Education Discovery Program
Program Details
Step into a world of Myth, Magic and Adventure, a world of dragons, fair maidens, medieval battles and magic encounters. Where the unexpected happens, where the odd and bizarre becomes the everyday; where surprises and wonder accompany every step you take!

Welcome to Kryal Castle where we bring the past to life and shed light on the ‘dark ages’.

Our Education Discovery Program explores the intriguing world of medieval madness through hands-on action led by noble knights, ladies in waiting and humble peasants. We place particular emphasis on delving into medieval history, customs, battle strategies and weapons.

All our programs have been specifically mapped against VELS enabling each to be seamlessly incorporated into your classroom curriculum. A visit to Kryal is perfect inspiration for a wealth of skills development including English, Literature, Math, Science, Civics and Citizenship, and of course History.

Price:
$16.50 per student
Teachers and supervisors and are permitted free entry on a ratio of 1:20

Optional Extras:
Birds of Prey program $10 per student (Minimum of 30 Students)
Mounted Skill at Arms $10 per student (Minimum of 30 Students)
Royal Joust $20 per student for 30-50 students, $15 Per student for 51-90 students, $10 Per Student for 91-150 students, and $6 per student for 150+. (Minimum of 30 students)

Lunch – a lunch order form will be provided for each student should the wish to pre-order lunch for the day. Please note that our cafeteria is not normally open mid-week and food will not be available unless pre-ordered. All lunch packs are $10.00.

Group Sizes: The minimum group size is 30, however we will do what we can to accommodate all schools. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have a smaller group to discuss your options. One Facilitator is provided per 30 students.
Finding Us

Kryal Castle is located on the Western Hwy, 10 minutes from the Ballarat Township (if approaching from Melbourne).

Dedicate 1 hour from Melbourne city to arrive at Kryal Castle, check google maps for more exact timing.

Transport & Parking
There is ample parking for buses and cars.

Public Transport
There is no scheduled public transport to Kryal Castle, however there is a train from Southern Cross Station to Ballarat Station.

Local buses offer a specialist service between Ballarat Station and the castle, but this is only by prior arrangement:
Gold Buses: (03) 5335 5005 www.goldbus.com.au
Our Program

We have eight standard modules on offer for you to select from for your days activities. These can be categorized as four character modules and four hands on weapons training modules. The eight modules are described below and further on we will provide information about how we select and schedule these activities for the day.

A MEDIEVAL LIFE
Modules Peasant, Apothecary, Executioner (recommended for secondary students only), Nobleperson.

THE VICTORIAN CURRICULUM F-10 Levels 5, 6 & 8
KLA Humanities: History, English: Literature, Civics and Citizenship.

Description Choose from Peasant, Apothecary, Executioner or Nobleperson. Students will meet these diverse medieval characters and discuss the ins and outs of each characters lifestyle and position in medieval society. This program provides students with the unique and extremely popular opportunity to visit our torture chamber, concoct an herbal remedy or meet our farmyard animals.

Additionally, a visit becomes the inspiration for the development of a wide range of skills as students respond to the experience (please see our Rubric of Ideas listed in the teacher notes) – with such activities as writing character based stories, debating about deeply felt issues associated with youth justice, creating arts responses, reading exotic tales and poems, viewing illustrated manuscripts or using web search skills to create a class project.

MEDIEVAL WARFARE
Modules Medieval Siege Engines, Archery, Sword Fighting, Arms and Armour display.

THE VICTORIAN CURRICULUM F-10 Levels 3 & 4 - 7 & 8
KLA Science: Physical Sciences, Humanities: History

Description Medieval battles are intriguing to explore - the strategies, the defences, the weapons. In this program we explore how castles were fortified and how they were attacked. We explore the physics of medieval catapults - called siege engines - as well as other means of attack and defence. Students have the opportunity to participate in any of the following four activities: Medieval Siege Engines (examine the catapult and battering ram), Archery, Sword Fighting, Arms and Armour display.
We are also able to offer you any of the three following modules starting at an additional cost of $6 per session.

