

# SCHOOL TOURS

EDUCATORS HANDBOOK



*The*  
***Great Stupa***  
*of Universal Compassion*



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## THE LARGEST STUPA OUTSIDE ASIA

Immerse yourself in Tibetan culture, architecture, art and interfaith harmony with a tour taking your school group inside the most sacred building in Buddhism. The Great Stupa of Universal Compassion rises from the Whipstick Forest, just outside Bendigo, at an impressive height of almost 50 metres. It is based on the Great Stupa of Gyantse in Tibet and is being built to last 1000 years. Housed inside are many holy relics, Tibetan artefacts and statues; including the world renowned Jade Buddha for Universal Peace.



## PEACE PARK

Walk through the Peace Park before you get to the stupa, which is dedicated to interfaith harmony with symbols from different faiths on display, amongst its flourishing gardens. This unique space is the only interfaith park of its kind in the world. Learn about each symbol, from Catholic, Sikh, Hindu, Bahai and Sri Lankan communities. Come back to see other faiths represented here, including an Indigenous yarning circle surrounded by a native bush tucker garden by the local Dja Dja Wurrung Clan.





# SCHOOL TOUR

## WHAT TO EXPECT

Begin in our Visitor Centre where you'll see an introductory film before exploring the interfaith Peace Park with your friendly and knowledgeable guide. Inside the Great Stupa learn about Buddhist culture and future plans for the project, all while viewing beautiful statues and relics.

- **Tour Duration:** we recommend at least 1.5 hours for your guided tour (please notify us of any time constraints when making you booking)
- **Minimum students per tour:** 10 (minimum fee for 10 students applies for groups under 10)
- **Accessibility:** wheelchair, toilet and parking accessibility (please indicate whether the use of our buggy is required for people with mobility issues)
- **Fitness:** all levels
- **Toilets:** located inside the Visitor Centre and the stupa

## WHAT TO BRING

To make your tour as comfortable as possible, we recommend bringing these items on your tour (weather dependent).

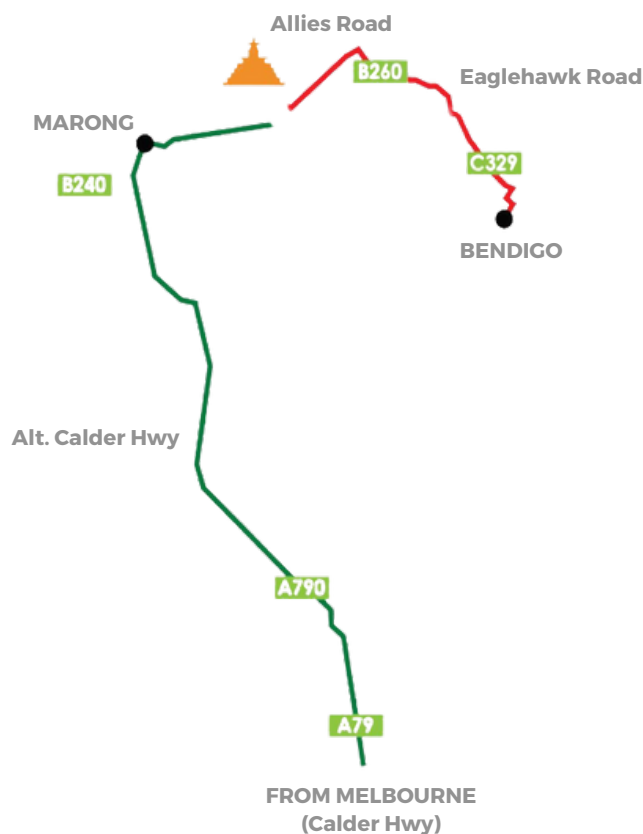
- Comfortable walking shoes
  - Camera (photos and videos can be taken anywhere on site)
  - Water bottle
  - Hat / sunglasses / umbrella / rain coat / jacket
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# GETTING HERE

**From Melbourne** take the Calder Fwy A79  
Turn left onto the Alternate Calder Hwy A790  
In Marong turn right onto Calder Hwy A79  
Turn left onto Allies Rd  
(look for Stupa sign)  
Turn left onto Sandhurst Town Rd  
(look for Stupa sign)

**From Bendigo** follow C329  
Bridge Street > Holmes Road > Sandhurst Road  
Turn right at the traffic lights onto the B260  
Eaglehawk Road > Peg Leg Road  
Turn left onto Allies Road  
(look for Stupa sign)  
Turn right onto Sandhurst Town Road  
(look for Stupa sign)



## CAR PARKING

There is ample parking space for cars, buses and coaches. Two accessibility spaces are available directly at the front of our Visitor Centre.



