



DISTINCTIVE OPTIONS  
**EXPERIENCES**  
RESPIRE | EXTENDED JOURNEYS | DAY TOURS

**INCLUSIVITY**

**EMPOWERMENT**

**PERSONALISATION**

**COMPASSION**

**ADVENTURE**

**WELLBEING**

**CONNECTION**

**EXCELLENCE**

**COLLABORATION**

**INTEGRITY**

### **Distinctive Options Experiences Brand Manifesto**

At Distinctive Options Experiences, we believe that every person deserves the chance to explore, discover and live life to the fullest, no matter the obstacles they face. Our purpose is simple: to provide inclusive, supportive, and meaningful experiences that empower individuals to step outside their routine, to break free, to refresh and to embrace the world with confidence and joy.

We exist to bring adventure and respite to those who need it most. Whether it's a peaceful retreat from the demands of everyday life, a thrilling journey to new places, or a simple day out filled with laughter and connection, we are here to make it possible. Your needs come first, and we ensure every experience is tailored to your goals, passions, and capabilities.

With DO Experiences, you're not just another individual; you are part of a movement. A movement that celebrates diversity, champions independence, and believes in creating accessible pathways to the world's wonders. Every journey we craft is not only about the destination, but about the transformative impact of the experience itself—how it can uplift, inspire, and leave you with lasting memories.

Our team is driven by a passion for delivering fun, engaging, and rewarding adventures, while always respecting your independence, comfort, and aspirations. We are here to help you create experiences that align with your life goals, whether that's a day of relaxation, an exciting trip to a new place, or a night out with friends.

At Distinctive Options Experiences, we don't just create experiences and respite supports—we create connections, foster growth, and build memories that will be cherished for years to come.

Let's explore together. Let's make every journey count. Let's create experiences that matter.  
Welcome to Distinctive Options Experiences.

Where your adventure begins, and your needs are always at the heart of the journey. ✨

### Inclusivity

We believe that everyone, regardless of their abilities or circumstances, deserves access to meaningful experiences. Our services are designed to be welcoming, supportive, and adaptable to ensure everyone can participate in and enjoy their journey.

### Empowerment

We strive to empower our customers by offering experiences that foster independence and personal growth. Whether it's a short respite break or an extended adventure, we create opportunities for individuals to embrace new challenges and achieve their personal goals.

### Personalisation

We know that each person has unique needs, preferences, and dreams. That's why we tailor every journey to align with your individual life goals, ensuring each experience is meaningful, enjoyable, and relevant to you.

### Compassion

Care and empathy are at the core of everything we do. We take the time to understand the specific needs and challenges of every customer, creating a supportive and nurturing environment in which everyone feels valued and understood.

### Adventure

We are passionate about creating exciting, fun, and adventurous experiences for everyone. Whether it's a day tour, a night out, or an extended break, we embrace the spirit of exploration and ensure every moment is filled with joy and discovery.

### Wellbeing

The wellbeing of our customers is our top priority. We are committed to providing safe, reliable, and supportive environments where every individual can feel comfortable, secure, and cared for throughout their journey.

### Connection

We value the connections we build with our customers and their communities. Through our experiences, we foster a sense of belonging, creating opportunities for social engagement, new friendships, and shared memories.

### Excellence

We aim for the highest standards in everything we do. From the quality of our services to the care of our customers, we are dedicated to delivering outstanding experiences that exceed expectations.

### Collaboration

We believe in working closely with customers, families, carers, and communities to create experiences that truly resonate. Collaboration allows us to craft journeys that are rich in meaning and impactful for everyone involved.

### Integrity

Honesty, transparency, and trust are at the foundation of Distinctive Options Experiences. We are committed to doing what's right, and ensuring that our services uphold the values of respect, dignity, and fairness at all times.

Together, these values shape who we are and guide how we deliver exceptional experiences that enrich the lives of our customers every day. ✨





## **FUNDING QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

### **How can I register my interest in a Distinctive Options Experience?**

To express your interest, we will first discuss your funding options, whether through NDIS or self-funding, as well as your support needs and details. While expressing interest is the first step, securing your spot requires a deposit, the completion of application forms, submission of any necessary medical information or assessments, and an approved quote.

### **Can I use my NDIS Package for payment of Respite/Day Tour/Experience services?**

Yes, you can use your NDIS package to cover these services. Various NDIS line items can be utilized depending on the specific funding categories allocated within your plan.

