Dan Kelly, Steve Hart and a local man Martin Cherry lost their lives. Here we see plaques around town denoting where some of the events surrounding the siege took place, including the site where the Glenrowan Inn stood before it was burned down and the gully where the troopers took cover. Our stops here include **Kate's Cottage** (named after Ned's mother), a gift and souvenir shop focusing on Kelly memorabilia and **Kelly Land** at the **Glenrowan Tourist Centre**. We will be transported back in time, over 100 years, to witness the events that led to the capture of the Kelly Gang. From Glenrowan we make the journey to Wangaratta, home for the next 2 nights. *(Breakfast and dinner at the hotel / lunch own arrangements and cost)*

**Quality Hotel Wangaratta (subject to availability)**

## Day 3: BEECHWORTH AND YAKANDANDAH – Saturday 12 May 2018

(BD)



Beechworth is Australia's best-preserved gold town. All four members of the Kelly gang spent time in Beechworth Gaol, Ned for a total of two years. It was here that Ned appeared on 6 August 1880 in the Beechworth Courthouse on a charge of murder. He was committed to stand trial here before returning to Melbourne for his Supreme Court trial and subsequent hanging. The Courthouse is just one of a number of 19<sup>th</sup> Century buildings includes The Gold Office and Treasury, Chinese Protector's Office, Warden's Office, Telegraph Station, Bourke Museum, the Powder Magazine and Harry Power's

cell that makes up the Beechworth Historic and Cultural Precinct, which provides a fascinating insight

into life during the Gold Rush and Kelly eras. We are joined by a **local guide** who will talk us through the history of the region. Following our tour we will have some free time to wander the shops, perhaps do some more sightseeing, and purchase lunch – maybe from the famous **Beechworth Bakery**. Early afternoon, we make our way up to **Yackandandah**, which is a classic colonial town, having changed little in appearance since last century. Many buildings are classified by the National Trust. From here we visit **Schmidts Strawberry Winery** set amidst acres of lush strawberry fields. We enjoy a taste and a brief tour before heading back to Wangaratta. (*Breakfast & Dinner in the motel/Lunch own arrangements & cost*).

### Quality Hotel Wangaratta (subject to availability)

#### Day 4: WANGARATTA TO MANSFIELD – Sunday 13 May 2018

(BD)

Today we head through the beautiful Victorian countryside to **Greta & Eleven Mile Creek**. We'll visit



**Greta Cemetery** where the unmarked graves of several of the Kelly family, including Ned's mother Ellen are located. Ned Kelly's remains were mixed among those of 33 others that were exhumed from Pentridge Prison in 2009 and following an exhaustive forensic investigation, were identified in 2011. After a lengthy dispute over rights to the remains, they were re-interred in 2013 in an unmarked grave in Greta cemetery. An idyllic 45-minute drive takes us to **Power's Lookout**. This is where Ned Kelly's mentor Harry Power hid himself away from the police. The views are magnificent across the mountains and one can see why Harry Power chose it as his vantage point. We continue our journey along the Mansfield to Whitfield Road towards Mansfield. Off our route is a dirt road that leads to Stringybark Creek where the infamous shootout between police and the Kelly Gang took place at on 26 October 1878. Four Mansfield policemen had ridden out with tents and supplies to search for the Kelly Gang. Ned and his

brother surprised two of the police at their camp (McIntyre and Lonigan) and held them up. McIntyre surrendered but Lonigan fired at Ned so Ned fired back and shot and killed Lonigan. When the other two members of the group returned, McIntyre was supposed to tell them to surrender and Ned had promised not to harm them. However, Scanlan fired a shot and was shot in return. Kennedy took cover behind a tree and fired shots and was also killed by Ned. McIntyre escaped on horseback and Ned let him go, wishing to keep his promise. It was these events, where Ned committed his first murder – which he claims were all in self-defence – that sealed his fate when he ultimately stood trial. The gang was declared outlaws at the Mansfield Courthouse on November 15 1878 when they failed to appear and a reward of £800 for the Kelly gang (£200 each member) was posted in Victoria. A police memorial has been erected here and is known as the 'Kelly Tree'. On arrival into **Mansfield**, we'll be able to **visit the graves** of the three policemen, Sergeant Michael Kennedy and Mounted Constables Scanlon and Lonigan and **inspect the memorial** dedicated to their bravery and courage in the town centre (*Breakfast and dinner at the motel / picnic lunch*).

### Mansfield Valley Motor Inn (subject to availability)



## Day 5: MANSFIELD TO MELBOURNE – Monday 14 May 2018 (BD)

After breakfast this morning we farewell the high country and make our way to Melbourne. We'll have time for lunch (own expense) before a **guided tour of *The Old Melbourne Gaol*** on Russell Street, where Ned Kelly was hanged on 11 November 1880. The cells house the heads of those hanged and detail the sometimes gory history associated with the cell's occupant. The gallows are still there as well as a number of other gruesome artefacts like the whipping post complete with male and female versions of cat and nine tails. We then head to the **Victoria State Library** where we meet one of the Library's volunteers who will talk us through the extensive Kelly collection that includes the actual armour worn by Ned Kelly when he was captured at Glenrowan. At the end of a fascinating day we check in to our hotel with time to freshen up before dinner (*Breakfast and dinner at the hotel*

*/ lunch own arrangements and cost*).

### **Mercure Caroline Springs (subject to availability)**

## Day 6 MELBOURNE TO HOME (B)

We've had quite an adventure, following the life and times of Ned Kelly, but now it's back to reality as we check out of our hotel and head home. Sit back and enjoy the facilities aboard our 5 Star Touring Coach as we express along the Western Freeway to Horsham and then on into South Australia. We enjoy lunch at **Bordertown**, then make our way through Keith, Tailem Bend and Murray Bridge before travelling through the historic village of Strathalbyn to **Victor Harbor** at the conclusion of our tour (*Breakfast at the hotel / light lunch in Bordertown*).



*All itineraries are subject to change due to occasional restrictions in opening times/days of some attractions, e.g. churches, wineries etc. We cannot be held responsible for any changes due to closures, inclement weather etc*

### Highlights

- Deluxe coach travel
- Beveridge – Ned Kelly's birthplace
- The Ned Kelly Story, Benalla
- Kelly Land, Glenrowan
- Guided tour of Beechworth
- Greta Cemetery – Ned's last resting place
- Powers Lookout
- Old Melbourne Gaol
- Kelly Collection Victoria State Library

### Cost

\$1595.00 per person  
\$360.00 single supplement

Deposit of \$200.00pp to be made at time of booking

***Victor Tours recommends travel insurance to all of their passengers travelling.***