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# ADMISSION

Bookings are essential for school groups of 10 or more and we request two weeks notice prior to your visit to make appropriate arrangements. In some instances, the date or time requested may not be available but we will always try our best to accommodate the needs of your group. If your group has under 10 students, the minimum fee for 10 students will still apply.

Please find below the admission fees per student.



GROUP TOUR	FEE
STUDENTS	\$8 PER STUDENT
TEACHERS AND CARERS	FREE

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# SCHOOL TOUR REQUEST FORM

Please send this form to [tours@stupa.org.au](mailto:tours@stupa.org.au) to confirm your booking request.

## SCHOOL DETAILS

School name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Suburb: \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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opt-in to receive news & updates from the Great Stupa

## TOUR DETAILS

Number of students: \_\_\_\_\_ Year Level/s: \_\_\_\_\_

Date and time of visit: \_\_\_\_\_

Expected arrival time: \_\_\_\_\_ Departure time: \_\_\_\_\_

## OPTIONAL ITEMS

## TICK

Guided meditation:

Please tick to add a short introduction to meditation at no additional cost. Led inside the stupa.

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Buggy assistance:

Please indicate how many students in your group have mobility issues and require assistance.

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\_\_\_\_\_

Photography:

By ticking this box, you are giving permission for the Great Stupa to take images of your group.

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Admission prices:

\$8 per student | teachers/carers free

Total number of visitors \_\_\_\_\_ x \$ \_\_\_\_\_ tour fee = TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

The cost for the minimum 10 students is required as a deposit to confirm your booking. The remaining balance must be settled no later than the day of the tour. One payment should be made per group. Payment options include cash, card or invoice.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for your booking request. A minimum of 2 weeks is required to guarantee a booking. Please note that this email is not monitored on weekends or public holidays.

**Cancellations:** View our cancellation policy on our website [stupa.org.au/group-tours](http://stupa.org.au/group-tours).

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# STUPAVIEW CAFÉ CATERING

StupaView Café uses fresh, seasonal ingredients to produce delicious platters for your group to enjoy before or after your tour at the Great Stupa. Your selections can be served in the indoor dining area on platters, or in grazing boxes which can be taken out to the Peace Park. Please indicate your preference on the order form.

Our café is Vegetarian with Vegan and/or Gluten Free options available.

CATERING OPTIONS	PORTION	COST
<b>NIBBLES</b> Selection of cheese, dips, crackers, fresh fruit, veggie sticks & house-made sweets.	<b>SMALL (10PAX)</b> <b>MEDIUM (15PAX)</b> <b>LARGE (20PAX)</b> <b>X-LARGE (50PAX)</b>	<b>\$150</b> <b>\$225</b> <b>\$300</b> <b>\$650</b>
<b>THE LOT</b> Selection of sandwiches, hot food and house-made sweets. Fillings: cucumber & herby lemon cream cheese, coleslaw & cheese and curried egg, dill & lettuce.	<b>SMALL (10PAX)</b> <b>MEDIUM (15PAX)</b> <b>LARGE (20PAX)</b> <b>X-LARGE (50PAX)</b>	<b>\$300</b> <b>\$450</b> <b>\$600</b> <b>\$1250</b>
<b>HOT LUNCH</b> Selection of arancini balls, vegetable spring rolls, vegetarian sausage rolls, garlic bruschetta, caramalised onion & goat's cheese tarts with dipping sauces.	<b>SMALL (10PAX)</b> <b>MEDIUM (15PAX)</b> <b>LARGE (20PAX)</b> <b>X-LARGE (50PAX)</b>	<b>\$200</b> <b>\$300</b> <b>\$400</b> <b>\$750</b>
<b>LUNCH</b> Selection of sandwiches, arancini balls, vegetable spring rolls, vegetarian sausage rolls, garlic bruschetta, caramalised onion & goat's cheese tarts with dipping sauces. Fillings: cucumber & herby lemon cream cheese, coleslaw & cheese and curried egg, dill & lettuce.	<b>SMALL (10PAX)</b> <b>MEDIUM (15PAX)</b> <b>LARGE (20PAX)</b> <b>X-LARGE (50PAX)</b>	<b>\$220</b> <b>\$330</b> <b>\$440</b> <b>\$1100</b>
<b>SANDWICHES &amp; WRAPS</b> Selection of sandwiches and wraps. Fillings: cucumber & herby lemon cream cheese, coleslaw & cheese and curried egg, dill & lettuce.	<b>SMALL (10PAX)</b> <b>MEDIUM (15PAX)</b> <b>LARGE (20PAX)</b> <b>X-LARGE (50PAX)</b>	<b>\$120</b> <b>\$180</b> <b>\$240</b> <b>\$600</b>
<b>MORNING/AFTERNOON TEA</b> Coffee/tea of choice with cakes & slices.	<b>PER PERSON</b>	<b>\$15</b>
<b>BREAKFAST</b> Croissants, fresh fruit, banana bread, jams & spreads, muffins, mini yoghurt & granola bowls.	<b>SMALL (10PAX)</b> <b>MEDIUM (15PAX)</b> <b>LARGE (20PAX)</b> <b>X-LARGE (50PAX)</b>	<b>\$140</b> <b>\$210</b> <b>\$280</b> <b>\$650</b>

