Bendigo Heritage

SCHOOL EXCURSIONS

Stories you'll remember

bendigoheritage.com.au | 4444 2810 | tours@bendigoheritage.com.au

Bring Victoria's Gold Rush Heritage to Life

WITH AN EXCURSION TO **BENDIGO**

Bendigo was once the richest producer of gold in the world, yielding over 700,000kg during its iconic gold rush. This would be worth a staggering $120 billion in today's prices!

The legacy of Bendigo's golden heritage is evident in its authentic attractions. Each providing a backdrop for cultural experiences that capture the imagination of students, allowing them to contextualise their learnings by experiencing history first hand.

At Bendigo Heritage we can coordinate your excursion to Central Deborah Gold Mine and Bendigo Tramways.

- Our tours align to the Victorian curriculum
- Professional tour guides with Level 2 first aid qualifications and Working with Children Checks accompany all groups
- All tours meet the Department of Education and Training excursion ratios
- Tailored itineraries to suit your needs with safety considerations and Public Liability
- Regionally located, easily accessible

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land, the Dja Dja Wurrung people. We pay our respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

Quality Tourism Accredited Business

Tripadvisor Travelers' Choice Awards 2024

Gold Winner 2019 RACV VICTORIAN TOURISM AWARDS

Business Excellence Awards 2024 WINNER Events and Tourism Award Presented by Red Energy Arena

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Central Deborah Gold Mine

Central Deborah Gold Mine operated from 1939-1954, to a depth of 422 metres. 929kg of gold was yielded from its mining operations which would be worth over $155 million today! It was the second last commercial gold mine to cease operations on the Bendigo goldfield.

MINE EXPERIENCE TOUR

Don a hard hat and descend 61 metres underground with an expert tour guide. Explore hidden tunnels, encounter unique geological formations, see gold in its natural state, hear the roar of mining machinery and discover what life as a miner was really like during the harsh gold rush era.

TIME:	60 minutes
AGES:	Prep to Year 10
CURRICULUM:	Level 5-6: From Colony to Nation Level 9-10: Australia and Asia
COST:	$27.50 per student. $36.50 per adult Coordinators free at a ratio of 1:10

GUIDED SURFACE TOUR

Dominated by a huge 22 metre high poppet head, you'll learn about the original buildings and machinery which were essential to the operation of Central Deborah Gold Mine, including the Blacksmith's Shop, First Aid quarters, Carbide Lamp Room, Engine Room and Gold Treatment Area. Afterwards, try your hand at panning for gold.

TIME:	45 minutes
AGES:	All ages
CURRICULUM:	Level 5-6: From Colony to Nation Level 9-10: Australia and Asia
COST:	$15 per student. $25 per adult Coordinators free at a ratio of 1:10

Your time with us will vary depending on the size of the group. Visitors will be split into groups of 23 for their tours. Flat enclosed footwear is essential. It's an average of 14 degrees underground, bring along a jacket. There aren't any toilets underground. Prices subject to change.

Bendigo Tramways

Bendigo Tramways has been entwined with the city's identity since 1890, operating as a public transport system until 1972. Step aboard a beautifully refurbished Vintage Talking Tram to uncover Bendigo's fascinating heritage and see the city's key landmarks and monuments.

VINTAGE TALKING TRAM TOUR

Learn how Bendigo's goldfield transformed into a prosperous city. Hear about influential characters who left an indelible mark on the city, including a German architect, a British soap maker turned quartz miner and a Russian business man ... not to mention the Chinese, Irish, German and Cornish migrants who made Bendigo their home.

TIME:	1 hour round trip
AGES:	Prep to Year 10
CURRICULUM:	Level 3-4: Community and First contacts Level 5-6: From Colony to Nation Level 9-10: Australia and Asia
COST:	$11.50 per student. $16.50 per adult Coordinators free at a ratio of 1:10

DJA DJA WURRUNG TRAM TOUR

The Dja Dja Wurrung alternate commentary shares the history of the region's first people through song and stories, as told in their own words by members of the Dja Dja Wurrung clan. This experience encourages students to imagine the landscape prior to settlement and explains the importance of the local flora and fauna.

TIME:	1 hour round trip
AGES:	All ages
CURRICULUM:	Level 3-4: Community and First contacts Level 7-8: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People and Culture
COST:	$11.50 per student. $16.50 per adult Coordinators free at a ratio of 1:10

Prices subject to change.

Catering

Let us take the stress out of organising catering!
We'll happily arrange morning tea, lunch or afternoon tea for your group.
Using local suppliers and fresh produce, you'll be fuelled,
hydrated and ready for your next adventure.

MORNING AND AFTERNOON TEA

Enjoy a selection of seasonal fruit, cakes and slices served buffet style, along with cold drinks. Morning or afternoon tea provides the perfect opportunity to take a moment to relax and refuel before continuing on with your excursion.

TIME:	Allow 30 minutes
LOCATION::	Central Deborah Gold Mine or the Tram Café
INCLUSIONS:	Variety of cakes, slices, seasonal fruit & cold drinks
COST:	$15.00 per person

LUNCH PACKS

Our lunch packs are a versatile option. Each student will receive a packed lunch, individually boxed, which can be enjoyed outside on the surface of Central Deborah Gold Mine, undercover in our Education Room or take them with you to enjoy on board the bus!

TIME:	Allow 30 minutes
LOCATION::	Central Deborah Gold Mine or the Tram Café
INCLUSIONS:	Sandwich, seasonal fruit, slice and a cold drink
COST:	$25.00 per person

The venue location is subject to change based on group size. The Tram Café may be used for smaller groups. Prices subject to change.

One Day Itinerary

Sample itinerary for a group of 40 people. Split into groups of 23 people to go underground. 40 people will become two groups.

