

Exclusive to
YOU Travel Bethlehem
Departure 23 March 2026



**Tour Host
– Michelle Crook**

Michelle has long had a love of gardens and gardening, albeit that her gardening is proving quite difficult thanks to the bugs that live in Opoutere, just north of Whangamatā. That

doesn't deter her though and she is always experimenting with new varieties to try and see what will survive and thrive through the hot dry summers and wet, windy winters that characterise her home. Michelle has previously been a trustee of the Bay of Plenty Garden & Art Festival which saw her helping to profile many of the beautiful gardens of the Bay, a role that gave her huge pleasure.



**Local Botanical Guide
– Julie Prent**



6 Days Melbourne Return

Departure: 22 March 2026

Price from: \$6,095* pp twin share
Solo traveller from \$8,065*

Flights are not included in the listed price,
please enquire for flight pricing.

Melbourne International Flower & Garden Show Tour and Gardens of Victoria

Inclusions

- Four nights' accommodation in a centrally located five-star hotel, plus one pre-night accommodation before the tour
- Return private airport-to-hotel transfers, plus nine meals
- Travel in a small group of just 21 guests on an exclusive departure with YOU Travel Bethlehem
- Experience the Melbourne International Flower & Garden Show, including a pre-visit lecture
- Visit the Diggers Foundation gardens of St Erth, Cloudehill & Heronswood.
- Explore the garden of the late Dame Elisabeth Murdoch, Cruden Farm
- Tour the nursery of Antique Perennials to learn more about this style of garden

Day 1. Melbourne, Heronswood Garden and Cruden Farm. Depart Melbourne Marriott Hotel at 8.30 am. Travel to the Mornington Peninsula to visit Heronswood Garden in Dromana, the home of the Diggers Club, and enjoy a tasting plate lunch. Have a behind-the-scenes visit to the heirloom vegetable trial and production gardens with the head gardeners to learn about growing your own vegetables from heirloom seeds. Afterwards visit Cruden Farm, home of the late Dame Elisabeth Murdoch. Explore the expansive gardens which Dame Elisabeth was so fond of. LD
Stay: Four Nights, Melbourne, Marriott Hotel or similar

Day 2. Macedon Ranges, Garden of St Erth, Babbington Park and Paul Bangay's Stonefields. Visit the Garden of St Erth, one of Australia's most exciting cool-climate gardens and home to a collection of rare and unusual

plants. Next, visit the home and garden of celebrity chef, Annie Smithers. Have lunch here before enjoying a special garden tour of Stonefields, the private garden of Paul Bangay. Stonefields is heavily influenced by the philosophy of Italian hill villas and gardens. BL

Day 3. Yarra Valley Gardens – Edible Forest, Alwyn and Antique Perennials. Travel to the Yarra Valley to visit the Edible Forest. With over 300 plants growing within a one-acre forest garden, everything is either edible or medicinal. Then travel to Alwyn Gardens, a beautiful garden designed along strong symmetrical lines. Continue to Kinglake to visit Antique Perennials nursery and display garden, where you'll see hard-to-find perennials, bulbs, grasses and alpine. During dinner tonight, enjoy a special Melbourne Flower Show lecture by regular judge Teena Crawford. BD

Day 4. Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show. Enjoy a full day at the Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show. Regarded as the largest and most successful horticultural event in the Southern Hemisphere, it is rated among the top five flower and garden shows in the world. B

Day 5. Dandenong Ranges, Cloudehill Garden, Fortnums Lunch, Phillip Johnson Garden and Melbourne. Visit the acclaimed Cloudehill Garden, with its extensive herbaceous borders, roses and azalea walks. Enjoy a Farewell Lunch at the beautiful Fortnums Restaurant. Afterwards, visit the Dandenong Ranges Botanic Garden and admire the new Australian Garden, designed by Phillip Johnson—this is a replica of the award-winning garden Phillip exhibited at the Chelsea Flower Show in 2013. Return to Melbourne, where our tour concludes at the Marriott Hotel at 5.00pm. BL