

ITINERARY FOR MANSFIELD 3 & 4 & 5 MAY 2019

Subject to change and fine tuning if necessary
(cross fingers for good weather)

Friday 3 May:

- Allow a 2.5 – 3 hour drive from Melbourne to Bonnie Doon located on Maroondah Hwy. Route suggestion – Hume Hwy, take the Tallarook (Yea) exit which takes you through to Bonnie Doon and Mansfield.
 - **Approx 5.00pm Meet at Bonnie Doon bridge area** for sunset **Sunset is 5.28pm. Last Light – 5.56pm.** Public toilets are on the left as you drive into Bonnie Doon. (Blink and you miss it). Access via a service road on the immediate left as you enter the town.
- There are 3 ways to access Lake Eildon and the Bonnie Doon bridge. **Allow time to choose a set up point.** In no particular order :
- **Choice 1** (easiest Location) – Drive through Bonnie Doon and continue on towards the bridge. At the bottom of the hill – Turn off to the **left BEFORE** you cross over the bridge – look out for signs for the **Rail Trail** and continue on a dirt track towards the rail trail. You can park here and go on foot over the rail trail bridge which takes you over Lake Eildon to the other side opposite the pub. Views of lake, hills and Bonnie Doon bridge. You can gain access to under the bridge from this spot. Mobility-wise - a flat gravel then concrete path onto the bridge.
 - **Choice 2** – Drive through Bonnie Doon. At the bottom of the hill turn **right** onto Maitongoon Rd and then first left down a dirt road to the lake. Faces North/North East. You can walk under the bridge from here. Gravel surface. Steep and can be slippery. Walking shoes advised.
 - **Choice 3** – (Longer walk to edge of water) Drive over the bridge and turn right into the carpark for the Bonnie Doon pub. Toilets inside the pub. Park and head down to the edge of the weir for a view of the bridge and hills. Faces South West.
 - **Dinner 6.30pm at the Bonnie Doon pub – 1738 Maroondah Hwy, Bonnie Doon.** Probably dining in the Bistro, located at the back of the pub - there is a separate door from the carpark. Showbags of information and maps about the Mansfield District will be distributed to everyone during the dinner.
 - Drive to own accommodation in Mansfield. Approx 10 min drive.

Saturday 4 May:

Sunrise 6.58am – First Light 6.31

- **6.10am - Meet at the Mansfield Visitor Information Centre**, 173 High St Mansfield Toilets are located on the old railway station platform near the Mansfield Historical Society. The Visitor Centre toilets will be closed
- **Option 1** - Make your **own way** to the **Bonnie Doon Bridge** (Maroondah Hwy, Bonnie Doon). (10 min drive from Mansfield). The easiest option is same as “Option 1 for Sunset” above.
- **Option 2 – Mt Battery**

Convoy and car pool to **McLeod Lane, Barwite** –10 minute drive out of town.

This is a private property through a locked gate. Park in the lane if the gate has been locked (if you arrive late). We can drive in 200/300 metres to park before a walk up a 100 m sloped/steep track for a view of Mt Buller and Timbertop (SE). (If it is raining and muddy we might walk).

Better views are through a gate and up a very steep track straight up to the top of the ridge. This is along the fence line. Alternatively there is a dirt road, which winds around the hill and also takes you to the top. I recommend coming back down via this track as the descent is quite steep. There are sheep, cattle and two alpacas on this property. Please do not disturb them. The cattle might be where you want to take a shot but wait for them to move. They might also think you are coming to provide food for them and may approach you. Not recommended. Better to keep your distance.

10-20 min hike to the top of the ridge of Mt Battery for 360 degree views. Hiking boots are recommended. Another option is to remain near the cars to shoot sunrise. You can also shoot just from McLeod Lane and not go into the property. Lovely view of the Paps (W).

- **After sunrise** make your way back into Mansfield for breakfast (The Coffee Merchant/The Produce Store/Café 41/Alpine Patisserie/ – for fresh croissant etc)
- **10am or 10.30am - a talk with Erica, owner of “Kilmuir Country Retreat” – 154 McLeod Lane, Barwite – on the historic shearing shed at Kilmuir.** (Just near where we had the sunrise shoot). Park cars outside, to the right of the gate (front or rear of car facing fence) along McLeod Lane and walk into Kilmuir where the Shearing shed is the first building located on the left. The homestead is the owner’s home ie private. Please remain within the immediate property around the shearing shed and do not wander into the paddocks. After the Kilmuir tour
- **Free time** to explore the district until 2pm.
- **2.00pm Meet at the Mansfield Information Centre**
Convoy - 20 minute drive will take us to a private property in **Merrijig**. Located in the foothills of Mt Buller and Timbertop and in the same road as the location for the film “The Man from Snowy River”. (The film set is no longer there). This unique property features an old Slab hut, an old house (no access inside). There is also a shearing shed and other buildings.

