

The Porsche Dream

By Michael Browning



The Dream: You, your Porsche and the most scintillating, cliff-hugging, pure adrenalin section of Victoria's Great Ocean Road, between Lorne and Skenes Creek - closed and all yours!

and Colac, punctuated by a number of average speed and driving-skill tests.

Being able to use sections of the Great Ocean Road completely free of other traffic will be an unrepeatable experience for those in the 'Escape', as the road has never before been closed for a motoring event. And, beyond this special anniversary year, there are no plans in place to close the road again for cars, making this potentially a 'once in a lifetime' opportunity.

But, don't be fooled into thinking this will be easy. Dealing with the countless twists, turns and switchbacks of the road while maintaining a set average speed will be an exciting and demanding test of concentration and driving precision, rather than speed.

The final 'twist in the tale' will occur on the Sunday, when the event will take over the motor industry-only Australian Automotive Research Centre

at Anglesea for a series of interesting and sometimes challenging driving events - another exclusive opportunity for Porsche drivers.

Although this is predominantly a touring event, trophies will be presented for the Escape's 20-odd competitive activities, ranging from average speed stages to timed motorkhana and driving skill tests.

But, it's not just hedonistic fun. Those indulging in the Porsche Great Ocean Road Escape will also be responsible for helping the Lorne Community Hospital

fund on-going vital emergency and community health projects in this special tourist region. For every vehicle entered, Porsche Cars Australia will donate \$100 to the Lorne Community Hospital.

For further information, contact Pamela Ward at Porsche Cars Australia on (03) 9473 0911 to receive a brochure or book your place, with numbers limited to the first 150 from around Australia and overseas.

The Even-Better Dream: Driving it in each direction!

The Reality: Don't pinch yourself; it's all true. During early November this year, the most celebrated section of coastal driver's road on the planet will be closed to the public on two occasions exclusively for Porsche drivers.

The Catch: There isn't one. Porsche Cars Australia's Customer Event is back! You'll share the fun with 150 fellow Porsche drivers; join them in more than 20 separate performance and driving skill events held at a variety of closed road and private venues; enjoy great food and entertainment and stay in Lorne's leading resort hotel, the Erskine Beach Resort.

The 2007 Porsche Great Ocean Road Escape from 8-11 November is Porsche Cars Australia's fourth national customer event in nine years - coming five years after the Porsche Classic in Adelaide, which in turn followed the Porsche Targa Tour in 2000 and the Porsche 50th Anniversary celebrations in 1998.

Work on the event concept and the all-important road closure has been underway since late 2005 and everything is now in place.

Why the Great Ocean Road?

Despite its iconic status as one of the best driving roads in the world, it's a special anniversary year for the road, which was completed 75 years ago in 1932 for the purpose of linking the previously-remote local timber and fishing towns along Victoria's Southern Coast....and the Porsche Great Ocean Road Escape is firmly on the calendar as part of the 75 years celebration.

As those who have done previous Porsche Customer Events can attest, they're a classy experience from start to finish and the Porsche Great Ocean Road Escape will be no different. This is a 'must do' social event of the year for Porsche enthusiasts.

Starting in the heart of the lush Yarra Valley on Thursday 8 November, participants will head for Lorne the scenic way - via the Mornington Peninsula and the Great Ocean Road from its starting point in Torquay.

On the way they will take part in three invigorating driving skill tests at Holden's normally-restricted Proving Ground at Lang Lang, visit one of the Peninsula's most exclusive wineries for lunch and then make a short 'overseas' trip from Sorrento to Queenscliff.

The event's hub will be the newly refurbished Erskine Beach Resort, which sits on one of Victoria's most beautiful beaches in Lorne.

Over the Friday and Saturday, participants will travel in two regional loops and drive the spectacular and beautiful roads of the Bellarine Peninsula, the Otway Ranges and the Great Ocean Road hinterland as far as Camperdown

