



ADVENTURE LIVES HERE

## Weekend Adventurer Self-Drive Itinerary—3 Days | 2 Nights

See the epic view from atop Victoria's highest mountain, horse trek in the footsteps of the alpine cattlemen of yore, swim in a river canyon, rejuvenate with a traditional sauna, and unwind at our breweries and wine bar. Surrounded by the wild and wonderful alpine peaks, Mount Beauty is a true adventurer's dream. Let us show you a good time.

### **This itinerary is suitable for you if:**

- You love the outdoors and stunning natural environments,
- You can't wait to escape the daily grind,
- You wake up craving your morning run, ride or workout,
- New and challenging experiences give you a rush, and
- You enjoy great food, craft beers, local wines and good vibes.

Sounds like you? Then time to turn the page.



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We acknowledge the Dhudhuroa, Gunaikurnai, Jaithmathang Taungurung and Waywurru as the First Peoples and Traditional Custodians of the Alpine Shire, which encompasses the land, water and sky of Bright & Surrounds. We recognise the ancient and continuing presence of the First Peoples on these lands and their important role as caretakers of Country. We pay our respect to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

# Welcome to Mount Beauty

It's a place so beautiful, it inspired a name: Mount Beauty, tucked in a river valley at the foot of Mount Bogong—Victoria's highest mountain. A Shangri-La where the locals ski all winter and mountain bike summer long. A place where you'll not only find endless adventure, but immense serenity and relaxation. Strap yourself in folks, and let's begin!

## Itinerary Highlights

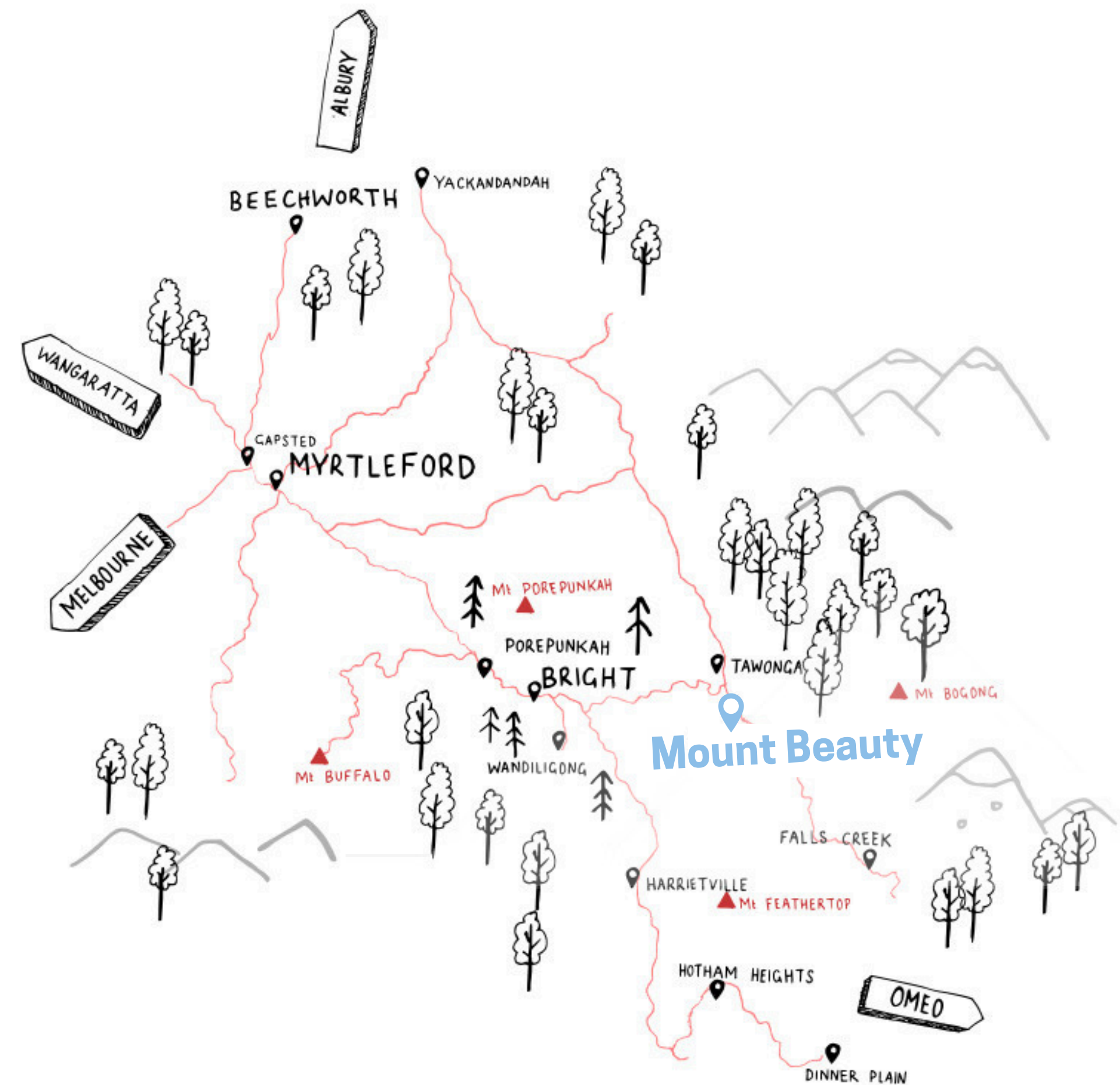
- Summit Victoria's Highest Mountain—Mount Bogong, at 1,986m high—with an expert guide, or ski the slopes of Falls Creek.
- Live like the mountain cattlemen of old on a horseback ride through the Kiewa Valley.
- Walk along a river canyon and cool off in its crystal-clear mountain waters.
- Feel your muscles melt off the bone inside a soothing traditional sauna.
- Taste our delicious local craft brews, Alpine Valley wines and locally roasted coffee.
- Treat yourself to fresh, locally grown produce at our eateries and stores.

