AUSTRALIA
NEW ZEALAND
2023-2024

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Welcome

Wild, wide and wonderful, Australia and New Zealand continually excite and inspire. It doesn’t matter how many mountains you’ve climbed or remote island shores you’ve visited, there’s always a different creation story to be told or gallery of ancient rock art to be revealed.

We offer our respect and gratitude to the First Nations, Torres Strait Islander and Māori custodians who have nurtured the land and its cultures for so many millennia, and who are now some of our most trusted partners in introducing them to a curious world.
Welcome Traveller,

This is your first step. Waiting for you within these pages are endless possibilities. In Australia, one moment you could be dazzled by Bruce Munro’s Field of Light, as 50,000 glass spheres slowly dim with the rising sun, only to reveal Uluru’s grandeur in the distance. Then the next, in Nt’ummetki (Katherine) Gorge, where the outback meets the tropics, jaunting from deep green pool to sandstone escarpment – your pathway to ancient Aboriginal rock art and enchanting Jawoyn stories will be revealed.

In New Zealand, you could discover the many arts and traditions unique to Māori culture at Te Puia, meeting cultural performers and unearthing the techniques of hangi cooking. Or sample your own hand-churned butter at the heritage Red Barn on a 500-acre farm nestled in the countryside of Waikato – this takes paddock-to-plate freshness to a new level. And the new All Blacks Experience will bring you up close and personal with this other famous New Zealand passion – Rugby.

With AAT Kings, you’ll go behind the scenes, it’s what 100 years of expertise allows you to uncover. Remarkable experiences that many unknowingly pass by – these unexpected moments are the memories you treasure the most.

Wherever you decide to roam, you’ll be in good hands.

Sincerely,

Ben Hall
AAT Kings Group | CEO

Cover Image:
Maui Uluru Lo Ila, (Uluru BBQ)

AAT Kings invites you to our exclusive Barbecue Dinner under the stars, so close to iconic Uluru, you can almost touch it. Experience it on its own or as an add-on to all Guided Vacations and Short Breaks that stay in Uluru.

Start Exploring

First Choice Guided Vacations

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Best Buys Guided Vacations

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Day Tours

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GUESTS 1-866-240-1659 info@aatkings.com
TRADE reservations@aatkings.com

The information in this brochure was correct at time of publication. However, advertised itineraries and accommodation may change after publication. Please visit aatkings.com for latest details.
Today, we’re proud of our history and of our people.
Some things never change...

100+ Years of Adventure
and many more to come

A century ago, the Australian outback was but a twinkle in most travellers’ eyes. But thanks to visionaries like the Pyke family and Bill King, the way we explore the Land Down Under was about to change in unimaginable ways. Over the coming decades, maps were unfolded, desert cruisers and coaches were customised, and guides were trained. From humble beginnings, the company now known as AAT Kings was going places few had gone before, pioneering new paths across Australia and New Zealand and taking intrepid domestic and international travellers on a wild and wonderful ride.

No corner of the Antipodes was – or is – off-limits, from the remote reaches of the Kimberley and spiritual heartland of the Red Centre, to the untamed Milford Sound, bubbling thermal Rotorua and quiet shores of Tasmania. Not to mention in-depth journeys across Sydney and its surrounds, where this forward-thinking travel venture came to fruition all those years ago.

We’ve come a long way and clocked a few kilometres in the process. But some things will never change. Like our spirit for adventure. Our oh-so-knowledgeable Travel Directors. The local characters we meet (and will never forget) along the way. The epic, goosebump-inducing stories we’re told by First Nations guides. The life-changing experiences on offer – the kind that only 100 years of exploring affords.

Now, we’re just jumping into more waterfalls, finding ourselves humbled by more sacred sites, laying more footprints on deserted beaches and hiking through more tropical rainforests than ever before. And we’ve never been more passionate about our next discovery. Join us, and fall in love with Australia and New Zealand all over again.

"Keep doing what you’re doing, but try and do it better" – Bill King

1920s
AAT Kings can be traced back to George Page’s modest transport service from Melbourne to Brighton.

1930s
The Pyke family introduced Sydney to Katoomba and Jenolan Caves which is still apart of our Day Tours business.

1960s
Bill King decided there was a real future with off-the-beaten-track journeys – Bill purchased two Land Rovers, an ex-army international ambulance and a Denning Bus and launched Bill King’s Northern Safaris.

1970s
Bill designed and built his own 18 passenger vehicles and called them Desert Cruisers. AAT Coachlines had commenced operations in the Northern Territory.

1980s
AAT Coachlines purchased Bill King’s Northern Safaris and operated as Bill King’s Australian Adventure Tours.

1984
AAT Kings brand formed.

1997
AAT Kings joined The Travel Corporation Family of Brands.

1999
We began operations in New Zealand.

2010
Small group immersive Inspiring Journeys brand was born.

2018
Down Under Tours joined the AAT Kings Group.

2019
SEIT Outback Australia joined the AAT Kings Group.

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At a time when exclusivity is the world’s greatest travel luxury, Australia and New Zealand tick every box. They deliver every wide and wonderful landscape conceivable, from soaring sacred monoliths to fabulous fiords; from tangles of rainforest to majestic mountain ranges. And in between await innumerable soul stirring stories to hear, characters to meet, adventures to enjoy, meals to savour, and spirits to accompany. We’ve spent the last century perfecting a Holy Grail of life-changing moments Down Under – ones you likely never knew even existed, and that you won’t find in a guidebook or listed on any website. Our DNA has never changed – we are, and always have been pioneers committed to worry-free and sustainable travel, revealing Australia and New Zealand in a way that you never imagined possible.

Amazing Experiences
We were built on pioneering spirit, and to this day our tours include adventures that few others experience. We’re constantly looking for ways to make journeys extraordinary, whether that’s remote night-sky gazing or lunch on a dairy farm. This is Australia and New Zealand, but not as you’ve ever seen them.

Diverse Travel Styles
What you want from your vacation is not necessarily the same as your neighbour. Sometimes, it’s about adventure. Often, it’s a good glass of wine and a remarkable view. Perhaps you want to see major sights, or choose your own path while we handle the main roads. Whatever your destination and route, we have an itinerary for you.

Conscious Travel
There are plenty of things we can all do while travelling to contribute to sustainable tourism practices. We’ve developed a series of tours with signature MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experiences – to ensure travel has a positive impact on our planet, the communities we visit and the wildlife we encounter.

Worry-free Travel
Your wellbeing is our primary concern. In addition to elevated hygiene protocols, AAT Kings tours guarantee upgraded coach air-conditioning filtration systems. We only work with partners we know and trust, and our Travel Directors ensure everything runs smoothly, with a support team on call.

Family Values
When you travel with AAT Kings, you’re not only part of our century-old heritage, but are welcomed into just as many years of experience in The Travel Corporation. Journey confidently knowing our family-owned parent company has welcomed millions of people around the world across its brands.
Amazing Experiences

Every year, millions of adventure-seekers visit Australia and New Zealand. But to really get to know a place – to take its pulse as an insider – you need to follow the lead of locals. We’ve spent the last 100 years exploring the Antipodes, meeting farmers, winemakers, chefs, First Nations experts, artists, and astronomers, and creating lasting friendships. The kind that now give us – and you, as our guests – unrestricted and unrivalled access to parts of the country that other travellers just can’t go, and to exclusive experiences most will probably never know existed. We’ll take you places, and our passionate people will reveal their true beauty.

Fancy dinner under a billion stars? NT

This exclusive barbecue dinner (Mai Ulugu La Ilia) is so close to Ulugu you could almost touch it, the only one of its kind set under the Rock’s towering shadow. With sparkling wine in hand, watch a kaleidoscope of colour as the sun sets and you dine on favourites. With sparkling wine in hand, it’s kind set under the Rock’s towering could almost touch it, the only one of most awe-inspiring and humbling.