10:00am:	Arrive at Central Deborah Gold Mine. Introduction.
10:30am:	Morning Tea
11:00am:	Group 1: Mine Experience Tour
11:15am:	Group 2: Mine Experience Tour
12:30pm:	Explore the surface of the mine
1:00pm:	Lunch at Central Deborah Gold Mine
2:00pm:	Vintage Talking Tram Tour
3:00pm:	Depart for Accommodation at BIG4 Park Lane (Full details on next page)

Compliment your visit to Central Deborah Gold Mine and Bendigo Tramways with a visit to:

- Bendigo Art Gallery
- Bendigo Pottery
- Golden Dragon Museum
- Great Stupa of Universal Compassion
- Sandhurst Gaol Tour
- Soldiers Memorial Military Museum
- Discovery Science & Technology Centre

TOTAL COST: $79 PER STUDENT + ACCOMMODATION

This is just a guide. Times will vary depending on the size of the group and set requirements.
Customised itineraries will be created and quoted for each group. Prices subject to change.

SCHOOL group guide

Park Lane
HOLIDAY PARKS

Bendigo Heritage

Fun and educational adventures in historical Bendigo with comfortable and fun-filled accommodation for students and teachers alike.

Created:
15/05/2025

Nestled in the heart of Central Victoria, Bendigo is a region rich with gold rush history, vibrant culture, and educational opportunity.

For schools seeking a dynamic excursion experience, the partnership between BIG4 Bendigo Park Lane Holiday Park and Bendigo Heritage offers the perfect blend of learning and adventure.

BIG4 Bendigo Park Lane Holiday Park provides the ideal base for school groups with comfortable, secure group accommodation and fun on-site activities. Our massive 4 level indoor play centre is a wonderland for kids 12 and under or our hangout space with pool table, table tennis and more is perfect for the older kids.

Our friendly staff understand the needs of school communities. Our park is a space where students can relax, connect, and enjoy their stay after a big day of discovery.

Just minutes away, Bendigo Heritage opens the door to the city's fascinating past. From guided tours of the historic Central Deborah Gold Mine to rides on vintage trams, students step into the stories that shaped Victoria. These engaging, curriculum-aligned experiences spark curiosity and bring history to life.

Together, this partnership creates an unbeatable package for schools — offering a safe, well-organised, and unforgettable way to learn beyond the classroom. Whether it's a day exploring the goldfields or an overnight adventure, this is the ultimate educational journey your students will talk about long after the bus ride home.

Holiday Park Facilities

- Indoor Play Centre
- Jump Pad
- Outdoor Playground
- Swimming Pool & Spa
- Pedal Go-Karts
- Undercover BBQs
- Licensed Kiosk
- Hangout Room
- Laundry Facilities

Tailored Stays for School Groups

We're proud to offer a range of affordable, school-friendly cabin options at BIG4 Bendigo Park Lane Holiday Park — including Budget, Standard, Family, and Classic Cabins, sleeping up to 5 students each.

To make educational adventures accessible for all families, we provide flexible pricing from $50 to $60 per student, based on room configuration (no bed sharing required).

Whether it's 5, 4, or 3 students per cabin, we'll work closely with your school group coordinator to tailor the best option to your needs, ensuring a comfortable and cost-effective stay for every student.

Cabins - Students

Accommodation Types	Number of Cabins	Number of Students
Budget Cabins (Sleeps 6)	5	25
Standard Cabins (Sleeps 6)	5	25
Family Cabins (Sleeps 6)	3	15
Family Cabins (Sleeps 7)	2	10
Family Cabins (Sleeps 9)	2	14
Classic Cabins (Sleeps 6)	9	45

Pricing
Based on cabin occupancy

5 Students per Cabin
$50 per student/per night

4 Students per Cabin
$55 per student/per night

3 Students per Cabin
$60 per student/per night

Maximum number of students that can be accommodated - 134

**All cabins have a queen or double bed plus bunks and/or singles. While all cabins have a capacity of more than 5, this pricing structure eliminates bed sharing e.g. one student per bed regardless of size.*

Cabins - Teachers

Accommodation Types	Number of Cabins	Single Room Occupancy	Shared Room Occupancy	Pricing *Per teacher/per night*
Superior Cabin (Sleeps 8) *3 Bedroom - 1 King (can be split), 1 Queen, 2 Bunks*	2	3	6	$105
Standard Cabins (Sleeps 5) *2 Bedroom - 1 Queen / 1 Double & Single on top*	2	2	3	$85
Family Cabins (sleeps 5) *2 Bedroom - 1 Queen / 1 Double & Single on top*	5	2	3	$85
Glamping Pod (Sleeps 1) *Studio Style - 1 Queen*	3	1	1	$115

Terms & Conditions:
- *Rates valid until 20/12/25 - No further discount applies.*
- *Minimum 3 students or 2 teachers per cabin, or 1 teacher per pod.*
- *Sunday thru Thursday only - Rates not available on School or public holidays.*
- *Friday, Saturday, school and public holidays quoted individually.*
- *Free of charge: One FOC teacher/driver Standard Cabin for every 12 paying cabins.*

Please call or email the park for 2026 enquiries - Contact details on the following page.

Let's Make Your Next School Trip Easy

Call or email us today to chat about your next school adventure. We work closely with Bendigo Heritage to deliver a complete, seamless package — combining comfortable accommodation with engaging, educational experiences.

Our friendly team is here to make the planning easy, flexible, and fun. From cabin arrangements to heritage bookings, we'll help you create a well-organised and memorable excursion your students will love.

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Park Lane
HOLIDAY PARKS

SIMPLE STAYS
for big adventures

Bendigo Heritage

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www.bendigotramways.com
www.central-deborah.com

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