Tip: We recommend starting this itinerary on a Thursday or Friday for a full availability of adventures and services.

## How To Get Here

**From Melbourne:** Take the Hume Freeway and exit at Glenrowan. Follow Snow Road to Gapsted, then turn right onto the Great Alpine Road. After Myrtleford, opt for the less windy Happy Valley Road or continue via Bright to Tawonga Gap Road with its stunning lookouts. Turn right onto the Kiewa Valley Highway and you have arrived. Both routes take 4 hours.

**From Albury:** It's a 1-hour 15 -min drive. Exit the Hume Freeway at Bandiana Link Road. Travel via the Murray Valley Highway, then the picturesque Kiewa Valley Highway through Dederang and Tawonga to reach Mount Beauty.



**Tip:** Scheduling a Pause/Stop every two hours while driving significantly reduces road accidents. Make sure to take a break, stretch your legs and grab a drink. You can search Victoria's Pause Stop locations on the [TAC website](#).

# Where To Stay

Mount Beauty has a wide range of accommodation and camping, explore places to stay at [visitmountbeauty.com.au](https://visitmountbeauty.com.au), or check out these great options:

## Myee Alpine Retreat

Retreat Room (2 pax): \$180/night (\$550 for 3 nights)

Family Suite (2 pax): \$225/night (\$675 for 3 nights)

Reservations: [myee.com.au](https://myee.com.au)



## Rocky Valley Luxury Apartments

2 Rooms (2 pax): \$315/night (\$940 for 3 nights)

Reservations: [rockyvalley.com.au](https://rockyvalley.com.au)



## The Park, Mount Beauty

Studio Cabin (2 pax): \$150/night (\$450 for 3 nights)

Powered Site (2 pax): \$45/night (\$135 for 3 nights)

Reservations: [theparkmountbeauty.com.au](https://theparkmountbeauty.com.au)



IT'S A VIBE

# Day 1 | Your Afternoon Entrée

## Morning

It's excitement day! Get an early start to make the most of your weekend escape. Make sure to plan a Pause Stop along the way and brunch in Myrtleford or Bright.

## 12.00 pm: Get Orientated

You've arrived! When you're refreshed, pop your head into the Visitor Information Centre where you'll be greeted by a friendly local to answer any questions you may have. You'll also find a selection of maps, books and gifts. Don't miss the great display introducing you to the history of this wonderful area, from its First Nations cultures to the mountain cattlemen and hydroelectricity scheme.