Prepare to see stars, Tekapo, NZ

Free from artificial light pollution, the UNESCO Aoraki Mackenzie International Dark Sky Reserve really knows how to dazzle. Visit this spectacular spot, over the Lindis Pass and backdropped by Aoraki/Mt. Cook, at night to gaze at the Southern Cross, Magellanic Clouds and wonders of the Antipodes, meeting farmers, winemakers, chefs, First Nations experts, artists, and astronomers, and creating lasting friendships. The kind that now give us – and you, as our guests – unrestricted and unrivalled access to parts of the country that other travellers just can’t go, and to exclusive experiences most will probably never know existed. We’ll take you places, and our passionate people will reveal their true beauty.

A Cornucopia of Colour, SA

New Zealand boasts more than its fair share of natural wonders, none quite as dramatic as Milford Sound/ Piopiotahi within World Heritage listed Te Wahipounamu reserve. Waterfalls tumble from escarpments into inky water, glaciers sparkle from cliffs tops and mountains scrape the sky – it’s a natural haven for fur seals, penguins and dolphins, which you’ll observe firsthand on a scenic cruise through the sound. Back on land, your journey through Fiordland National Park continues to Te Anau, from rainforest through wildflower-dusted meadows and across alluvial flats.

Get set for a peak performance, Milford Sound/Piopiotahi, NZ

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Discover NZ’s wildlife haven, Stewart Island

New Zealand’s southernmost community resides on Stewart Island, a slip of land where brown kiw birds outnumber humans, and where blue and rare yellow-eyed penguins waddle on rocks. More than 85 per cent of this wild and wonderful destination is national parkland, as you’ll discover on a tour around the petite village and its beautiful bays, your journey taking you to Observation Rock and offering unbroken views over Paterson Inlet. It is nature at its most awe-inspiring and humbling.

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Farm-to-table freshness at Mt. Gnomon, TAS

If visiting the cutest-sounding town on the planet is on your bucket list, ensure this is included on your itinerary. The Mt. Gnomon Farm sits just outside Penguin in the north of Tasmania, and is the site where fifth-generation farmer Guy Robertson and his family have perfected centuries-worth of skills in cider orchards and gardens. Your farm-to-fork Be My Guest lunch amid this lush setting is like Tasmania a fresh and flavourful mouthful.

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No two travellers are ever the same. Which means that with AAT Kings, neither are any two tours. We understand that sometimes you want to switch off and enjoy the scenery, with your itinerary, accommodation and exclusive experiences all seamlessly sorted ‘behind the scenes’. Other journeys require the essentials covered and insider tips provided, but need built-in flexibility so you can go your own way. Whether you have a couple of weeks or a couple of hours, whether you want to leave everything to us or customise parts of your journey, AAT Kings offers a travel style for every kind of traveller. And regardless of the tour you choose, you’ll leave a minimal footprint, connect with culture and support the local communities you visit.

**Travel Your Way**

**First Choice Guided Vacations**
 For explorers who want:
- Exclusive experiences and adventures around Australia and New Zealand
- Everything taken care of by talented Travel Directors

There’s nothing quite like setting off to see Australia and New Zealand, knowing that each wild encounter, all your accommodation – and everything in between – has been taken care of by your Travel Director, guides and the team of supporting experts. All you need to do is enjoy the relaxed pace, make lasting connections and delve into the countries’ cultures. This is about going to wild places, with creature comforts.

**Best Buys Guided Vacations**
 For explorers who want:
- A flexible vacation with some inclusions, and some independent travel
- All the essentials managed by in-the-know Travel Directors

Take a fully curated vacation, add in a good dose of flexibility, and you arrive at this travel style, designed for those who like travel fundamentals taken care of – the transportation, accommodation – but also like the option of exploring independently, with tips from knowledgeable Travel Directors to point you in the right direction if needed.

**Short Breaks**
 For explorers who want:
- To see Australia, but don’t have weeks to spare
- A seamless travel experience to take in as much as possible in a short space of time

When you have a week or less to dive into thundering waterfalls, snorkel the world’s biggest reef or dine under a carpet of stars at Uluru, this travel style is for you. Your journey unites everything that’s great about AAT Kings – the cultural connections, insider knowledge, wondrous sights – and condenses it into a fully curated, blissfully efficient, bite-sized package.

**Day Tours**
 For explorers who:
- Have a few hours and want life-changing experiences packed in

A century ago, AAT Kings became an Australian pioneer in day tripping, taking adventurous explorers where few others had gone before. We know this space well, and our Driver Guides have every connection to make your day of adventure – whether around the Blue Mountains or Tiwi Islands – as meaningful as possible. Why spend a day watching TV, when you can forge a memory for a lifetime?
AAT Kings Cares

Save the Tasmanian Devil, Tasmania
AAT Kings supports the work done at the University of Tasmania to develop a vaccine to ensure these creatures can thrive disease-free in the wild. See Tasmanian Devils feeding at night as an optional experience on Perfect Tasmania (page 46).

Save the kiwi bird, Rotorua
The flightless kiwi bird is under threat. AAT Kings supports the National Kiwi Hatchery Aotearoa to provide a safe environment for eggs to hatch, as you’ll discover on the Contrasts of New Zealand (page 52).

Pudakul Aboriginal Cultural Experience, Northern Territory
This Aboriginal owned and operated family business offers an authentic Aboriginal culture and nature based experience. Included on Northern Territory Explorer (page 66).

Our TreadRight Foundation – TreadRight is a not-for-profit founded by AAT Kings and our sister brands under The Travel Corporation (TTC), to support sustainable tourism projects around the world. Through TreadRight, AAT Kings has helped fund more than 60 projects worldwide. Learn more at TreadRight.org

This is our goal as a travel provider. We recognise our responsibility to ensure our impact on the planet we call home, the people we visit, and the rich wildlife we find there, is a positive one. Our work ensures that the impact of our business is positive in two ways; through our TreadRight Foundation, and our sustainability strategy, How We Tread Right. Our strategy consists of 11 measurable goals anchored to the United Nations Global Goals, and alongside our Climate Action Plan, will guide our journey to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050. Learn about our impact at aatkings.com/aat-kings-cares. The three pillars of our support are:

PEOPLE PLANET WILDLIFE

Enrich your travels while supporting the people and places you visit. MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® experiences are chosen with great care based on the positive social or environmental impact they have on their communities and those who experience them.

There are plenty of things we can all do while travelling to contribute to sustainable tourism practices. We’ve developed a series of tours that each include a signature MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience, allowing our guests to see and understand firsthand the important work we support and its impact. Look for the symbol below to see how you can MAKE TRAVEL MATTER®.
Our Commitment
We want our guests to experience everything they expect on their vacation – but we're committed to giving them a whole lot more. We consistently deliver unexpected moments of joy, so you return home with lasting memories, not just a stamp in your passport.

Our Customers
You, our guests, are the reason we have been operating and innovating as a family brand for the past century. You return time and time again, and your loyalty and feedback help keep things fresh and fun while we keep discovering the world together.

Our Passion
We're passionate about the planet, and about sustainably revealing its many wonders to our guests through the highest levels of service, exceptional experiences, and hugely knowledgeable employees and Travel Directors.

Our Responsibility
Travel offers the power to have a positive impact not only on us, but also on the destinations and communities we visit. Which is why, through our non-profit TreadRight Foundation, we strive to create meaningful, lasting relationships and projects that enhance and protect the people and places we visit. Learn how you can help at treadright.org/checklist.

Family Values
At AAT Kings, we're proud of our service and experience, revealing the wonders and characters of Australia and New Zealand to guests for more than 100 years. We're even prouder to be part of a much bigger family, The Travel Corporation (TTC), which enjoys a global reach and a portfolio that includes some of the world's most prestigious travel brands – from luxury hotels and boutique river cruises to independent vacation package companies and guided travel experiences. The collection is diverse, but we all share standards of excellence and common goals: to offer outstanding service and experiences, whichever corner of the planet our guests choose to roam.

