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Great Ocean Road Virtual Tour Travel Notes

## **Princetown to Port Campbell**



The next section of the Great Ocean Road includes all the main tourist features of the trip. The Great Ocean Road crosses over the Gellibrand River approximately 400 metres past Princetown. There is a beautiful picnic spot with chairs and tables if you turn left over the bridge.

The Great Ocean Road travels behind the sand dunes for 4.9 kilometres before coming to Gibson Steps car park. There is a pull 600 metre before Gibson Steps that has tourist information.

Allow 35 minutes to do the Gibson Steps walk. If you walk west (turn right at bottom of the steps) along the beach to the headland you can see the start of the 12 Apostles.

A further 1.2 kilometres past Gibsons Steps turn right into 12 Apostles Visitors centre. During the short road trip from Gibson Steps keep an eye towards the coast as there are some interesting views. At the 12 Apostles you need to follow the concrete track under the Great Ocean Road to the coast. Allow 45 minutes to complete the 12 Apostles tour. All sections of the walk should be completed as this give dramaticly different views of the features. For photographic purposes early morning and late afternoon gives the best light or anytime there is uniform cloud cover.

A further 3.5 kilometres past 12 Apostles turn left into Loch Ard gorge. Loch Ard gorge contains some of the finest sceneray anywhere along this stretch of coast. The following tracks should be walked. From car park at Loch Ard Gorge walk the two tracks that head away from the Loch Ard gorge steps. The south east track takes in stunning rock formation. The Loch Ard wreck track gives excellent views along the coast and back into Loch Ard gorge. After completing these two walks descend into the Loch Ard gorge and walk to the ocean. Even on a calm day it is not difficult to see how difficult it would

have been for the two survivors of the Loch Ard wreck. Allow about 90 minutes for these 3 walks. The walk to the cemetery is really only for those interested in the history of the area. The Mutton Bird Island walk is worth doing because of the excellent views along the coast. The Blow Hole is only worth walking to in rough seas when it is a must see. Thunder Cave was a must see location but due to the closing of the lower platform it is not worth walking to. Sheoak Estuary walk is interesting but not a must see.

Allow around 3 hours to explore Loch Ard gorge trails. After Loch Ard gorge the Great Ocean Road follows the ocean along the cliff tops for 5.3 kilometres into Port Campbell.

It is worth driving down to the ocean at Port Campbell and looking out of the Port into the open ocean.