**Birds of Prey Program**
(Minimum numbers of 30 students apply)
$10 per student per session

*A Kestrel for a Knave*

The art of training birds of prey for hunting, known as falconry, was an elite sport in Medieval times. Owning a falcon was a status symbol throughout the middle ages and the aristocracy flew them in lavishly orchestrated hunts. Its popularity was so great that it has even left an indelible mark on the English vocabulary we use today. Weaving together the threads of history, ecology and environmental science, Martin Scuffins from the Leigh Valley Hawk and Owl Sanctuary will lead you on a journey that spans 4000 years. Meet a magnificent bird of prey from the sanctuary, such as a Nankeen Kestrel, Barn Owl or Little Eagle, and witness firsthand why these magnificent creatures have fascinated us for centuries. The relationship between humans and birds of prey has been a long, complex and colourful one, but as you will discover in this enthralling presentation, we are now the biggest threat these magnificent creatures have ever had to face.
Mounted Skill at Arms

(Minimum numbers of 30 students apply)
$10 per student per session

Join us as one of our kingdom’s finest knights presents to you the skills and techniques of a mounted rider on a finely tuned obstacle course, designed to represent challenges that are faced in real battles. The “Skill at Arms” course has been practiced since at least 4th Century BC in Asian and later European empires, and was a means for knights’ to sharpen their skills and train their horses for warfare. Listen as our knight explains the broader use and history of the variety of weapons he wields and demonstrates the skills and techniques used by medieval cavalry in a presentation that is equally entertaining and educational.
The Grand Tournament Joust

(Minimum numbers of 30 students apply)
$20 per student per session

A spectacular Arena Event, which is unlike any other! Jousting emerged in the high middle ages, based on the use of the lance by heavy cavalry. An extreme sport which is practiced internationally even to this day, Kryal Castle knights count themselves among some of the most accomplished in the world. Join squires, knights and heralds in a true re-enactment of this legendary medieval sport. Students witness what was the pinnacle of knightly activity and gain an understanding of the popularity and importance of the tournament in medieval culture.
How we schedule our program

Each module runs for 30 minutes.
If estimated arrival is 10.30 am and estimated departure is 2.30pm then we have four hours to work with.
Subtract 15 minutes for arrival, 15 minutes for departure and 30 minutes for lunch, we are left with three hours for modules.
In this time we can offer six modules for the day.
We recommend a balance of three Medieval Life modules and three Medieval Warfare modules. Our Education team will guide you through the process of selecting your modules and work out a schedule to best suit your needs.
(Please be aware that the birds of prey program is 45 minutes so other modules may have to be changed to accommodate these bookings).

Our lolly shop which also sells merchandise can also be open for the students to enjoy upon request. Extra time will need to be allotted for this.

Our Program

APOTHECARY Learn about medieval illness and medicines – students will be disgusted and awed by remedies used in the dark ages – who knew that honey and dried children’s faeces was a cure for a sore throat? Students will explore our herb garden and learn about the healing properties within. They will put their new found skills to use in the making of a medieval band aid.

PEASANT Learn about the life of a peasant in feudal England – the food, the culture and the lifestyle.

NOBLE Explore the world of the nobles and courtly etiquette in a simulated, costumed, royal court.

EXECUTIONER Tour our torture chamber and learn about the severe punishments that were handed down in order to maintain order in this period of unrest.

SIEGE Explore how castles were fortified and how they were attacked. Explore the physics of medieval catapults - called siege engines - as well as other means of attack and defence.

ARCHERY Get hands on experience with a bow and arrow

ARMS AND ARMOUR Learn about the history of weaponry and armour and how it has evolved throughout the ages. Students will be able to feel and try on knight’s helmets, gauntlets, gambesons, breast plates and chain mail.

SWORD TRAINING Participate in sword training and learn the proper use of a sword and shield.
What to Expect

Upon Arrival

You will be greeted by a medieval character who will confirm the day’s itinerary. Please note that if arrival time varies from the time booked that our facilitator will reschedule the day’s activities accordingly. This may mean either cutting out a module or shortening one or two. Please advise your facilitator if there are certain modules you would prefer to keep.

Guided Activities

The castle is substantial in size, so small groups of students accompanied by an adult is the best way to experience the adventure. We will advise you once numbers are confirmed how many groups we will need to split the students into in order for them to get the best out of their day. We ask that the groups be evenly divided before your arrival at the castle.

Weather

Activities run in and out of doors. Out here, hot, cold, wet or dry weather might all occur in one day! Just as medieval life continued despite the rain, heat or snow, so do we. *It’s just a season, not a reason to cancel a Kryal adventure!*

Please come prepared for all eventualities. Bring raincoats if rain is expected, and sun-screen and hats for the heat. We also recommend each student bring their own water bottle.

Safety

Please ask all students to wear **SENSIBLE WALKING SHOES!**

Students with special needs

Please let the booking officer know of any special requirements - especially if wheelchair access is required, or students are hearing/sight impaired. We can adapt programs to suit most needs.

ESL students love Kryal Castle. Given the emphasis on colour, movement and theatre, language barriers are minimal.

Please let us know of ESL needs ASAP