### **Can I participate in these experiences if I don't have NDIS funding?**

Yes, you can still participate without NDIS funding. Alternatives include self-funding your support hours, using State Trustee funding, or accessing assistance through third-party funding sources such as Total Care Packages. Or you can totally self-fund your experience.

### **Is there an out-of-pocket expense for this experience?**

Yes, there are out-of-pocket expenses. If you're utilizing your NDIS plan, these may include costs for activity entrances, meals, administration fees, accommodation, and transportation (if the experience involves staying overnight). These costs are typically divided among the participants in the group. If you are self-funding, the expenses will include the cost of the activities, experience fees, accommodation, transportation, and support hours. Again, these costs will be divided based on group ratios. For detailed planning and a personalized cost breakdown, please consult with the Respite/Experience Operations Leader.

### **Does funding cover activity costs, admin fees, experiences, or flights?**

No, these expenses are out-of-pocket costs. Funding typically only covers the support hours required for the experience. This can be discussed further with the Respite/Experience Operations Leader.

### **I need one to one support throughout this experience, is this possible?**

We may be able to provide one to one support at a one to one ratio cost, please consult with the Respite/Experience Operations Leader. We can tailor a personalised one to one experience, if the group experiences don't suit you.

### **If I apply to attend an experience and pay my deposit does this secure my spot?**

Before quoting your experience and supports, we will require an application form completed to assess the support level to ensure we can meet your specific needs.

### **I'd like my own room if staying away, can this be arranged?**

Subject to availability this can be arranged, an additional cost will apply.

### **Do you offer respite services with family?**

Our respite services are designed to focus on building confidence and independence for participants, while also giving families a well-deserved break. Therefore we do not offer this service with the family in attendance.

### **More questions? Want to find out more?**

To discuss planning your journey, please contact Melanie at 0475 134 776 or via email at [melanie.east@d-o.com.au](mailto:melanie.east@d-o.com.au).

# WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENT EXPERIENCES WE OFFER?

## RESPIRE

### What is Respite?

Respite is providing a temporary relief or a break provided to primary caregivers of individuals who require ongoing care, such as people with disabilities, chronic illnesses, or elderly individuals. Respite services can range from a few hours to several days, allowing caregivers to rest, recharge, or attend to personal needs while ensuring the individual continues to receive care in a safe and supportive environment.

Our respite experiences provides an opportunity for personal growth, confidence-building, and the development of daily living skills in a new environment, away from their regular support providers and routines.

It helps families and individuals prevent burnout, while fostering personal development, independence, and confidence.

Within our Respite programs, we aim to foster community connections by utilizing accessible accommodations and activities to develop a structured program. This program will focus on enhancing daily living skills, promoting community inclusion and participation, and building confidence and trust in environments away from home. The program will include stays at accessible locations such as Phoenician Resort, Echuca Holiday Homes, Great Ocean Road Holidays, Relax Holiday Rentals, Tasman Holiday Park Bendigo, and other holiday parks and homes across Victoria. By building strong, professional relationships with these venues, we will ensure the best possible experiences for our Respite participants.

## EXTENDED JOURNEYS

### What are Extended Journeys?

Extended journeys refer to longer stays or experiences designed to provide both the individual receiving care and their caregiver with a break from their daily routine. These journeys may last several days or weeks, offering participants opportunities to engage in new environments, activities, and social interactions, while caregivers have an extended period for rest and self-care.

Extended respite journeys are often tailored to the individual's needs, goals, including appropriate accommodations, support staff, and planned activities to ensure a fulfilling and enjoyable experience.

These journeys are carefully designed to ensure we can focus on key areas whilst building life skills away from home. These include  
Daily Living Skills: Meal preparation, home skills such as doing laundry, dishes and general cleaning.  
Social and Community Participation: Travel training, building new social connections, community inclusion, exploring new places whilst having memorable experiences that they may not get the opportunity to achieve within daily routines at home.

Health and Well being: we encourage healthy choices, offering guidance, education around healthier meal options and encouraging fitness within our journeys.

## DAY TOURS

### What are Day Tours?

A day tour offers a short break or one-day excursion designed to provide new experiences, foster social connections, and create memorable journeys by exploring different communities and sights.

These tours focus on offering respite for caregivers or individuals seeking temporary relief from their daily responsibilities. With a mix of recreational activities, scenic trips, and cultural experiences, participants can relax, recharge, and step out of their everyday routines.

Beyond providing temporary relief, these tours also empower participants to build confidence and reduce reliance on their regular support networks, while giving families valuable time away from their caregiving roles.