### Mount Beauty Visitor Information Centre and Museum

**Address:** 31 Bogong High Plains Road, Mount Beauty

**Website:** [visitmountbeauty.com.au](http://visitmountbeauty.com.au)



## 2:00 pm: Afternoon Horseback Ride

It's time for your first adventure—a horse ride along an old stock route that traverses the valley and crosses the East Branch of the Kiewa River. Experience the valley like the mountain cattlemen that once mustered stock between the Kiewa and the High Plains, while surrounded by the picturesque scenery of Mount Bogong's foothills. This tour is perfect for beginners. Your expert guide, Lin Baird, will teach you how to control your horse and master some basic riding skills. The tour starts just outside town at the idyllic Spring Spur homestead, which has been run by the Baird family since 1986 and incorporates a horse stud, vineyard, guest suites and long-table dining. Allow 3-hours for briefings, mounting, your 2-hour ride and stabling.

### Bogong Horseback Adventures

**Address:** Spring Spur, 52 Fredas Lane, Tawonga

**Tour:** Two Hour Ride (\$220 pp)

**Bookings:** [springspur.com.au](http://springspur.com.au)

**Travel Time:** 12-min / 8.4km drive from the Visitor Information Centre



**Tip:** If driving via Bright, make sure to stop at Sullivans Lookout for superb views of the Kiewa Valley and Mount Bogong. If coming from Albury, stop at Mount Bogong Lookout. Take a deep breath because you'll be standing at its summit tomorrow!

## 5:15 pm: Check-in

After your ride, make your way to your accommodation and freshen up.

## 6:30 pm: Apéritif

Taste some local drops at the inviting Quaff Wine Bar in the centre of town. Our region produces an amazing range of award-winning wines, with specialties like Prosecco, Sauvignon Blanc, Gewürztraminer, Durif, Shiraz, and Vermentino. Pair these with a delicious charcuterie board featuring Mount Beauty butcher Farm to Fork's finest cured meats alongside a range of delicious cheeses. Make sure to head up stairs to browse the take-home collection of wines.

### Quaff Wine Bar

**Address:** 5 Hollonds Street, Mount Beauty

**Website:** [quaff.me](http://quaff.me)

## 7:30 pm: Dinner

Cross the road to Mountain Monk Brewers for a hearty pub feed and to taste its tasty range of craft beers brewed on site. From Lager and IPA to Raspberry Sour and Dark Ale, Mountain Monk's playful mix of traditional and innovative beers will keep your mouth entertained all night.

### Mountain Monk Brewers

**Address:** 1 Lakeside Avenue, Mount Beauty

**Dinner Reservations:** 03 5754 4985

**Website:** [mountainmonkbrewers.com.au](http://mountainmonkbrewers.com.au)

**Travel Time:** 1 min walk



CHEERS TO ADVENTURES

# Day 2 | Summit & Sauna

## 6:00 am: Breakfast

Have an early breakfast at your accommodation (or drop by [Grass Valley](#) which opens at 6am) to fuel up for the big climb.

## 7:00 am: Mount Bogong Ascent

Get ready for the hike of a lifetime. The view from the top of Mount Bogong (1,986m above sea level) is simply sublime, stretching over the mountain ranges all the way to Mount Kosciuszko. Meet your cheerful guide Macca from Falls Creek Guides at The Staircase trailhead within the Alpine National Park. From here, you'll be transferred by 4WD to the start of the Eskdale Spur Trail. It's a steep 6km hike to the summit along Eskdale Spur, taking about 3.5-5 hours. Rewardingly, you'll experience panoramic views at every turn for much of this hike. Mount Bogong is a very special place to the First Peoples of the region, who would travel for hundreds of kilometres for the annual Bogong moth migration. And it will become a very special place for you, too; an experience that will stay etched in your memory for a lifetime. The return hike takes up to 8-hours and the tour includes lunch, snacks and expert guidance. Please bring plenty of drinking water.

### Falls Creek Guides

**Tour:** Mount Bogong Summit Hike (\$790 for a group of up to 6 people)

**Meeting Point:** The Staircase Trailhead, Mountain Creek Road, Tawonga

**Bookings:** [fallscreekguides.com.au](https://fallscreekguides.com.au)

**Travel Time:** Allow 20 min to drive from Mount Beauty



**Winter Alternative:** The summit of Mount Bogong sits above the snowline and can be hazardous in winter. At this time of year, we recommend skiing or snowboarding at Falls Creek instead. You can hire all the snow gear you need in Mount Beauty and book onto the [Park & Ride bus service](#) to take you on the 45 min journey to the snowfields.

Get your Falls Creek Alpine Resort entry and lift tickets online at: [fallscreek.com.au](https://fallscreek.com.au) or speak to Macca at [Falls Creek Guides](#) about his backcountry snow tours.