Trained Travel Directors
Our Travel Directors not only hold a wealth of information about the destinations you visit, but also have their finger on the pulse when it comes to the latest protocols in hygiene and local etiquette.

Always in the know
AAT Kings is an integral part of a much bigger family, The Travel Corporation, with a network of in-the-know advisors and travel professionals around the globe. We're up-to-date when it comes to the latest health protocols, and are ready to apply internationally proven best practices if issues arise.

A full team of support, 24/7
Our Travel Directors and Drivers rarely need backup, but they have it thanks to a full support team on call around the clock to ensure your journey is seamless and hassle-free, from the moment you sign up until the moment you return home.

Trusted partners, exceptional standards
The people we work with around Australia and New Zealand care about our guests as much as we do. We're extremely selective when it comes to our partners – whether restaurants, hotels, suppliers or venues – and we ensure upfront that we're aligned in our commitment to health and hygiene.

Stringent on-the-road protocols
We've always maintained high levels of hygiene on our coaches, but we've now elevated precautions to include enhanced deep cleaning and sanitisation for your safety. Our protocols meet international standards, and we're continually monitoring the travel landscape for best practices.

Travel Insurance & Booking Conditions
Travel insurance is highly recommended for all guests. This insurance should cover trip interruption, personal injury, medical expenses, evacuation and repatriation cover including during pandemic events. The choice of insurer is yours. Full Booking Conditions can be found at aatkings.com/booking-conditions.

Air conditioning
Relax and breathe – we're filtering the air through our fleet of coaches using top-of-the-range air filtration systems to ensure impurities are not left lingering. Expect a full replacement of fresh air every couple of minutes, to protect your health and wellbeing.

Registering for My AAT Kings Travel Portal
For peace of mind and a seamless tour from the moment you book until you return home, register your details online for piece of mind.

It's quick & easy to register online
1. Visit my.aatkings.com
2. Enter your first name, last name and email address
3. Create a unique password & click Register User
4. Add your booking number and click Add my Booking

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The vibrant colour and irresistible spirit of Australia can be found everywhere, across its vast plains and mountain ranges, beaches and islands. So many unforgettable moments await you – watch the sun turn golden across waterlily-filled Kakadu billabongs or explore some of the world’s most pristine beaches in Tasmania’s Freycinet.

From glacial-carved gorges to immense lakes, from rainforest-draped national parks to snowy peaks, New Zealand is diverse and dramatic. Cruise in the company of penguins across Milford Sound and immerse yourself in both the beauty and importance Māori culture.

This is where magical travel moments are made.
Best Buys

Experience the best of Australia and New Zealand, your way. With 7 flexible itineraries, you will enjoy AAT Kings’ unrivaled expertise and discover must-see destinations, with plenty of free time to explore these spectacular lands and vibrant cities.
For explorers who want to visit wild places with creature comforts, a First Choice Guided Vacation delivers exclusive experiences and quality accommodation around Australia and New Zealand, with everything taken care of by your Travel Director so you can relax and enjoy the adventure.

Captivating Vacations, Premium Inclusions

- All accommodation in premium hotels, lodges and eco-resorts
- More 2 night stays with later starts
- Most meals including daily breakfasts
- Exclusive Be My Guest Experiences
- Wine with all included dinners
- Cultural activities in your destinations
- Community engagement activities
- Travel in purpose-built air-conditioned coaches with reclining seats, and WiFi where available
- All National Park Entrance Fees
- The services of a highly experienced Travel Director
- Luggage handling, transfers and taxes

Local Connection
Sip pinot noir with the winemaker, meet a 5th generation farmer and tour his free-range property, explore an outback station with the owners — exclusive Be My Guest experiences connect you to the heartbeat of Australia and New Zealand.

Insider Knowledge
Our Travel Directors take you places and offer experiences you may never know existed if travelling on your own.

Cultural Immersion
Discover the ancient stories and spiritual cultural sites of the world’s oldest culture, as revealed by Aboriginal and Māori guides.

Sustainable Footprints
We’re passionate about protecting the environments and communities we visit for future travellers to discover, and do this in partnership with the TreadRight Foundation.

Wildlife & Nature
Tap into wide and wonderful pockets of Australia and New Zealand exploring glorious nature reserves and wilderness areas that are a magnet for native animals.

What’s included on a First Choice Vacation?

- All accommodation in premium hotels, lodges and eco-resorts
- More 2 night stays with later starts
- Most meals including daily breakfasts
- Exclusive Be My Guest Experiences
- Wine with all included dinners
- Cultural activities in your destinations
- Community engagement activities
- Travel in purpose-built air-conditioned coaches with reclining seats, and WiFi where available
- All National Park Entrance Fees
- The services of a highly experienced Travel Director
- Luggage handling, transfers and taxes
Australian Highlights

Highlights

Local Connection
When your destination is called Earth Sanctuary, you know it has an eco-focus. Dine under the stars and discover Southern Hemisphere constellations with the forward-thinking owners.

Insider Knowledge
Melbourne has some of the world’s most vibrant street art – if you know where to look. Follow your local guide to discover eye-popping murals, hidden down back alleys.

Cultural Immersion
The Sydney Opera House is the stuff of postcards. You get to go behind the scenes with an expert who not only reveals architectural highlights, but also performance secrets.

Sustainable Footprints
Some of Australia’s legendary wilderness areas – Uluru, Kakadu and Litchfield – are its most fragile. Your National Parks fees preserve them for posterity.

Wildlife & Nature
The only living organism you can see from outer space, the Great Barrier Reef is one of the most important, and biodiverse, ecosystems. Dive under the surface and see for yourself.

Welcome to Melbourne
Is there such a thing as too much time in Melbourne? Arrive early before meeting your fellow adventure-seekers over a beverage or two. Hotel: Creeme Plaza, 3 nights, DW

Melbourne Sightseeing and Free Time
Melbourne is known for its cool cafes – we recommend grabbing a coffee to fuel you through a walking tour exploring the city’s most eye-popping laneways. This afternoon, you decide. Perhaps a nature-based sojourn to Phillip Island to see penguins waddle from the ocean to the sand? We wouldn’t blame you for lingering and taking a deep dive into Melbourne’s culinary offerings. Ask us for tips on the hottest spots to drink and dine. B

Melbourne Free Time
If you’re still getting your Melbourne bearings, linger in town to explore boutiques, galleries, and eclectic suburbs. But it’s time to venture further afield, you might want to sign up to discover the Great Ocean Road, a stretch of coastline that deserves its reputation as one of the most scenic afield, you might want to sign up to discover the Great Ocean Road, a stretch of coastline that deserves its reputation as one of the most scenic.

Melbourne – Uluru
The spiritual, sacred and spectacular, the world’s largest rock monolith will give you goosebumps. In Australia’s Red Centre, Uluru has been home to the Anangu people for millennia. Their connection is palpable, as you’ll discover when you arrive at Uluru Kata Tjuta National Park, at sunset watching the shifting colours transform the desert with every last ray of sun (sparkling wine essential). Hotel: Desert Gardens, Ayers Rock Resort, 2 nights, B

Uluru & Kata Tjuta
If there’s one thing worth getting out of bed early for, it’s sunrise over Uluru. Incredible, the Rock’s base caves are home to First Nations art that dates back tens of thousands of years. What an Honour to glimpse it. The ochres and silvery greens of the NT outback follow you to Kata Tjuta, where Ormiston Gorge humbles its soaring cliffs. Wander through the tallest domes before yet another sparkling sunset (and sparkling wine!)