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## EXPERIENCES DAY TOURS / EVENING EVENTS

EXPERIENCE	EXPERIENCE TYPE	DATE	TIMES	COST OF EXPERIENCE - SUPPORT COST - TO BE DISCUSSED
Australian Open Tennis	Day Tours	12th of January - 26th of January	All Day	Tickets & Meals at own Cost. Support hours and transport TBA depending on ratio of group
Healesville Day tour	Day Tour	Wednesday 5th of February	8:30am-5pm	\$40 for zoo entry, meals and drinks at own cost. Support and transport cost TBA
Great Ocean Road Day trip	Day Tour: Beach Day, shopping & lunch	Saturday 15th of February	8:30am-5:30pm	Drink and meals at your own Cost Support hours and transport TBA depending on ratio of group
St Kilda Festival	Day Tours	15th -16th of February	9am -6pm	Drink and meals at your own Cost Support hours and transport TBA depending on ratio of group
Urban Surf Day Tour	Day Tour	Saturday 1st, 8th & 15th & 22nd of February	10-4pm	\$104 to surf beginner lesson, \$5- entry fee. Support and transport TBA
Funfields Day trip	Day tour	Saturday 8th of February & 22nd of February	9-5pm	\$69, drinks and meals at your own cost. Support hours and transport TBA depending on ratio of group

Please note these experiences are subject to ticketing availability.

For any questions please do not hesitate to contact Melanie East on 0475 134 776 or via email: [melanie.east@d-o.com.au](mailto:melanie.east@d-o.com.au)





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## EXPERIENCES DAY TOURS / EVENING EVENTS

EXPERIENCE	EXPERIENCE TYPE	DATE	NUMBER OF NIGHTS OR TIMES	COST OF EXPERIENCE - SUPPORT COST - TO BE DISCUSSED
Moomba Festival	Day Tour	6th-10th of March	9-5pm	Drinks, Meals and activities at your own cost. Support and transport cost TBA
The Music of Fleetwood Mac By Candlelight Tribute - Melbourne	Evening Event: Dinner and the Show	11th -12th of March	1 night 5pm -12:30am	Meals and show tickets range from \$85-\$99 at own cost. Funding for support and transport TBA
Urban Surf Day Tour	Day Tour	Saturday 1st & 29th of March	10-4pm	\$104 to surf beginner lesson, \$5- entry fee. Support and transport TBA
Funfields Day trip	Day tour	Saturday 15th & 22nd of March	9-5pm	\$69, drinks and meals at your own cost. Support hours and transport TBA depending on ratio of group

Please note these experiences are subject to ticketing availability.

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EXPERIENCE	EXPERIENCE TYPE	DATE	NUMBER OF NIGHTS OR TIMES	COST OF EXPERIENCE - SUPPORT COST - TO BE DISCUSSED
Melbourne Comedy Show	Evening Event: A meal and Show	27th of March -21st of April	TBA dependent on who you're watching	\$100-\$300 for ticket, meals at own cost. Support and transport cost TBA
Avalon Air Show	Day Tour	28th -30th of March	8:30-5:30pm	Ticket prices TBA (Not released yet) Meals at own cost. Support and transport cost TBA
Boyzlife Concert - Melbourne	Evening Event: Dinner and the Show	Thursday 03rd of April	5pm-midnight	Tickets range from \$90-\$150. Drinks and Dinner at your own cost. Support and transport cost TBA
AFL Football Matches - Melbourne	Day / Night Experiences	April - September	TBA	Ticket prices TBA (Not released yet) Meals at own cost. Support and transport cost TBA
Who's Bad - The Ultimate Michael Jackson Experience - Melbourne Crown	Dinner and Show	22-23rd of May	4:30-11pm	Tickets range from \$90-\$100. Drinks and Dinner at your own cost. Support and transport cost TBA

Exciting new Day Tours will be announced throughout the year as experiences and opportunities become available.

Please note these experiences are subject to ticketing availability.

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DISTINCTIVE OPTIONS

# EXPERIENCES

RESPIRE | EXTENDED JOURNEYS | DAY TOURS



## EXTENDED JOURNEYS / RESPIRE

Please note, our Respite Stays are available year-round and can be personalized to meet your specific goals and needs. Each stay is thoughtfully structured to support your aspirations and achieve your desired outcomes.

