

Step into Summer at Sovereign Hill

Coach Rides

Experience the sights and sounds of Sovereign Hill from the comfort of a horse-drawn coach. Wave to the visitors, sway with the gentle rocking of the coach and wonder how long it would take you to travel to Melbourne or Geelong.

Where Departs from the Horse Bazaar, map no 39

Time Refer to blackboard at the Horse Bazaar for times

Cost Additional costs apply

Makers Series

During the gold rush rare trades, skills and practices flourished to keep the booming township alive. Enhance your memorable Sovereign Hill experience and become a maker.

Where Carver and Dalton, map no. 21

Time 10am- 4:30pm (during weekends and Victorian school holidays only)

Cost Additional costs apply

Recommended for adults and kids 8+

Gold Panning

Get your Gold Licence, grab a pan and head to the diggings to find some treasure of your own. Our friendly diggers are on hand to offer handy, gold-panning tips.

Where The Diggings, Map no. 12

Time 10am - 5pm

Residents of Speedwell Street

Walk along the street and step inside our cottages to meet the residents of Speedwell Street.

Where Speedwell Street, map no. 74

Time 10am - 5pm

Pullapart Wheel

Do you have what it takes to become a wheelwright? It's harder than it looks. Put your skills to the test by assembling a wheel. We've supplied the parts, now it's your turn to put it together.

Where Proctor's Wheelwrights & Coachbuilders, map no. 73

Time 10am - 5pm

Candle-Making Demonstration and Candle-dipping

See how our candlemakers produce a variety of candles, then it's your turn to dip your own candle in pots of various colours.

Where Hewitt's Yarrowee Soap and Candle Works, map no. 44

Time Candle dipping available 10am-5pm

Candle making demonstration 3:30pm

Cost A charge applies for candle-dipping sessions

Bowling

After a hard day on the diggings, goldfields residents would unwind by knocking down a few pins at the local bowling saloon.

Where Empire Bowling Saloon, map no. 47

Time 10am - 5pm

Gold Mine Tours

Explore a labyrinth of passages and original mine shafts hidden deep under Sovereign Hill.

Places limited, bookings essential. Book upon your arrival at the Quartz Mine Hut.

Where Sovereign Quartz Mine, map no. 66

Time 10am - 4pm. Duration: 45 minutes

Cost Additional costs apply

Pill Rolling Demonstration

Worried about the recent outbreak? Dr Wakefield is here to show you the latest in modern medical breakthroughs.

Where Robinsons and Wayne Apothecaries Hall, map no 33

Time Demonstrations run throughout the day

Red Hill Mine

Venture underground into our deep lead mine to witness the discovery of the 'Welcome Nugget' found in 1858.

This is a free self-guided tour. Duration 15 minutes.

Where Red Hill Mine, Map no. 13

Time 10am - 4:30pm

Meet the Butcher

A diet of damper and mutton might keep you alive but it's not a varied diet. Head down to the Butcher's Shambles and meet one of the richest people on the Diggings.

Where Butcher's Shambles (near the Diggings), Map no. 2

Time 10am - 11:45pm

Meet Pol the Sly Grog Seller

Life wasn't easy on the goldfields for a woman. Take a seat out the front of Pol's tent and find out how she survives on the diggings. Make sure you keep an eye out for the trooper

Where Pol's tent (near the Diggings), Map no. 12

Time 10am - 11:45pm

Orientation Tour

Make sure you don't miss anything in your day as you join this Orientation Tour of the Sovereign Hill Outdoor Museum

Where Government Camp, Map no.

Time 10:30am

Trooper Demonstration

Cover your ears! See our troopers in action!

Where Government Camp, map no. 6 or Post Office corner, map no. 29

Time 11am (Government Camp), 3pm (Post Office corner)

Wizard Jacobs Magic Show

Wizard Jacobs is bringing their Magic Show to the Victoria Theatre. Be prepared to oohh and aahh and be dazzled by the impossible feats of wonder.

Where Victoria Theatre, map no 36

Time 11:15 & 2:15pm

Quartz Rock Crushing Demonstration

Marvel at the power of the massive, 10-head, steam-powered stamper battery as it crushes quartz rock from the gold mine.

Where Battery House, map no. 64

Time 11:15am, 1:15pm, 1:45pm, 2:15pm, 3:15pm

Confectionery Demonstration

Meet Sovereign Hill confectioners and see them make our world-famous boiled lollies from scratch.

Where Brown's Confectionery Factory, Map no. 62

Time 11:30am, 2pm & 3pm

Diggings Tour

The early days of the goldfields were a chaotic time. Learn what life was like during this tumultuous time on our guided diggings tour.

Where Government Camp, Map no. 6

Time 11:30am

Blacksmithing Demonstration

Watch our blacksmith beat red hot metal to shape ironware just like they did during the gold rush.

Where Dilge's Blacksmiths, map no. 22

Time 11:45am & 2pm

Gold Pour Demonstration

Experience the magic of pure gold smelted and poured before your eyes.

Where Gold Smelting Works, map no. 63

Time 12pm, 2:30pm & 4:30pm

Chinese Protectorate Tour

Visit the Chinese Protectorate Camp and find out how Chinese people lived during the gold rush.

Where Chinese Temple, map no 10

Time 12:15pm

Printing Demonstration

Printing was a rare skill, and it took real elbow grease. Watch as our printer works their magic, letter by letter, on equipment straight out of the nineteenth century.

Where Ballarat Times, map no 26

Time 12pm & 1:15pm

Redcoat Soldiers

Do you hear the sound of drums?

That's our Redcoats marching their way up the street. Follow the soldiers and see show off their weaponry.

Don't let the pomp and ceremony fool you, our Redcoat soldiers are more than happy to accept your photo requests!

Where Parade Showground, map no 41

Time 1.30pm

Wheel-making Demonstration

Step inside a real wheelwrights' workshop and see how our team make our horse-drawn vehicles and accessories from scratch.

Where Proctor's Wheelwrights & Coachbuilder, map no. 73

Time 1:50pm and 2:30pm

Back to school

Head back to a typical 1850s class to write with pen and ink whilst trying to remember the sixteen multiplication tables.

Where Red Hill National School, map no. 75

Time 2pm - 3pm (during weekends and Victorian school holidays only)

Chinese Temple Tour

Chinese temples are symbols of the powerful connection Chinese immigrants and their descendants had to their history and culture. With our guide learn about this recreation of a Chinese temple located in the Golden Point Chinese camp.

Where Chinese Temple, map no 10

Time 2:15pm

Surface Machinery Tour

See how the workers used the surface machinery to help those underground.

Where Boiler House, map no. 42

Time 3pm

Voltaic Battery Blasting Demonstration

Perhaps the most dangerous part of the mining trade was blasting. Find out whether the innovative, Voltaic Battery blasting system was the best solution to the dangers.

Where Speedwell St, map no 74

Time 3:30pm