A TWO-DAY ESCAPE FROM MELBOURNE:

Escape the city and immerse yourself in the heart of Victoria's wine country, where rolling hills meet Italian family traditions, and every moment feels like a warm embrace. This two-day itinerary showcases the very best of Whitfield, its landscape, its people, and its soul.

GETTING THERE: By Car - The journey is part of the experience

Tip for Travellers: Make regular stops to prevent fatigue. View TAC's recommended driver rest spots

Route 1: Via Hume Freeway

From Melbourne CBD or the western suburbs, take the Hume Freeway north to Benalla or Glenrowan, then follow signs to the King Valley.

Route 2: Scenic Route – Maroondah Highway From Melbourne's eastern or southeastern suburbs, enjoy a picturesque journey along the Maroondah Highway, winding through the stunning Yarra Valley, then via Yea and Mansfield before arriving in Whitfield.

GETTING THERE: By Public Transport – Relax and Take in the Views

For those who prefer to travel without a car:

1: Catch a V/Line train

Southern Cross Station - Wangaratta Station Approx 2.5 hours

Estimates costs: \$11 one way

2: Take the V/Line Bus

Wangaratta Station - Whitfield (Valley View Drive/Chesthunt Line) Approx 30 mins Estimated cost: \$31 one way

DRIVING DISTANCES FROM WHITFIELD



Destination	Distance	Travel Time
Melbourne	270km	3hr 10 min
Wangaratta	49 km	40 min
Beechworth	74 km	56 min
Glenrowan	48 km	35 min
Bright	109 km	1 hr 20 min
Albury	128 km	1 hr 23 min
Mount Buller	99.5 km	1 hr 30 min
Mansfield	60 km	54 min



DAY ONE - THE SCENIC ROUTE

As you leave Melbourne's hustle behind and head into the High Country, the scenery transforms. Vineyards, historic pubs, artisan producers, and wideopen skies welcome you.



Take a break at Dindi Naturals - a gift shop and café known for its natural skincare and soap products, artisan gifts and welcoming atmosphere. Grab a coffee and treat yourself to one of their homemade cakes or cookies. The perfect re-charge before continuing your journey.



This local gem is the perfect place to break your journey, MANSFIELD - THE and they showcase the very best of Mansfield and the PRODUCE STORE high country with incredible food, local wine and arts. Their shelves are filled with delicious gourmet goodies while the walls display works from talented local artists.

> You are now on the final stretch of your journey to Whitfield and it's a spectacular one. As you drive through Victoria's stunning High Country you will be treated to rolling hills and breathtaking views of distant mountains.



OPTIONAL. DETOUR: **POWERS LOOKOUT** 30 MINS FROM MANSFIELD, NEAR WHITFIELD

A dramatic lookout offering panoramic views of the King Valley, once a hideout for the infamous bushranger Harry Power and his young apprentice, Ned Kelly. Interpretive signage shares tales of their lives in hiding and offers insight into the bushranging era that shaped this rugged landscape. Perfect for photos and a moment of stillness before the final descent into Whitfield.

WELCOME TO WHITFIELD - WHERE ITALY MEETS THE HIGH **COUNTRY**

This tiny township delivers big on charm, connection, and culinary excellence.



LOOKOUT

2024 Victoria Tourism Awards Winner | Australian Tourism Awards Highly Commended Finalist



21 MINS FROM POWERS Located right in the heart of Whitfield, Valley View Caravan Park is the perfect base for your King Valley adventure. This multi-award-winning park is renowned for its exceptional guest experience, picturesque mountain setting, and wide range of accommodation options to suit every type of traveller.

> Tucked away at the back of the park, your cozy cabin offers a peaceful sense of seclusion, perfect for a quiet escape. It's an ideal retreat for couples looking to relax, unwind, and simply enjoy some time together.

> Cyclists are especially well catered for, with secure bike storage, an automated bike wash, and e-bike hire available onsite, making it easy to explore the scenic surrounds.

> Valley View offers a serene retreat where you can truly relax and recharge between adventures.



EXPLORE KING VALLEY

Get ready to immerse yourself in the unique and stunning experience that Whitfield has to offer.



AFTERNOON OPTION 1: NATURE'S POWER ON DISPLAY

Just 20 minutes from Whitfield, this short hike rewards you with an awe inspiring 31-metre waterfall surrounded by <u>PARADISE FALLS</u> stunning rock formations.

