

## MEDIA RELEASE September 01, 2015 Removal of water bottle from our souvenir bags

At Hidden Secrets Tours we consider ourselves to be a socially and environmentally conscious company. We make efforts to have as little negative impact on the environment as possible. Being a walking tour company we feel it is at the core values of our business.

On our Lanes and Arcades tour, we give our guests a souvenir bag which has always included a bottle of water amongst other goodies. As we are getting busier and busier we are no longer comfortable with these disposable plastic bottles, and have decided to remove the water from the bag.

We did make efforts to find more sustainable water packaging. Through our research we ultimately found that the packaging available always contained plastic and the water costs (the amount of water used in making water bottles) far outweighs the justification of supplying them to our guests.

We will mention at the start of the tour to the guests, that there are various filtered water points throughout the city where they are able fill up their own water bottles to encourage less waste. We also have a morning tea break about an hour into the tour where water is also available. For the Summer months we will have metal water containers to purchase for those keen to have the option.

The souvenir bag is made from cotton, is Melbourne themed (all printed locally) and includes a map, various offers and goodies from local businesses. It is a great way for guests to collect Melbourne products in a handy, reusable and memorable bag.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact us or go to our website hiddensecretstours.com for more information on our sustainability policies.

Kind regards,

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