Sydney
Bring your stamina: today is one of innumerable highlights. Go behind the scenes at the Sydney Opera House, discovering its architectural and performance secrets. If these sails could talk, one icon to another: The world’s most famous beach beckons this morning, with your chance to padding the sand at Bondi with Sydney’s beautiful people. From worked up an appetite? A local Surf Life Saver will take you into the members-only Bondi Surf Bathers’ Life Saving Club. Learn about this historic club and gain an understanding of the important work that is done here saving lives on this famous beach. Next, a Be My Guest lunch with views overlooking the Pacific Ocean.

Sydney Free Time
The hardest decision you have to make today, explore more of Sydney, or head to the Blue Mountains, 1140 square kilometres of World Heritage listed wilderness, a place where sandstone escarpments appear to cleave off the edge of the Earth and waterfall-cooled valleys of rainforest slip dreamily from the pages of a fairytale.

Sydney Free Time (Cont.)
Here, you’ve found your bearings in Sydney, why not linger around the harbour – perhaps it’s time to escape it from above on a Sydney BridgeClimb? This bird’s-eye view certainly puts things in perspective. As you climb, you reach the top of the Pylon. Experience the world from the perspective of the rock climber. Head to the Sculpture By The Sea exhibition at Bondi Beach. This iconic art exhibition displays works of all shapes and sizes, showcasing the talent of local artists from all over the world. After a well-deserved rest, head to the Bondi Icebergs Pool for a swim with a view of the Sydney Harbour Bridge.

Flight Information
Day 1 – Flights to arrive prior to 12 noon into Melbourne Airport Day 13 – Flights to depart anytime from Sydney Airport

15 Included Experiences

Departure Dates

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See available prices and departure dates from 01 Apr 2024 at asktings.com. Or contact your local travel agent.

Dining

12 Full breakfasts B
1 Lunch L
1 Be My Guest lunch BG
1 Farewell Dinner FD
Welcome to Brisbane
It turns out, you don’t need to be located on a vineyard to make terrific wine. Welcome to City Winery, located in the heart of Brisbane and a hub for delicious drops. This is your introduction to the Queensland capital, with a sommelier or vintner hosting a tasting session before dinner is served. Is there any better way to mingle with new friends? Hotel: Adina Apartments, 2 Nights. BG

Brisbane – Hamilton Island
There are no cars on Hamilton Island. Which pretty much sums up the pace of life on this drop of dreaminess in the middle of the Whitsundays. Feel your pulse slow as you ease into ‘Hamo’ speed, perhaps taking a dip in the gin-clear Coral Sea, maybe heading off for a round of golf, definitely looking over the archipelago in a catamaran, when you join with the team of not-for-profit Our Big Kitchen to cook a meal for those in need living in the Sydney suburb of Bondi. If you feel the need to explore further afield, book a golf buggy. Wherever you wander, re-join the crew for sunset drinks and dine. B

Hamilton Island Free Time
After yesterday’s Great Barrier Reef overload, we wouldn’t blame you for sleeping in. But… there are so many other things to see and do around Hamilton, at your leisure. Enjoy brunch at the marina or lace up your hiking boots and head up Passage Peak for unbroken views across the archipelago. Perhaps followed by a well-deserved dip at Catseye Beach or Coral Cove. The stretch of sand that’s regularly voted the most beautiful in the world, however, is Whitehaven – so high in silica, it squeaks under foot. It’s a short boat ride away, but we can help you get there. B

Hamilton Island – Sydney
Sleep in, enjoy a leisurely breakfast, sneak in one last swim and soak up the views – you’re on Hamilton Island time, after all. This patch of paradise is a siren you’ll want to return to. But you’ve got another watery outlook to enjoy. Today, the views – you’ll meet a sommelier or vintner to discover City Winery’s top drops. A working winery, in a capital city? It’s a thing in Brisbane, discover all with a local guide. B

Coral Cove. The stretch of sand that’s regularly voted the most beautiful in the world, however, is Whitehaven – so high in silica, it squeaks under foot. It’s a short boat ride away, but we can help you get there. B

Dining
8 Full breakfasts B
1 Lunch L
1 Be My Guest dinner B

Flight Information
Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 2.00pm into Brisbane Airport
Day 6 – Hamilton Island to Sydney
Day 9 – flights to depart anytime from Sydney Airport

*Internal-vacation flights: Please note that the price above includes land and internal-vacation airfares, which are required to be booked in order to fulfil the vacation itinerary. B

Highlights
Local Connection
A working winery, in a capital city? It’s a thing in Brisbane, where you’ll meet a sommelier or vintner to discover City Winery’s top drops.

Insider Knowledge
Theails are immortalised on postcards. But it’s what lies behind the scenes of the Sydney Opera House that is most intriguing. Discover all with a local guide.

Cultural Immersion
Most people wander Brisbane unaware of the city’s Aboriginal heritage. When you explore with, you’ll take a deep dive into First Nations culture.

Sustainable Footprints
Do good, feel good, and meet amazing people when you join the team of not-for-profit Our Big Kitchen to cook a meal for those in need living in the Sydney suburb of Bondi.

Wildlife & Nature
Did you know cars are not permitted on Hamilton Island? The only way to get around is in a golf buggy, by bike, on foot or in a boat. Get out there and explore this patch of paradise.

Wonders of Australia
For a different perspective, take to the skies on a scenic flight revealing the scale and drama of this magical part of Queensland. You’ll fall in love with the Great Barrier Reef. ABHS  •  FIRST CHOICE
It's a short boat-ride away, but we can help you get there.

the world, however, is Whitehaven – so high in silica, it squeaks underfoot.

Archipelago. Perhaps followed by a well-deserved dip at Catseye Beach or

sleeping in. But… there are so many other things to see and do around

After yesterday's Great Barrier Reef overload, we wouldn't blame you for

Did you know that the World Heritage listed Great Barrier Reef, is home to

If Rotorua reminds you of Mars, you're not alone. Mud pops and

B 9 Hamilton Island Free Time

A barbecue below ground? It's a reality at the Mitai Maori Village,

Whitsundays.

Wildlife & Nature

If Rotorua reminds you of Mars, you're not alone. Mud pops and

New Zealand's National Kiwi Hatchery is a vital piece

that surround is the festive atmosphere welcoming you to Walter Peak

Earnslaw; the only thing more inspiring than the peaks of the Remarkables

southern girl Laura, who will introduce you to the sheep farm she was born

town of Arrowtown.

Hotel: Millennium, 2 nights. B DW

It only takes three hours to travel from Sydney to New Zealand. But you'll

You could spend a long time in and around Queenstown. But on your free

you might have seen Sydney Opera House from the outside, but have you

Today is set to sparkle – quite literally – as thousands of bright green and

Today is yours to get your final fix of Australia's largest city. If you haven't

Today is yours to get your final fix of Australia's largest city. If you haven't

Hotel: Millennium, 3 nights. B

While there's nothing quite like snapping a shot of the Sydney

For a fun and educational reunion with nature, the Wonders of Australia & New Zealand

Were you ever told stories about the earth's earliest inhabitants? This evening your dinner is prepared in an earthen hangi at the Mitai Maori Village. It's an eye-opening (and tasty) introduction to Māori culture.

the scenes on a working kiwi nursery and hatchery to learn how breeding

programs are helping the population thrive. The natural drama reaches

light up your next destination: the cavernous Ruakuri Cave at Waitomo. From

You might have seen Sydney Opera House from the outside, but have you

Today is yours to get your final fix of Australia's largest city. If you haven't

You could spend a long time in and around Queenstown. But on your free

You could spend a long time in and around Queenstown. But on your free

sights – ask us for tips on where to drink and dine.

