Stay & Enjoy SORRENTO/PORTSEA

Within easy reach of the wineries, galleries & golf courses Sorrento & Portsea make an ideal base for a weekend or mid week getaway, perfect to relax unwind & enjoy. Self-contained cottages, B&Bs - traditional & self catering abound & in Portsea you may choose the beachside comforts of the Portsea Hotel.

ESCAPE TO BIRDSONGS. In a tranquil bush setting, this beach hideaway is a short stroll to the bay beach & 10mins walk to Koonya ocean beach, close to Blairgowrie yacht club & Sorrento village with vineyards, Arthur's Seat & other attractions a short drive away. The 2 bedroom hideaway, sleeps 7 with spacious living & dining & all home comforts, a well-equipped kitchen & l'dry. Ample parking for cars/boat. Ducted heating, ceiling fans, TV, VCR, d/w, washing machine, dryer, microwave, BBQ, outdoor setting & carport. Linen & towels provided. Ph. Linda 9725 2658

PORTSEA HOTEL offers comfortable Country Style Seaside Accommodation all year round with tariffs to suit all budgets. There are a variety of room types with both ensuite & shared facilities, T.V, tea & coffee stations, fridges & heating in our larger rooms. Some of their rooms have second bedrooms, sitting rooms, & bay views across Port Phillip Bay. The accommodation is ideal for touring couples and families, recreational, conference & meeting groups wishing to experience the wonders of the Peninsula. Take advantage of our seasonal accommodation packages, & spend time away from home with us. Packages are inclusive of breakfast & dinner, and tables may be reserved upon request in either the Bistro or in the a la carte Portsea Deck Restaurant. Midweek Tariffs are also available. Phone. 5984 2213

Golden sands, wineries, gastronomy, art, fashion, but more importantly solitude and platinum accommodation. The whole of Europe just over an hour outside of Melbourne on the Peninsula. Well known down on the Peninsula for providing the best quality accommodation and service no matter what the cost of the property, the **BEACH HOUSE RENTALS** team have been causing quite a ripple in the past 4 years. They don't boast about the number of properties that they have, but the quality of them.

From designer style beach houses to vast estates with an abundance of luxurious amenities, Beach House Rentals will apply their corporate professionalism in providing you with the absolute best year round escape. Few real estate companies can offer a personalised, unique and professional service as the Beach House team can. This tight ship has scoured the Peninsula seas for the best rental accommodation and property owners in-the-know have sought this crew out to manage their estates. With no sales to veer them off course, Beach House Rentals is the only 'one stop accommodation shop' on the Mornington Peninsula for holiday rentals. Phone: 5985 2555

AND IN BLAIRGOWRIE

SEA WISE offer attractive and affordable fully self contained accommodation in one and two bedroom villas perfectly positioned to numerous local activites and the attraction of the Mornington Peninsula. Close to shops and beaches, disability friendly with wheelchair access, dogs welcome, linen provided. Sea Wise has something to offer everyone. Phone 03 59859011 www.seawise.net.au or email info@seawise.net.au

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BAYPLAY Our Blairgowrie accommodation is surrounded by an Australian Bush Setting and includes; a group lodge (groups up to 40), private lodge rooms for those on a budget, self contained cottage for families and couples. Our Portsea accommodation is opposite the beach and park in the heart of Portsea township.

Spacious rooms and self contained beach apartments - 3 bedroom, and the golfers retreat sleeping groups of 12 - 24

Pictured Bayplays new accommodation in Rye at the Rye Tennis Retreat & Beach Cottages.

Phone Bayplay on 5984 0888 for details.

The Portsea Village has long been associated with the Melbourne 'establishment', with its imposing mansions, landscaped gardens and cliff-top walks.

The 'end-of-the-road' atmosphere sets the scene for Portsea's million dollar holiday mansions which were built by Melbourne's rich and famous from the 1860's but especially from the 1920's.

Of course Portsea also welcomes the daytripper, with fine hotels, stunning views and the nearby Mornington Peninsula National Park with its spectacular caves, flora & fauna. Point Nepean's beaches and network of tunnels, turrets, lookouts and defence buildings from two world wars can now be explored by curious visitors. Interpretative displays and audio sound scapes bring to life the era when the Point was the most heavily defended outpost in the Southern Hemisphere.

Portsea is blessed with one of the best bayside beaches, as well as one of the best surf beaches on the Peninsula. The front beach is overlooked by the landmark 1927. Portsea Hotel, while its ocean beach provides the rugged setting for surfing and iron man competitions. Diving tours and lessons are popular from the Portsea pier.

NEW WALK AT POINT NEPEAN

A part of Point Nepean National Park sign posted "Warning: Unexploded Ordnance" and never before accessible to the public is now opening with the new Range Area Walk.Parks Victoria has opened the new 1.8km walking track in the Range Area which meanders through coastal shrub and links the Quarantine Station and Cheviot Hill.

"The walk takes visitors past great features in the park like Monash Break and Light which has sweeping views of the Quarantine Station, Queenscliff and Melbourne City," said Victor Teoh, Parks Victoria Ranger in Charge. "Visitors also walk past the Rifle Range."

The Range Area was used by the Army Officer Cadet School from 1952 – 1985 with many forms of training taking place like firing rifles, rockets, grenades and machine guns.

The 205 hectare Range Area was transferred from the Commonwealth to State Government in 2005 and included as part of the Point Nepean National Park.

Parks Victoria & the Department of Defence have since worked together to clear the unexploded ordnance from affected areas.

"A variety of methods have been used to clear the land which included crushing vegetation using machinery, preparing mulch lines and clearing areas of understorey vegetation, as well as, fuel reduction burning. Department of Defence personnel then coordinated the detection of unexploded ordnance and disposal."

Parks Victoria has been working on making Point Nepean more accessible to visitors. Since December 2009 the Quarantine Station has opened to the community, entry fees have been removed and almost 6 kilometres of walking tracks have been opened. Now the Range Area has been opened to visitors for the first time.