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Great Ocean Road Virtual Tour
Travel Notes

Port Fairy to Portland



Distance(km) Travel Time(min)

Port Fairy to Portland 67.2(45)

Port Fairy to Yambuk 16.8(11)

Port Fairy to Fitzroy River Turn 37.6(26)

Port Fairy to Heywood Turn 43.7(30)

Port Fairy to Narrawong Store 52(35)

Port Fairy to Dutton Way Turn 59(40)

Distances Start at turn off A1 into
Port Fairy(See Photo beside)



The Princes Highway (A1) swings away from the coast approximately 5 kilometres past Port Fairy. Along this section there are occasional sea glimpses. At 16.8 kilometres past Port Fairy at Yambuk there is a fine historic bluestone hotel on the right side of the A1. At 26 kilometres past Port Fairy there is a viewing area for the wind farm and this is worth a 5 minute stop. At 37.6 kilometres there is a turn to the left to the mouth of the Fitzroy River. (There is an isolated campsite near the mouth that offers camping for \$20 per week. It is a short drive of 4.1 kilometres down a narrow sealed road to the campsite with the last kilometre on a dirt road.)

At 44 kilometres past Port Fairy the Heywood short cut that bypasses Portland goes off to the right continue straight ahead. At 52.6 kilometres past Port Fairy you pass through the small township of Narrawong. There is access to the Ocean on the left. Along this section you get good views of Portland across the water. At 59 kilometres past Port Fairy there is a turn to the left called Dutton's Way. This is a picturesque route into Portland following the water (see side trip below) this is our preferred route into Portland. At 62.4 kilometres past Port Fairy the A1 comes to an intersection with Portland Road. The A1 continues to the right to Heywood and you need to turn left to go to Portland. Distance ends at the round about a further 4.8 kilometres on. There is a large telecommunications tower close to the round about.

Side Trips

Dutton's Way

Turn left at 59 kilometres past Port Fairy and drive for 1 kilometre and turn right. The road follows the water behind a bluestone sea wall for 5 kilometres. There are numerous views across the water to Portland. There are two alternatives here turn right and then left to get onto main road into Portland. Preferred route is to continue following the water for another 2.8 kilometres to Tyers Street and turn right and go for 200 metres to end point round about beside the tower.

Cape Nelson

From Tyers Street round about proceed straight ahead through the shopping centre and turn left after last shop. Green sign to Cape Nelson. Proceed 200 metres and turn right at the roundabout. Cape Nelson is 13 kilometres down this road. There is an historic lighthouse and cliff viewing area. It is well worth spending 30 minutes or more exploring here.

Cape Bridgewater

The turn to Cape Bridgewater is located 1.2 kilometres before Tyers Street round about. It is 18 kilometres to Cape Bridge water where there is a spectacular surf beach, walks and accommodation with brilliant views. It is worth continuing up the hill past Cape Bridgewater to the blowholes at Cape Duquesne. It is easy to spend a day walking and exploring at Cape Bridgewater and the blowholes. On the way back to Portland 3 kilometres from Cape Bridgewater surf club take the road to the left and follow the Bridgewater Lakes Road back to Portland.

Botanical Gardens

The Portland Botanical gardens are spectacular with a marvellous display of named roses from November to March and one of the most spectacular display of named Dahlias from February through to April. Proceed to end of shopping centre and turn left as if going to Cape Nelson. At the round about 200 metre on go straight ahead for 400 metre and turn right. The Botanical Gardens car park is 50 metres past turn on the left. If you are interested in flowers allow at least 60 minutes to walk the gardens.

Tourist Information Centre and Maritime Museum

At the Tyers street round about turn left down to the water (200metre). Turn right and proceed for 600 metres and take left turn down to water. Turns left at T intersection and proceed for 200 metres and turn right into Visitor Information car park. Allow at least 60 minutes to explore the maritime museum. It is well worth the small charge.

Whilst down at visitor Information centre walk to the end of the pier next door for some great views of the harbour and the town.