Hotel: Adina Apartment, 2 nights. BG

Hotel: Grand Hyatt Regency, Darling Harbour View Room, 3 nights. B DW

Hotel: Hyatt Regency, Darling Harbour View Room, 3 nights. B DW

Hotel: Millennium, 3 nights. B

You might have seen Sydney Opera House from the outside, but have you

Today is yours to get your final fix of Australia's largest city. If you haven't

Hotel: Millennium, 3 nights. B

Hotel: Millennium, 2 nights. B DW

You could spend a long time in and around Queenstown. But on your free day, we highly recommend either venturing into the end-of-the-earth wilderness that is Milford Sound, to cruise past sheer cliffs, white-capped peaks, and waterfalls. Or blissing out on an obligatory wine tour of the Otago region. It's a difficult decision. B

While there's nothing quite like snapping a shot of the Sydney Opera House from the outside, did you ever wonder what secrets lie within? Discover all on an insider's tour.

Today is set to sparkle – quite literally – as thousands of bright green and blue glow-worms light up your next destination: the cavernous Ruakuri Cave at Waitomo. From overhead attractions to those below the ground…

Today is yours to get your final fix of Australia's largest city. If you haven't

Hotel: Grand Hyatt City. B

Auckland – Rotorua

Today is set to sparkle – quite literally – as thousands of bright green and blue glow-worms light up your next destination: the cavernous Ruakuri Cave at Waitomo. From overhead attractions to those below the ground…

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Today is yours to get your final fix of Australia's largest city. If you haven't

Hotel: Grand Hyatt City. B

Auckland – Rotorua

Today is set to sparkle – quite literally – as thousands of bright green and blue glow-worms light up your next destination: the cavernous Ruakuri Cave at Waitomo. From overhead attractions to those below the ground…

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Today is yours to get your final fix of Australia's largest city. If you haven't
Welcome to Melbourne
We recommend arriving early in Melbourne – there’s so much to see in the Victorian capital before you meet your fellow travel companions. Hotel: Crown Plaza, 2 nights. DW

Melbourne
Today, reach for rainbows in Melbourne’s eye-popping street art. Follow the lead of a local to discover alleys emblazoned with murals by some of the world’s greatest aerosol artists. Take note of the hidden bars and restaurants you pass – we can help you make a booking for tonight. B

Cairns – Cairns
Koalas, birds, wallabies, crocodiles – they all live side by side at Hartley’s Crocodile Adventures in Cairns, as you’ll discover on a boat cruise with a private guide through this wilderness reserve. The Daintree Rainforest here is part of the World Heritage listed Wet Tropics of Queensland, and you’ll help protect it on a restoration project. Hotel: Hilton, 3 nights. B

Great Barrier Reef
Did you know that the World Heritage listed Great Barrier Reef is home to 1,500 species of fish, 215 different birds, 1,000 molluscs, six of the world’s seven marine turtle species, and 30 species of dolphins and whales are residents. Get ready for an experience of a lifetime when you board a high-speed catamaran and cruise to the outer edge of the Great Barrier Reef. Strap on a snorkel and mask to view this marine menagerie up close and personal. B L

Cairns Free Time
If you’re in the habit of getting up early now, you may wish to begin your day like you’ve stepped back in time when you arrive at former gold-mining town of Arrowtown. Hotel: Millennium, 3 nights. B

Queenstown Free Time
You could spend a long time in and around Queenstown. But on your free day, we highly recommend either venturing into the end of the Earth wilderness that is Milford Sound, to cruise past sheer cliffs, white-capped peaks, and waterfalls. Or relaxing out on an obligatory wine tour of the Otago region. It’s a difficult decision. B

Queenstown – Auckland
Touching down in Auckland, you’ll immediately understand why it’s known as the ‘City of Sails’ – New Zealand’s largest city has two lovely yacht-filled harbours, which you can explore at our leisure this afternoon. Hotel: The Grand by SkyCity. B

Auckland – Rotorua
Today is set to sparkle – quite literally – as thousands of bright green and blue glowworms light up your next destination: the cavernous Ruakuri Cave at Whakomai. From overhead attractions to those below the ground… this evening your dinner is prepared in an earthy hangi at the Te Puia Maori Experience. It’s an eye-opening (and tasty) introduction to Maori culture. Hotel: Millennium, 2 nights. B HD

Rotorua
Gale and gusty, NZ’s national bird, the kiwi, is also endangered. Go behind the scenes on a working kiwi nursery and hatchery to learn how breeding programs are helping the population thrive. The natural drama reaches boiling point at Whakarewarewa, a geothermal reserve and the country’s only living Maori village, home to famous Puhutu Geyser and the bubbling beauty of mud pools. Celebrate the tour with a Farewell Dinner on the lakefront. B FD

Return airfares from your home port are not included in the price above.
Contrasts of Australia & New Zealand

Highlights

Local Connection
Pull-up a hay bale with farmers Angie and Stan Taylor and learn about life on the farm over a delicious lunch. Hotel: The Grand by SkyCity, 2 nights. B BG

Insider Knowledge
A lot of time, effort and knowledge goes into making good beer. Join a masterclass at a small-batch Sydney brewery to learn the secrets.

Cultural Immersion
Māori culture and traditions are celebrated across New Zealand, as you’ll discover at Te Puia Maori Experience. Joining up to 30 guests, travel to the heart of Tongariro National Park and learn about the significant cultural sites to the Māori people. Hotel: Distinction, 2 nights. B BG

Sustainable Footprints
Your visit to the tropics of Queensland helps protect World Heritage areas and the wildlife within when you plant native trees as part of our Rainforest Restoration project.

Wildlife & Nature
It doesn’t matter how many times you splash about in the Coral Sea, the Great Barrier Reef never fails to impress. There are too many world records being broken here to mention.

Welcome to Melbourne
Meet your fellow adventure-seekers – you’re going to be spending a fair bit of time with them. Hotel: Crowne Plaza, 2 nights. DW

Melbourne
Take a deep dive into Melbourne’s art-filled lanes and alleys on a private walking tour. Spot a jazz bar or hidden restaurant you fancy? The afternoon is yours to indulge however you wish. B

Melbourne – Cairns
Pilgrims start to heat up in Cairns, the heart of Tropical North Queensland. Jump aboard a cruise at Harley’s Crocodile Adventures to discover some of the wildlife that calls this part of the state home: koalas, wallabies, and crocs among them, before helping protect their habitats by planting trees as part of our Rainforest Restoration project. Talk about a feel-good day. Hotel: Peppers Bluewater Resort. B D

Great Barrier Reef
The Great Barrier Reef deserves its World Heritage listing – it’s one of the most biodiverse marine environments on the planet, home to thousands of species of fish and corals, as well as all of the world’s seven sea turtles. Strap on a snorkel and dive in or keep your hair dry and take in the drama of species of fish and corals, as well as six of the world’s seven sea turtles.

Great Barrier Reef
Follow the lead of hipsters for a local’s tour through the inner west of Sydney. First stop is Newtown, where the parade of street art and achingly-cool restaurants leads you to Marrickville then Dulwich Hill. Here, you’ll pop in on Dear Delicious cafe, where farm-to-table dining is in the spotlight thanks to owner Greg. Enjoy a Be My Guest lunch made featuring the veggies and herbs he grows himself. Around the corner is Batch Brewery where you’ll meet owner Andrew. Take part in a masterclass and learn how they combine creatively inspired limited release batches with sustainable practices. B BG

Sydney
If there was ever a place that slipped from the pages of a fairytale, Wendy’s Secret Garden at Lavender Bay is it. Overlooking Sydney Harbour, this pocket of floral paradise is explained by a local volunteer – do you know this was once unused wasteland? Your visit provides a contribution to the ongoing maintenance of the enchanting garden. Dinner tonight is beside Sydney Harbour. Because can you ever get enough? B DW

Sydney – Auckland
Battle of the harbours. Sydney has one, but Auckland has two. Small wonder it’s known as the ‘City of Sails’. Hotel: The Grand by SkyCity, 2 nights. DW

