

PRELIMINARY ITINERARY

BEYOND THE BLUE MOUNTAINS EXPEDITION IN WIRADJURI AND GUNDUNGURRA COUNTRY



Jenolan Caves



Hill End

Enjoy a guided two-day heritage exploration of significant and extant colonial settlements west of the Blue Mountains. Establishing colonial settlements and displacing Aboriginal communities in the lands west of the Blue Mountains were integral to the growth of Australia from a small coastal penal colony to a continental country. During this two-day tour designed exclusively for ICOMOS, delegates will journey through the spectacular landscape and explore the State heritage listed villages of Hartley Historic Site and Hill End Historic Site, and journey to Jenolan Karst Conservation Reserve which is within the Greater Blue Mountains Area (GBMA) World Heritage property.

Hosted by: New South Wales National Parks and Wildlife Service

Supported by: Jenolan Caves Trust

Day One – Tuesday 29 August 2023 (L, D)

- 0750hrs Please be waiting at the northern end of the International Convention Centre Sydney, Iron Wharf Place for departure for your two-day tour
- 0800hrs Depart Sydney
- The journey begins with a drive from the International Convention Centre through the Blue Mountains World Heritage area to the first destination, the historic site of Hartley village.
- 1000hrs Arrive in Hartley Historic Site, the delegation will be guided by NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service staff through the village that remains largely intact. Showcasing excellent examples of a range of building forms, materials, and architectural styles. Hartley is of State significance due to its close association with early settlement west of the Blue Mountains, for its role as an early government administrative centre and as a wayside service stop on the journey west from Sydney. The tour of Hartley concludes around 1200hrs.



1330hrs Arrive to Jenolan Karst Conservation Reserve. Regarded as one of Australia’s most important areas of natural and cultural history, Jenolan is of state significance for its historical, aesthetic, research and rarity values. NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service and the Jenolan Caves Trust have developed a unique day experience in Jenolan exclusively for the ICOMOS delegation.

The Reserve is highly regarded for the aesthetic qualities of the caves and cave formations, reflected in cave names such as Aladdin and Gem Cave. The caves also demonstrate technological milestones such as the first use of electricity for cave lighting in the 1880s, and the development of hydro-electric power in Australia. The area includes one of the largest and most beautiful, interconnected cave systems in Australia and is an outstanding site of geological and speleological interest.

The delegates will stay at the restored and renovated Mountain Lodge located within the Jenolan Karst Conservation Reserve.

Accommodation: Jenolan Mountain Lodge x 1 night
4665 Jenolan Caves Rd
Jenolan Caves, NSW 2790

Day Two – Wednesday 30 August 2023 (B, L)

0700hrs Breakfast is available in Chisolm Restaurant.

Please settle any incidentals on your room account and check out of your hotel.

0830hrs Please be waiting in the hotel foyer.

0900hrs Depart the hotel for a full day touring to Hill End Historic Site.

1120hrs Arrive in Hill End Historic Site for an exclusive guided tour provided by NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service. Hill End has its origins in the mining and gold rush boom of the 19th century and was reserved under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 based on its exceptional heritage significance to New South Wales and Australia. The historic site contains part of the picturesque village of Hill End, set amongst native woodland habitat within a tablelands landscape of rolling hills. The site also encompasses the outlying Golden Gully, areas of the Tambaroora Village, Valentine Mine and the Cornish Roasting Pits.

Hill End’s distinctive blend of landscape, gold-mining history and vernacular architecture has continued to attract generations of Australian artists. In the late 1940s Hill End was discovered by artists Russell Drysdale (who painted possibly his best-known work - The Cricketers) and Donald Friend, and quickly became an artists' colony. Other artists who have worked there include Jean Bellette and Margaret Olley.

1600hrs At the completion of the tour of Hill End, we travel back to the ICC Sydney, where the tour concludes.



1900hrs Approximate time of arrival back in Sydney.
Sydney accommodation is not included in the tour. Please make your own arrangements for accommodation on this night.

End of arrangements

Tour Cost:

\$870.00 per person based on single occupancy

Tour Inclusions:

- Accommodation as specified (where possible)
- Sightseeing as per the itinerary
- English speaking commentary
- Breakfast daily and other meals as specified (Breakfast = B, Lunch = L, Dinner = D)

Not Included

- Airfares to/from destination
- Meals other than specified
- Personal expenses
- Beverages & anything not specifically mentioned

Restrictions/Accessibility: Not suitable for wheelchairs or persons with limited mobility

Fitness level: Moderate (Chifley Cave tour in Jenolan Caves has a lot of walking and stairs)

Minimum number of participants: 20 (Minimum capacity needs to be reached 90 days prior to departure for the tour to go ahead)

Maximum number of participants: 27

Is French speaking commentary available: No

Cancellation Note:

During heavy rainfall events, roads providing access to the relevant National Parks are closed. If the La Niña weather phenomenon extends to mid-2023 and rainfall persists in the area, then the tour may need to be cancelled.