> Drive through the Cheshunt township with the falls turnoff clearly marked about 1k out of Cheshunt. The walk down to the falls is a fairly easy one and along the way, you'll be treated to stunning rock formations and breathtaking views of the Alpine National Park. The falls themselves cascade an uninterrupted 31m from a conglomerate rock formation, creating a magnificent display of nature's power.

AFTERNOON OPTION 2: LAKE WILLIAM HOVELL SCENIC DRIVE TO STILL WATERS

A peaceful detour past vineyards and the meandering King River. Take in local wine country charm and historic tobacco kilns enroute to a tranquil lakeside view.

Lake William Hovell offers a more relaxed experience. The scenic drive to the lake takes you through the upper King Valley, where you will pass expansive vineyards and the picturesque King River winding alongside the road. See the stunning vineyard views and catch glimpses of the region's past through its iconic old tobacco kilns. It's the perfect drive for taking in the beauty of the valley without breaking a sweat.



WINERIES IN WHITFIELD

Upon your return to Valley View, stretch your legs and take a short stroll or a 2-minute drive to experience the iconic cellar doors and wineries such as Dal Zotto, Darling Estate or Pizzini Wines. Sit beneath a shady tree or umbrella surrounded by blooming roses and soak in the serene atmosphere while enjoying a glass of their prosecco. Try the "Everyday Italians" tasting, a flavourful journey through their family favourites. Hear stories from the Pizzini family, whose transition from tobacco to wine mirrors the evolution of the King Valley itself.



DINNER: MOUNTAIN <u>VIEW HOTEL</u>

Multiple-time award winner and local institution

Take an evening stroll to arrive at the Mountain View Hotel only 200 metres from the caravan Park. The hotel offers a variety of spaces to enjoy a meal and drink, from the cosy bar area with a large open fireplace in winter, to the charming dining room or the expansive shady beer garden complete with a bubbling creek and trees. Renowned for its warm hospitality, seasonal menus, and curated drinks list. Try their house-made gnocchi, grilled trout, or locally raised lamb. Sip a King Valley spritz, paired with a signature cocktail or regional wine.

STARLIGHT WALK HOME Wind down with a peaceful stroll beneath the stars, Whitfield's quiet nights are among its most magical moments.





DAY 2: EXPLORE, SIP & SAVOUR

Choose your own adventure

BREAKFAST:
HOBBLEDEHOY
CAFE AND
DISTILLERY

Start the day off right with a short stroll up the road to **Hobbledehoy Cafe and Distillery.** Whether you are in the mood for a hot hearty breakfast, or a lighter bite, you can't go past their house-made croissants, pasties and cruffins. It's the perfect way to fuel up before your morning of adventure ahead.

MORNING: <u>DAL</u>

ZOTTO WINES

A SPARKLING LEGACY

The home of Australian prosecco! Otto Dal Zotto planted the country's first prosecco vines here in 1999. Taste your way through their five-prosecco flight. Learn how this family brought a taste of Italy to the valley.

"Prosecco for breakfast leads to a long life!" – Otto Dal Zotto



LUNCH:

CHRISTMONT

WINES

The Crown Jewel of the King Valley Culinary Scene

No visit to Whitfield is complete without a dining stop at **Chrismont Wines** Vineyard and Restaurant. Enjoy a relaxed yet refined dining experience set against the backdrop of themost breathtaking views.

Chrismont seamlessly blends winemaking with their own families style of dining, rooted in authenticity, generosity and flavour. Their Menu draws inspiration from Northern Italy and its Sicilian heritage. Dining at Chrismont is more than just food and wine, it's about nourishment for both body and soul. Blend contemporary King Valley winemaking with this family's style of dining and hospitality based on authenticity, generosity and flavour.

Guests dining at leave with unforgettable memories making it a place people return to time and time again.

Dine, unwind, and take in one last long, slow view of the King Valley before your journey home.



FAREWELL FROM WHITFIELD

As you leave, you carry with you more than just wine and photos, you take a piece of the King Valley's warm spirit, its rich migrant history, and its deep connection to land and family.

Like many who visit, you'll find yourself longing to return, whether for another glass of Prosecco, a scenic hike, or simply to be wrapped again in the valley's calm embrace.

Tip: Before your leave, stock up on a few local drops or handmade goods from the producers you've met, **your future self will thank you.**

Drive safe, and until next time, Ciao!

Book your escape!