Auckland Sightseeing
Sightseeing stops
Sydney
Lavender Bay
Auckland
Queenstown

Merriment and fun are in order tonight. Hotel: Hyatt Regency, Darling Harbour View Room, 3 nights. B DW

Sydney – Auckland
Battle of the harbours. Sydney has one, but Auckland has two. Small wonder it’s known as the ‘City of Sails’. Hotel: The Grand by SkyCity, 2 nights. DW

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Sightseeing stops
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Auckland – Rotorua
The story of New Zealand begins here. Well, it did for the Māori culture and traditions are celebrated across New Zealand, as you’ll discover at Te Puia Maori Experience. Joining up to 30 guests, travel to the heart of Tongariro National Park and learn about the significant cultural sites to the Māori people. Hotel: Distinction, 2 nights. B BG

Rotorua – Queenstown
Ever wondered what life on the land is like? Meet Angie and Stan Taylor, who have farmed this countryside for more years than they care to remember. The stories you’ll hear over lunch. Hotel: The Grand by SkyCity, 2 nights. BG

Christchurch
Community spirit is strong in Christchurch, not only has the city rebuilt since the devastating 2011 earthquakes, but it’s thriving, with architectural innovations like the world’s first church built of cardboard. Take in the sights with an in-the-know local. B FD

Farewell from Christchurch
It’s hard to say goodbye, so, say ‘see you soon’ instead. B

Please note that the price above includes land and internal-vacation-airfares, which are required to be booked in order to fulfil the vacation itinerary.

Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 12 noon into Melbourne Airport
Day 18 – flights to depart anytime from Christchurch Airport

Dining
17 Full breakfasts B
1 Be My Guest lunch BG
2 Lunches L
1 Be My Guest morning tea BG

Flight Information
Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 12 noon into Melbourne Airport
Day 18 – flights to depart anytime from Christchurch Airport

18 Included Experiences

Departure Dates

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A limited number of single rooms are available. Ask your travel agent at time of booking.

See available prices and departure dates from 01 Apr 2023 at aektings.com. Or contact your local travel agent.

Day 1
Welcome to Melbourne
Meet your fellow adventure-seekers – you’re going to be spending a fair bit of time with them. Hotel: Crowne Plaza, 2 nights. DW

Day 2
Melbourne
Take a deep dive into Melbourne’s art-filled lanes and alleys on a private walking tour. Spot a jazz bar or hidden restaurant you fancy? The afternoon is yours to indulge however you wish. B

Day 3
Melbourne – Cairns
Pilgrims start to heat up in Cairns, the heart of Tropical North Queensland. Jump aboard a cruise at Harley’s Crocodile Adventures to discover some of the wildlife that calls this part of the state home: koalas, wallabies, and crocs among them, before helping protect their habitats by planting trees as part of our Rainforest Restoration project. Talk about a feel-good day. Hotel: Peppers Bluewater Resort. B D

Day 4
Great Barrier Reef
The Great Barrier Reef deserves its World Heritage listing – it’s one of the most biodiverse marine environments on the planet, home to thousands of species of fish and corals, as well as all of the world’s seven sea turtles. Strap on a snorkel and dive in or keep your hair dry and take in the drama of species of fish and corals, as well as six of the world’s seven sea turtles.

Day 5
Great Barrier Reef
Follow the lead of hipsters for a local’s tour through the inner west of Sydney. First stop is Newtown, where the parade of street art and achingly-cool restaurants leads you to Marrickville then Dulwich Hill. Here, you’ll pop in on Dear Delicious cafe, where farm-to-table dining is in the spotlight thanks to owner Greg. Enjoy a Be My Guest lunch made featuring the veggies and herbs he grows himself. Around the corner is Batch Brewery where you’ll meet owner Andrew. Take part in a masterclass and learn how they combine creatively inspired limited release batches with sustainable practices. B BG

Day 6
Sydney
If there was ever a place that slipped from the pages of a fairytale, Wendy’s Secret Garden at Lavender Bay is it. Overlooking Sydney Harbour, this pocket of floral paradise is explained by a local volunteer – do you know this was once unused wasteland? Your visit provides a contribution to the ongoing maintenance of the enchanting garden. Dinner tonight is beside Sydney Harbour. Because can you ever get enough? B DW

Day 7
Sydney – Auckland
Battle of the harbours. Sydney has one, but Auckland has two. Small wonder it’s known as the ‘City of Sails’. Hotel: The Grand by SkyCity, 2 nights. DW

Day 8
Auckland Sightseeing
Sightseeing stops
Sydney
Lavender Bay
Auckland
Queenstown

Merriment and fun are in order tonight. Hotel: Hyatt Regency, Darling Harbour View Room, 3 nights. B DW

Day 9
Auckland – Rotorua
The story of New Zealand begins here. Well, it did for the Māori culture and traditions are celebrated across New Zealand, as you’ll discover at Te Puia Maori Experience. Joining up to 30 guests, travel to the heart of Tongariro National Park and learn about the significant cultural sites to the Māori people. Hotel: Distinction, 2 nights. B BG

Day 10
Rotorua – Queenstown
Ever wondered what life on the land is like? Meet Angie and Stan Taylor, who have farmed this countryside for more years than they care to remember. The stories you’ll hear over lunch. Hotel: The Grand by SkyCity, 2 nights. BG

Day 11
Christchurch
Community spirit is strong in Christchurch, not only has the city rebuilt since the devastating 2011 earthquakes, but it’s thriving, with architectural innovations like the world’s first church built of cardboard. Take in the sights with an in-the-know local. B FD

Day 12
Farewell from Christchurch
It’s hard to say goodbye, so, say ‘see you soon’ instead. B
Great Barrier Reef
The world’s largest living organism, the Great Barrier Reef, never fails to dazzle. Set out on a catamaran to explore a kaleidoscope of colour: over 1,500 species of fish, 215 different birds, 3,000 molluscs, six of the world’s seven marine turtle species, and 30 species of dolphins and whales are residents. Strap on a snorkel or visit an underwater observatory and semi-submersible craft to take in the menagerie without getting your hair wet. Tonight, celebrate the end of an incredible day at dinner on Cairns’ waterfront at Salt House for regional seafood placed straight from the ocean, highlighting fresh, local ingredients, and prepared on their custom-built Argentinian wood fired grill.

Cairns – Sydney
We hope you have a window seat, because the view of Sydney Harbour as you come in to land is one that postcards were made for. Join your Travel Director for a Highlight Dine Cruise around Sydney Harbour and admire the backdrop of the Harbour Bridge and Opera House. Hotel: InterContinental, 4 nights. B HD

Sydney
Bring your slumber today is one of innumerable highlights. Go behind the scenes at the Sydney Opera House, discovering its architectural and performance secrets. If those sails could talk, one icon to another: the world’s most famous beach becomes this morning, with your chance to pad along the sand at Bondi with Sydney’s beautiful people. From worked up an appetite? A Be My Guest lunch with views overlooking the Pacific Ocean.

2023 continued

Day 11 – New Zealand
• New Zealand included experiences

• Wildlife & Nature
Nature humbles at Milford Sound, where plunging cliffs and raging waterfalls meet inky dark water. On your cruise you’ll begin to understand why dolphins and sea lions love living here.

• Indigenous Culture
Dive deep into Indigenous culture at Te Pā Tū Māori Experience, with a local guide, leading you through colourful back alleys.

• Stargazing
Experience mesmerising stars and constellations with the Falzon family on their eco-friendly property.

• Working with Wildlife
Your visit to a kiwi hatchery helps ensure the future of this adorable (yet endangered) bird for future generations to come.

• Cultural Highlights
• Discovering the landscape of Uluru as you board the Uluru Express
• Discovering the wildlife and culture of the Northern Territory

• Scenic Railway Ride
Cruising with crocs, a scenic railway ride into World Heritage listed rainforest, with a local guide, leading you through colourful back alleys.