ON TOP OF THE WORLD

## 5:00 pm: Recovery Sauna & Ice Plunge

Your muscles will thank you for this. After a rest back at your accommodation, head to The Sanctuary, where your host Mimi will guide you to the traditional sauna complete with ice plunge. The Sanctuary is a creative space of small studios, including Wildflower Pilates, that are tucked away behind the Tawonga Baker. The sauna is available for private, shared, or group bookings for up to four people. Make sure to drink plenty of water!

### **The Sanctuary Sauna & Wellness Centre**

**Address:** 225 Kiewa Valley Highway, Tawonga South

**Experience:** 50 min Private (\$60), Group (\$90) or Shared Sauna (\$35)

**Bookings:** [wildflowerpilates.com.au/the-sanctuary](http://wildflowerpilates.com.au/the-sanctuary)

## 6:30 pm: Apéritif

Now that your body is fully awake, it's time to celebrate your summit achievement! Crank Handle is a small brewery with a tantalising collection of craft beers, including traditional lager, ale and pale ale as well as rice ale, milk stout, sours and barrel-aged Belgian brown. The curly fries are pretty yum too!

### **Crank Handle Brewery**

**Address:** 211 Kiewa Valley Highway, Tawonga South

**Website:** [crankhandlebrewery.com.au](http://crankhandlebrewery.com.au)

## 7:30 pm: Dinner

Just a skip down the road is local favourite Grass Valley, an eatery and bar that serves a delectable menu of seasonal tastes, like slow roasted lamb shoulder or crispy skin trout with sides like pumpkin with whipped ricotta, burnt butter, sage and pine nuts. Can't choose? Go for the \$65 'Let Us Feed You' option.

### **Grass Valley**

**Address:** 231 Kiewa Valley Highway, Tawonga South

**Reservations:** 03 5754 4114 or online

**Website:** [grassvalley.com.au](http://grassvalley.com.au)

**Travel Time:** 3 min / 220m walk or 1 min drive from Crank Handle



# Day 3 | Recovery Mode

## 8:30 am: Breakfast

Let's take it easy today. Spoil yourself with a cooked breakfast and a great coffee in the garden of Rocky Valley Café. Pssst... you'll probably want to peek inside at their outdoor gear and bike shop, too!

### **Rocky Valley Café**

**Address:** 226 Kiewa Valley Hwy, Tawonga South

**Website:** [rockyvalley.com.au](http://rockyvalley.com.au)

## 10:00 am: Check-out

Oh! It's time to head back to your accommodation, pack up and hand in the keys. We don't want you to leave, either!



## 10:30 am: Morning Swim on The Gorge Walk

Pack a picnic lunch and be prepared to get wet—this isn't your ordinary bushwalk. Wear your swimmers and if you have river shoes and a wet sack, bring them along. Start at the Big Hill MTB Park (at the southern end of Mount Beauty on Bogong High Plains Road) where you'll find a carpark and amenities, including a gas BBQ. The first part of this adventure is an easy 2km walk that follows the river to a small gorge. The final 150 metres criss-crosses the West Branch of the Kiewa River four times, so you'll be walking in the water. At its end, you'll enter a beautiful canyon deep enough for a tranquil swim. Allow half-an-hour each way for walking plus additional time for swimming and a picnic.

**Important:** You must be able to swim to enter the river. Be river wise and do not enter the water after heavy rain or in the winter months when the water is high, fast and cold. If in doubt, visit the Mount Beauty Visitor Information Centre for more information.

**Trail Map:** [visitmountbeauty.com.au](http://visitmountbeauty.com.au)

**Winter Alternative:** In winter, or when water levels are high, you may like to walk the trail-only part of The Gorge, or opt for the relaxing sealed path on the [Kiewa River Trail](#).

# Farewell

When you're ready, make your way home at your own pace. We hope to meet again soon. Safe travels.

## We're Here To Help

Don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions about your trip to Mount Beauty. Our friendly team at the Mount Beauty Visitor Information Centre is here to help.



### Mount Beauty Visitor Information Centre

31 Bogong High Plains Road, Mount Beauty

Phone: 03 5755 0596 or 1800 111 885

Email: [mtbeautyvic@alpineshire.vic.gov.au](mailto:mtbeautyvic@alpineshire.vic.gov.au)

Open 7 days a week, 10am-4pm  
(Closed Christmas Day)

You can also find things to see and do, and places to stay on the Mount Beauty website at: [visitmountbeauty.com.au](http://visitmountbeauty.com.au)