EXPERIENCE	EXPERIENCE TYPE	DATE	NUMBER OF NIGHTS OR TIMES	COST OF EXPERIENCE - SUPPORT COST - TO BE DISCUSSED
Having A Say Conference + Surf Coast	Extended Journeys & Advocacy. Theme Our Lives, Our Voices	27th of January -30th of January	3 nights	Accommodation, Meals and activities to be split between the group. Funding for support and transport to be discussed.
Echuca Stay	Extended Journeys / Respite	10th of February - 13th of February	3 nights	Accommodation, Meals and activities to be split between the group. Funding for support and transport to be discussed.
Phillip Island Stay	Extended Journeys / Respite	17th -21st of February	4 nights	Accommodation, Meals and activities to be split between the group. Funding for support and transport to be discussed
Apollo Bay Stay	Extended Journeys / Respite	24th of February - 28th of February	4 nights	Accommodation, Meals and activities to be split between the group. Funding for support and transport to be discussed.
MJ The Musical - Sydney	Extended Journeys Show and one night package	February - April 6th	1 night Show and Package	Tickets \$315-\$399 including accomodation, flights at own cost and meals. Support hours TBA





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EXPERIENCE	EXPERIENCE TYPE	DATE	NUMBER OF NIGHTS OR TIMES	COST OF EXPERIENCE - SUPPORT COST - TO BE DISCUSSED
Roar n Snore Overnight Zoo Camping Experience	1 night Respite stay & Zoo day	Thursday - Sunday available in February	1 night Stay	\$210 -\$234 for accommodation Tents and camping mattresses Dinner, supper, and breakfast Admission to the Zoo the following day Transport and Support hours TBA
Broadbeach	Extended Journeys / Respite - working on daily living skills & public transport use	24th of February - 28th of February	4 nights	Accommodation, Meals and activities to be split between the group. Funding for support and transport to be discussed.
Melbourne Men's Adventure	Extended Journeys / Respite	27th of February - 02nd of March	3 nights	Accommodation, Meals and activities to be split between the group. Funding for support and transport TBA
Mornington Ladies Getaway	Extended Journeys / Respite	27th of February - 02nd of March	3 nights	Accommodation, Meals and activities to be split between the group. Funding for support and transport to be discussed.



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## EXTENDED JOURNEYS / RESPITE

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EXPERIENCE	EXPERIENCE TYPE	DATE	NUMBER OF NIGHTS OR TIMES	COST OF EXPERIENCE - SUPPORT COST - TO BE DISCUSSED
Grand Prix - Melbourne Stay	Day Tours or 2-3 night stay in Melbourne	13-16th of March	All Day or 2-3 night stay can be arranged	Ticket prices TBA (Not released yet) Accommodation and Meals at own cost. Support and transport cost TBA
Star of the Sea - Apollo Bay Stay	Extended Journeys / Respite	17th -21st of March	4 nights	Accommodation, Meals and activities to be split between the group. Funding for support and transport TBA
Wilson's Prom - Camping Experience	Extended Journeys	24th of March -27th of March	3 nights	Accommodation, meals, park passes and activities at own cost. Support and Transport cost TBA
Gold Coast	Extended Journeys / Respite	14th -18th of April	4 nights	Accommodation, Meals, flights and activities to be split between the group. Funding for support and transport TBA
Byron Bay Blues Festival	Extended Journeys	16-20th of April	4 nights	Accommodation, Meals, flights and activities to be split between the group. Funding for support and transport TBA
Halls Gap	Extended Journeys / Respite	29th of April - 2nd of May	3 nights	Accommodation, Meals and activities to be split between the group. Funding for support and transport TBA



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Bright	Extended Journeys / Respite	5th of May -8th of May	3 nights	Accommodation, Meals and activities to be split between the group. Funding for support and transport TBA
Central Australia + The Top End	Extended Journeys - Outback Cultural Experience	26th of May - 04th of June	9 nights	Accommodation, Meals, flights and activities to be out of pockets and split between the group for meals and accommodation. Funding for support and transport TBA
Whale watching Phillip Island	Extended Journeys / Respite	24th-27th of June	3 nights	Whale watching cruise from \$155-\$175 Accommodation, meals and activities to be out of pocket and split between the group. Funding for support and transport TBA
Gold Coast	Extended Journeys / Respite	Monday 1st of July- 5th of July	4 nights	Accommodation, Meals, flights and activities to be split between the group. Funding for support and transport TBA
Echuca Winter Blues Festival	Extended Journeys / Respite	Thursday 24th - Sunday 27th of July	3 nights	Accommodation, Meals and festival are out of pocket cost and to be split between the group. Funding for support and transport TBA