• Auckland Seaport Dinner Cruise
Southeastern Auckland’s natural beauty, the Orewa River, is a wonderful setting for dinner and drinks on Auckland’s Auckland Seaport Dinner Cruise.

From $12480*
per person twin share land and internal-vacation-airfares
25 Included Experiences

Day 1 – Flights to arrive prior to 12 noon into Melbourne Airport
Day 2 – Flights to depart anytime from Christchurch Airport

*Internal-vacation-flights: Please note that the price above includes land and internal-vacation-airfares, which are required to be booked in order to complete the vacation itinerary.

Day 4 – Melbourne to Alice Springs
Day 7 – Ayers Rock to Cairns
Day 10 – Cairns to Sydney
Day 13 – Sydney to Auckland
Day 16 – Auckland to Queenstown

Return flights from your home port are not included in the price above.

Highlights

Local Connection
The sky night dazzles in Australia’s Red Centre. Discover the constellation with the Falzon family on their eco-friendly property.

Insider Knowledge
The best way to take the pulse of Australia’s most creative city is with a local guide, leading you through colourful back alleys.

Cultural Immersion
Dive deep into Indigenous culture at Te Pā Tū Māori Experience, where Māori culture is revealed through a traditional hangi meal and dance performance.

Sustainable Footprints
Your visit to a kiwi hatchery helps ensure the future of this adorable (yet endangered) bird for future generations of visitors.

Wildlife & Nature
Nature humbles at Milford Sound, where plunging cliffs and raging waterfalls meet inky dark water. On your cruise you’ll begin to understand why dolphins and sea lions love living here.

Welcome to Melbourne
Melbourne is known for its amazing food, so discover while meeting your fellow travellers tonight. Hotel: Crown Plaza, 3 nights. DW

Melbourne
Get your Melbourne bearings on a city tour, but make sure you’re wearing your fellow travellers tonight.

2 Melbourne
Get your Melbourne bearings on a city tour, but make sure you’re wearing...
Welcome to Adelaide
At once cultured yet cool, Adelaide attracts foodies, historians and art aficionados in equal measure. Explore at your leisure, before meeting a local gourmet to tour the city’s legendary Central Market. This place has been selling cheese, green ant gin and artisan bread for 140 plus years.

Hotel: Crowne Plaza

Adelaide – Flinders Ranges
One of Australia’s oldest wine regions, the Clare Valley is all rounded hills, rolling vines and native forest. It’s the postcard perfect setting for historic Knappstein Enterprise Winery, producing sweet-scented reds from a vineyard planted in 1858. Not to miss is the chance to meet a local gourmand to tour the city’s legendary Central Markets. This place has been selling cheese, green ant gin and artisan bread for 140 plus years. Enjoy a leisurely walk along the main street with a local food guide.

Hotel: Majestic Oasis Apartments

Port Augusta
Port Augusta is the gateway to the stunning Flinders Ranges, which stretch like a dinosaur spine toward Alice Springs. Aside from visiting the town’s namesake mountain range, there’s a chance to see the spectacular Mount Sonder, which is said to be the highest place in Australia that is visible from the ocean.

Hotel: DoubleTree by Hilton

Flinders Ranges – Port Augusta
The red river gums that envelop Hills Homestead will leave you lost in awe. The property has been in the family for over 100 years, and the owners are keen to share their passion for the area with visitors.

Hotel: Wilpena Pound Resort

Uluru 
Pre-dawn wake-up calls are worth it when you get to enjoy a Red Centre sunrise. Marvel at the majesty of Uluru as you circumnavigate its base or join a guided walk to Mutitjulu Waterhole. This landscape takes you back to the beginning of time, a sacred place among the Anangu people. More soul-stirring landscapes await Kata Tjuta, which is located just a short drive away.

Hotel: DoubleTree by Hilton

Uluru Sunrise – Kata Tjuta
Pre-dawn wake-up calls are worth it when you get to enjoy a Red Centre sunrise. Marvel at the majesty of Uluru as you circumnavigate its base or join a guided walk to Mutitjulu Waterhole. This landscape takes you back to the beginning of time, a sacred place among the Anangu people. More soul-stirring landscapes await Kata Tjuta, which is located just a short drive away.

Hotel: DoubleTree by Hilton

Kings Canyon
Another sunrise excursion awaits, with this morning’s optional tour to the Field of Light – a blanket of 50,000 glowing bulbs. Next chance to stretch your legs is at Kings Creek Station, the largest exporter of wild camel in Australia. All your senses will be activated at Kings Canyon, 440 million years in the making.

Hotel: Kings Canyon Resort

Kings Canyon – Alice Springs
Things are bigger in the NT outback, from the cattle stations to the MacDonnell Ranges, which stretch like a dinosaur spine into Alice Springs. Aside from its plethora of Aboriginal art and ancient ruins, Alice makes Australian history for her 1872 Telegraph Station, one of 12 along the Overland Telegraph Line between Adelaide and Darwin.

Hotel: DoubleTree by Hilton

Alice Springs
Aboriginal culture is strong in Alice, as you’ll fast find on a tour revealing the history of the Arrernte people. The other thing that’s mighty is community spirit – it’s essential when there are so few people scattered over such a vast area of land. Enter the Royal Flying Doctor Service, its base a museum that goes behind the scenes of the life-saving health services delivered to people in remote realms. One of the benefits of being this far-flung is the lack of light pollution. And at Earth Sanctuary World Nature Centre, this equates to epic stargazing. You’ll feel you can reach out and touch the stars.

Hotel: DoubleTree by Hilton

From Alice Springs, you’ll start to see the first signs of development as you approach the town of Katherine. The Jawoyn have called Nitmiluk (Katherine) Gorge home for millennia. You can feel their presence as you cruise the waterway, home to more than a few resident crocs. They’ll make another appearance in Kakadu, where you’ll explore Yellow Water Billabong. You don’t need binoculars to spot the sea eagles, brolgas and kingfishers; they’re everywhere you look.

Hotel: Mercure Kakadu Crocodile, Jabiru

Kakadu – Darwin
Decisions, decisions: optional morning flight over Kakadu and Arnhem Land, or a sleep in. We vote for the former before you venture toward Uluru and its ancient Aboriginal rock art. The night is yours in dreamy Darwin, where the characters are as large as the shadows cast at sunset.

Hotel: Mercure Darwin Harbour Quay, Darwin

Highlights
Local Connection
Gain new appreciation for the vastness of the Australian outback with those in-the-know at the Royal Flying Doctor Service and School of the Air.

Insider Knowledge
At Earth Sanctuary, the Fabon family inspire sustainable travel through off-the-grid operations. Learn how you can follow suit over a Be My Guest dinner.

Sustainable Footprints
Sleep soundly at Wilpena Pound Resort knowing your stay contributes directly to the local Adnyamathanha people and regional conservation projects.

Wildlife & Nature
Ancient red rock cliffs encircle desert palms at Kings Canyon, the spectacular heart of Australia and a place that will make your pulse race.

Uluṟu-Barakpa (Uluru-Catapa)
Kata Tjuṯa (Kata Tjuta)
Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park

Outback Adventure

 NUAD: Uluṟu to Darwin (11 Days)
NUAAD: Uluru to Darwin (15 Days)

Departure Dates

Dining

14 Full breakfasts B
8 Dinners with wine DW
1 Farewell Dinner FD

Flight Information

Day 1 – Flights to arrive prior to 12.30pm into Adelaide Airport
Day 2 – Flights to arrive prior to 3.00pm into Ayers Rock Airport
Day 15 – Flights to depart anytime from Darwin Airport

Flights are not included in the vacation price

NUAAD: Uluru to Darwin (11 Days) Departure Dates

2023 continued

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NUAAD: Uluru to Darwin (15 Days) Departure Dates

2023

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23 Included Experiences

From $6790

per person twin share land only

2023

1 Farewell Dinner FD

14 Full breakfasts B

8 Dinners with wine DW

From $5455

per person twin share land only

2023

Children prices and a limited number of single rooms are available. Ask your travel agent at time of booking.

