

RIVIERA NAUTIC GIPPSLAND LAKES, VIC

CHINAMAN'S CREEK, METUNG
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👤 1-6 🚗 4 HRS

THE LOCATION Protected from the vagaries of Bass Strait's winds and waters by the long strip of land that forms Ninety Mile Beach, Metung is a small village sandwiched between Lake King and Bancroft Bay, at the heart of the Gippsland Lakes system. Its position gives it an added protection - there is no through traffic to disturb the equilibrium.

THE PLACE The Quo Vadis, a six-berth, 10-metre cruiser. One of Riviera Nautic's B&B On Board options for those not quite ready to embark on an overnight venture exploring Gippsland's lake system, it remains safely moored at the jetty for the duration of the stay. A quick tour

reveals a light and surprisingly roomy saloon, a compact galley and equally compact loo/shower - think old-style caravan on water and you're starting to get the picture. Add a flybridge, small decks fore and aft, and a gentle rocking motion and the image is pretty well complete.

THE EXPERIENCE It's the simple pleasures that attract: birds flying overhead in the evenings; pelicans, swans and ducks diving for breakfast in the morning mist; a walk around the coast, keeping eyes peeled for dolphins. Or take a wander around the village, noting the galleries showcasing works by local artists and a smattering of shops offering Gippsland cheeses, chutneys and chocolates. Finish the day with fish and chips on board, followed by a quiet read with a glass at hand.

DON'T MISS ... walks along the two-kilometre boardwalk built over the water's edge from Riviera Nautic to the Metung village, or a visit to Nungurner



by water or road - this quiet, tiny bay with jetties at either end is beautiful, and perfect for a picnic.

SALLY DUGAN

NEED TO KNOW

COST: B&B on Board option: \$300 a night for two (extra people, \$80 each), including continental breakfast.
Charter: \$1062-\$1790 for two nights, including fuel and 24-hour support.
DISTANCE: 315km north-east of Melbourne.
CHILDREN: yes.
WHEELCHAIR ACCESS: no.