Possible opportunity for portraiture shots with the owner of the property and his mates.

Portable toilets are located near the shearing shed. At this location is the largest registered yellowbox tree in Victoria. Sadly a limb fell recently. If time permits this could be an excellent light painting opportunity. Drive back to Mansfield for dinner.

- **7.30pm Dinner at the Delatite Hotel – 95 High St Mansfield**
Post dinner Bush Poet recitals by Val Kirley and Ken Donaldson. (Half an hour).

Sunday 5 May

Sunrise is at 6.59 am First Light 6.32am, (Golden hour 6.48 am. Moonrise 6.56am – New moon at 8.47am)

- **6.15am Meet** at the Information Centre in Mansfield
Carpool Convoy to an old house (7 minutes from Mansfield) for a sunrise shoot.

- Breakfast in Mansfield.

- **10.15am** Meet at Information Centre

Carpool Convoy to an interesting private farm (10 minutes from Mansfield) which features a dam, old farm machinery, windmills, a collection of old cars, sheds full of glass bottles, vintage stuff and a shearing shed. This property is opened to the public once a year.

A gold coin donation appreciated.

- Safe travels home!

Contacts over the weekend :

Catherine Stevenson :	0415 974 533
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Graeme Brown :	0406 864 654
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FREE TIME SUGGESTIONS and locations on way up or down

Mansfield Visitor Information Centre, 173 High St Mansfield.

Toilets are in the centre.

The Mansfield Historical Society is at the same address as the Information Centre but situated in the old railway station. Opening hours are 10-3pm Saturday and Sunday. Toilets are located here too on the old railway station platform.

Historical pieces are displayed in an old railway carriage. A short walk behind the railway station is an old brick sawdust burner, an old police lock up and an old railway shed. This area is the start of the rail trail to Tallarook. Bring a bike and go for a ride!

Mt Buller (45 min drive)

Barwite Vineyards, 1974 Long Lane, Barwite. www.barwitevineyards.com.au

Delatite Winery Cnr Stoneys Rd & Pollards Rd, Mansfield www.delatitewinery.com.au

Jamieson – 40 min drive from Mansfield. Spectacular Autumn trees and a beautiful little town where two rivers meet. Jamieson Brewery currently closed due to change of ownership, but might be worth driving past.

King Valley Wineries - www.winesofthekingvalley.com.au

Great Victorian Rail Trail - www.greatvictorianrailtrail.com.au

High Country Maze - 678 Piries Goughs Bay Road
Goughs Bay, Victoria 3723 Tel: 5777 3190
www.highcountrymaze.com.au

Mansfield Golf Club - www.mansfieldgolfclub.com.au

Mansfield Zoo - 1064 Mansfield-Wood Point Road Mansfield
We are 10 mins from Mansfield on the road to Jamieson.
www.mansfieldzoo.com.au
(03) 5777 3576 between 10am and 5.00pm.

Ned Kelly Trail & Powers Lookout

<http://www.thekellytrail.com/nedkelly/towns/town/mansfield/6>

http://www.thekellytrail.com/nedkelly/towns/town/powers_lookout/14

ETTIQUETTE and POINTS TO REMEMBER THROUGHOUT THE WEEKEND

- Private properties are just that, private. Unless we have been given permission, no climbing through or over fences (many are electrified, so beware).
- The same applies to gates. Leave gates as you find them. If you need to open a gate, close it behind you.
- All livestock has right-of-way and must not be disturbed in any way.
- **Car pool** as much as you can. This is particularly important if we have rain on the weekend. 4WD vehicles are well suited to the High Country.
- Bring good walking boots. Warm and waterproof gear. It is usually colder (and hotter) in Mansfield than in Melbourne.
- On photoshoots, allow time for others in the group to get their wide shots, before moving into the scene for the close-ups!
- Remember to keep your gear with you rather than leaving items in open ground (eg: tripods) which might be in someone else's field of view.