

**PRESS RELEASE – 07 May 2018**  
**“Trash bags on tour – hits the Great Ocean Road”**

Staff of Melbourne-based small group tour operator, Autopia (part of the Get Lost Travel Group – GLT) have launched the ‘Trash Bags on Tour’ initiative to raise awareness and address the growing epidemic of rubbish pollution along our coastline and in our oceans.

The first iteration of the initiative departs the 27<sup>th</sup> of May, a group of 24 staff and both local and international guests will travel along Victoria’s famous Shipwreck and Surf Coasts, exploring the tourism hot spots of the 12 Apostles, Apollo Bay and Memorial Arch.

Guests will learn first-hand of the impact pollution has on our coastal region and local marine life with an educational talk on recycling and waste minimisation being given by the Great Ocean Road Coast Committee, followed by a beach clean-up at tourism hotspots, Memorial Arch and Fairhaven.

GLT Group General Manager, Kerry Tate says “We’re incredibly proud of our team for creating this initiative. This is a great example of how as a tour operator, we can showcase the beauty of our own back yard while having a positive effect on the fragile ecosystem”

All proceeds raised through the initiative will be donated to local NGO’s actively focused on caring for the costal environment.

Group CEO, Paul Beames adds “We are excited to be able to bring Trash Bags on Tour to the Great Ocean Road. It’s such an iconic place and we need to make sure we’re looking after it for the future”

Following the launch, Trash Bags on Tour look to run similar monthly initiatives across other popular tourism hotspots, such as the Morning Peninsula and Phillip Island.

Autopia Tours, part of the Get Lost Travel Group, offer some of Australia’s most unique, entertaining and interactive tour experiences and are internationally recognised as a market leader in small group adventure travel. With a vision to provide customers with memories that excite and last a lifetime we showcase the best mix of natural beauty, wildlife, culture and foodie delights while exploring the extraordinary diversity of Melbourne, regional Victoria, New South Wales and South Australia. In 2017, Autopia was crowned Victoria’s number one Tour & Transport operator at the Victorian Tourism Awards.

