

Sample itinerary – Wine Appreciation (flexible duration)

Day 1.

Travelling to the Riverina. Destination should be either Leeton or Griffith.

Day 2.

Bus tour of Griffith or Leeton.

Arrive Griffith or Leeton Visitor Centre for an overview video on area agriculture and sights

Travel to **smallgoods factory** to see explanations of salami production and to meet other boutique producers of high quality foods in the region. **Boutique producers** on hand will be too small or specialised to accept a coachload of visitors, but nevertheless have interesting stories to tell.

Lunch at smallgoods factory. Lunch consists of a selection of local produce, mainly from the micro producers present. For example, smallgoods, olive products, boutique wineries, juices, dried fruit and vegetables, honey and other products might be represented on the menu.

Visit nearby **aquaculture farm**, meet owner/manager, observe operations.

Visit **vineyard / prune orchard**, meet manager, observe operations.

Visit **De Bortoli** cellar door.

Return to motel.

Day 3.

Travel to **organic rice/fat lamb grower**. Meet owner/managers. Discuss advantages and problems of organic farming systems. Observe rice and fat lamb operations.

Visit **organic spelt/wheat/oats/fat lamb organic farm**. Meet owner/managers. Observe milling operations.

Travel to a local **Memorial Club** for Chinese-restaurant style lunch and talk about Barellan Beer by main mover and shaker in the project. Enjoy a Barellan Beer.

Visit **Berton Wines**, for tour and taste

Visit Yarran Wines, for tasting

Return to motel.

Day 4.

Visit **local saleyards** to observe sheep or cattle auction in progress. Have brief presentation of processes from management, then observe selling operations

Visit organic farm. Meet farmer. **Tour citrus, vegetable and herb operations**. This farm has a retail restaurant outlet in Griffith. It is located at the very end of a branch channel of the local irrigation system.

AGRICULTURAL
TOURS
RIVERINA

Visit **McWilliams Winery**. Wine tasting. (No tours during vintage). Lunch at winery.

Visit **Calabria Family Wines**, for tour and tasting.

Travel to Griffith shopping centre.

Free time. (Specialist visits can be arranged for those particularly interested – or not interested in shopping. For instance, for the technologically – inclined a visit to **Flavourtech** [a food technology company] might be of interest or for others, a visit to a conventional rice farm or Lucerne-for-export hay farm or an Art Gallery.

Tour Organisers are happy to receive suggestions/requests from people with particular interests. There will be no charge for organising these discretionary extras but if participants choose places with entry fees the visitors should meet the entry fees personally. Some farmers expect and are entitled to payment for their time.)

Return to motel.

Day 5.

Travel to **cotton farm**. Meet manager, view operations.

Visit cotton gin. Meet manager, undertake guided tour.

Travel to **Pages on Pine Restaurant**. Renowned chef Eric Pages will supply a lunch suited to some local wines and explain how and why he has matched wine and food.

Visit **Riverina Native Wildflower Nursery**. Meet owner/ manager.

Travel to **Fivebough Wetlands**, an internationally-gazetted wetland. Meet members of Murrumbidgee Field Naturalists, who will guide you through the wetland.

Visit **Lilly Pilly Winery**. Meet owner/manager, tour vineyard and winery and taste product.

Return to motel.

Day 6.

Travel to large organic farm. Meet owner/manager. Observe this major experiment in large-scale, multi-product organic food production. This is an impressive operation.

Visit a **juju (Chinese date) farm**.

Lunch at a local pub.

Walk to nearby **irrigation water company**. Meet management. Learn how a high technology, private irrigation water company delivers to its farmer clients. This company reasonably claims to have among the most efficient water distribution operations in the world.

Visit **olive grove and winery**. Meet owner/manager. View vineyard, winery and olive operations, taste oils and wines.

Day 7.

Return journey home.