# STUPAVIEW CAFÉ CATERING

## ORDER FORM

These menu options and prices only apply to group pre-orders. Please return this form, including any dietary requirements, a minimum of 2 weeks before your tour to [tours@stupa.org.au](mailto:tours@stupa.org.au).

**Please note:** Groups ordering from the café menu on the day may experience longer wait times and limited seating options. Menu items are also subject to availability.

Our café is Vegetarian with Vegan and/or Gluten Free options available.

Group Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Service time and date: \_\_\_\_\_

	TICK	QTY	SIZE (S, M, L, XL)	DIETARY REQUIREMENTS	COST
NIBBLES	<input type="checkbox"/>				
THE LOT	<input type="checkbox"/>				
HOT LUNCH	<input type="checkbox"/>				
LUNCH	<input type="checkbox"/>				
SANDWICHES & WRAPS	<input type="checkbox"/>				
MORNING OR AFTERNOON TEA	<input type="checkbox"/>				
BREAKFAST	<input type="checkbox"/>				
TOTAL COST:					

### DINE INDOORS

Served on grazing boards in the indoor café area

TICK

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### DINE OUTDOORS

Served in a grazing box to be taken outdoors in the Peace Park

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One payment should be made per group. Payment can be made by cash, card or invoice.  
A 15% surcharge applies to all purchases from StupaView Café on Public Holidays.



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# SAFETY

## VENUE AND SAFETY INFORMATION FOR SCHOOL EXCURSIONS

**VENUE NAME:** The Great Stupa of Universal Compassion  
**LOCATION:** 25 Sandhurst Town Road, Myers Flat VIC 3556  
**PHONE NUMBER:** 03 5446 7568  
**WEBSITE:** [www.stupa.org.au](http://www.stupa.org.au)  
**PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE:** Yes

### ACCESS

Are access points and exits from the premises safe and without risk to health?	<b>YES</b>
Are the venue and activities wheelchair accessible?	<b>YES</b>
Are disability access toilets available?	<b>YES</b>
Are parent facilities available?	<b>YES</b>

### EMERGENCIES

Are emergency procedures in place at the venue?	<b>YES</b>
Are staff trained to deal with emergency situations?	<b>YES</b>

### FIRST AID

Are First Aid kits available?	<b>YES</b>
Is there a trained First Aid officer at the venue?	<b>YES</b>
Are the Incident Reporting forms available?	<b>YES</b>
Is there a First Aid room available?	<b>NO</b>

### BEHAVIOUR AND SUPERVISION

Teachers are responsible for student behaviour at all times whilst on site. As the Great Stupa is a site that many people visit for a peaceful experience, we ask that groups are respectful of other visitors and are mindful of behaviour and volume.

### ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

Full Risk Assessment, Public Liability Insurance and Emergency Management Plan available on request.

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# RISK ASSESSMENT

The Great Stupa is committed to providing a safe environment for all visitors. We ask all visitors to contribute to a safe and positive experience whilst on site.

GENERAL TOUR	
RECOMMENDED AGE, FITNESS LEVEL, PRE-REQUISITES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• All ages</li><li>• All children must be accompanied by an adult</li><li>• All animals must be on a lead and in the control of their owner</li><li>• The Great Stupa site is an accessible space</li></ul>
STAFF COMPETENCY FOR ACTIVITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• All staff over 18 years old</li><li>• Induction training completed by all staff</li></ul>
POTENTIAL RISKS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fire</li><li>• Slip/trip hazards</li><li>• Subject to the elements in the outdoor component of tour</li><li>• Pre-existing medical conditions</li></ul>
CONTROL STRATEGIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Documented Emergency Bushfire Management procedure &amp; site closure on Code Red days</li><li>• Programmed maintenance &amp; inspection of site for hazards</li><li>• Sunscreen, insect repellent and umbrellas are available upon request from the Visitor Centre</li><li>• Supervising teachers are responsible for managing existing medical conditions which require medications</li></ul>