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NUAAD: Uluru to Darwin (11 Days) Departure Dates

2023 continued

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NUAAD: Uluru to Darwin (15 Days) Departure Dates

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23 Included Experiences

From $6790

per person twin share land only

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NUAAD: Uluru to Darwin (15 Days) Departure Dates

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23 Included Experiences

From $6790

per person twin share land only

2023

1 Farewell Dinner FD

14 Full breakfasts B

8 Dinners with wine DW

From $5455

per person twin share land only

2023

Children prices and a limited number of single rooms are available. Ask your travel agent at time of booking.
Welcome to Darwin
The balmy Darwin climate sets the pace for your city tour: relaxed. Things don’t happen in a hurry here. Even the fiery sunsets seem to linger. You’ll feel your spirit soar. Particularly when you’re cruising through dramatic chasms, home to a plethora of wildlife. Keep watch for freshwater crocs, fruit bats and wallabies. Hotel: Vibe Darwin Waterfront. DW

Darwin – Katherine
As you begin your travels south, yet more reminders of the impact of World War II line the banks of the Adelaide River, where the headquarters of a military base once stood. Then nature takes over at Nitmiluk National Park bordering Kakadu. This is Jawoyn land, and a place where you’ll feel your spirit soar. Particularly when you’re cruising through dramatic Nitmiluk (Katherine) Gorge, your boat the only sound in this enormous chasm. It’s not a place to catch your breath – you’re off to meet larger-than-life character Tom Curtain on a working station, where he entertains as the ‘mini-Bungles’ for its rocky resemblance. Whatever direction you go, be sure to join the locals atop Kelly’s Knob for views over the town. B

Kununurra – Emma Gorge
It’s not every day that you get to go behind the scenes of a rum distillery with the family that owns it. Discover how Horeshay Distillery makes its lip-smacking, award-winning rums and whiskys. Try a tasting paddle to get your heart started or sit down to a slice of rum cake. Enjoy the fiery sunsets with a sip of the world’s first sustainable rum,Atomic, which harvests energy from the sun. Hotel: Emma Gorge Resort, Tented Cabin with private facilities, El Questro. 2 nights. DW

El Questro Wilderness Park
The best way to wake up? With the sun streaming through your tent, wildlife all around. The Kimberley’s sounds follow you across the mighty Fitzroy River, a mecca for those who love a spot of barramundi fishing. Arriving at Chamberlain Gorge, an enormous freshwater chasm, your cruise chandlert awaits. Jump aboard to feel very small indeed, your boat dwarfed by soaring 65 metre escarpments. When it’s time to cool down, take an afternoon dip, whether in the resort pool or at a waterhole within Emma Gorge. Take your pick. DW

Emma Gorge – Halls Creek
Until recently, the Argyle Diamond Mine was the world’s largest producer of rare, and dazzling, pink diamonds. While operations have ceased, you can still visit and go behind the scenes. Your Aboriginal guide will not only point out where the magic once happened, but also explain the significance of this land. Equally important to Aboriginal communities is the Great Sandy Desert, which Halls Gap perches on the edge of. This place is small in population, but big in personality. Hotel: Kimberley L. B DW

Halls Creek – Fitzroy Crossing
The remote town of Fitzroy Crossing acts as the gateway to Dargun (Geikie) Gorge. But before you cruise the waterway, continue your deep dive into First Nations culture at the Aboriginal art gallery here. Then embark on your boat to discover how this remarkable part of the Kimberley was formed by the Fitzroy River carving the Napper Range, leaving behind a dramatic chasm, home to a plethora of wildlife. Keep watch for freshwater crocs, fruit bats and wallabies. Hotel: Fitzroy River Lodge. B L DW

Fitzroy Crossing – Broome
Among the most multicultural cities in Australia, Broome became a base for fortune seekers the world over during its ‘pearl rush’. The pristine waters here host great crocodiles, and the resulting pearls are prized by lovers of all things that gleam. A city tour will give you your bearings. Then it’s time to settle in for Broome’s other attraction: its sunsets. Follow locals to the sand or find a perch in a beachside bar to salute the end of another spectacular day in WA. Hotel: Cable Beach Club Resort & Spa. 2 nights. B

Broome Free Time
A day of decisions. Head north to feel the full force of nature on an optional scenic flight or head south to explore the magical Horizontal Falls. You can also enlist to do both. Or simply enjoy Broome’s tropical climes, strolling along 23 kilometre Cable Beach, hunting for dinosaur footprints and browsing the pearl boutiques in town. It’s hard to resist a purchase, even harder when you go straight to the source at a pearl farm, to see how they’re harvested. B FD

End your tour in Perth. See Untamed Kimberley & West Coast at aatkings.com/WDBP.
As this vacation departs at 7:30am from the Vibe Hotel Sydney, accommodation will need to be pre-booked for the previous night.

1. **Sydney – Canberra**
   As hard as it is to say goodbye to Sydney, it’s just as easy to say hello to the Southern Highlands. South of the 'Harbour City', the bucolic countryside of Berry and Bowral – fun fact: this is the oldest Germanic village in Australia. Further on, you'll be welcomed to Gold Creek Station by sheep farmer Craig Starr for a 48 My Guest BBQ lunch and talks about life on the land. Onward to the country’s cool little capital, home to Parliament House, where you’ll go behind the political scenes, as well as the Australian War Memorial. Hearing the Last Post is a moving experience. Hotel: Crowne Plaza, BG DW

2. **Canberra – Wangaratta**
   Get some Canberra perspective from the summit of Mt. Ainslie. You won't be able to see the Murray River, but you'll soon cross it en route to Beechworth, Victoria’s best-preserved gold rush town. We'll give you the Beechworth lowdown, then set you on your way to explore character-filled antique stores, galleries and museums at your leisure. There are plenty of charming places to refuel, as well before Wangaratta’s restaurants beckon. Hotel: Quality, B

3. **Wangaratta – Melbourne**
   Meandering south toward historic Glenrowan, you're well and truly in the country's best arts institutions, and a swag of stellar restaurants, cafés and bars. Once you have your bearings, explore as you will. We can help with evening restaurant reservations. Hotel: Crowne Plaza, BG DW

4. **Melbourne Free Time**
   You're on your own today. Well, not really, because your Travel Director is at your service to help arrange optional sightseeing experiences. After you've enjoyed a strong coffee in one of Melbourne’s atmospheric laneways, that is. Adrenaline junkie? Ute in the city, gazing bird’s-eye views from the Eureka Skydeck. Animal lover? Venture to Phillip Island to see hundreds of little penguins pad along the sand. Want to get back to nature? Chug through the lush Dandenong Ranges on the Puffing Billy Steam Train, followed by a sip or two of wine in the Yarra Valley. The choice is yours.

5. **Melbourne – Warnambool**
   The Great Ocean Road is one of the world's most epic journeys, a dramatic 240-kilometre union of limestone stacks (Twelve Apostles, we're looking at you), World Heritage-listed rainforest, untouched coastal coves and sleepy towns, like Lorne and Apollo Bay. It's hard to know where to point your camera. We recommend having it poised to snap shots of the Loch Ard Gorge and London Bridge rock formations. It doesn't get any better than this. Hotel: Deep Blue Hotel & Hot Springs, B DW

6. **Warnambool – Naracoorte**
   Emus, kangaroos, koalas, echidnas… These are just some of the animals you'll likely spot visiting Tower Hill Wildlife Reserve – housed in a dormant volcanic crater – with an Aboriginal guide. Remarkably, this pocket of paradise was once wasteland, transformed by volunteers. More volcanic history awaits across the South Australian border in Mt. Gambier. Home to the crater-filling Blue Lake. By now you'll be pretty thirsty, so it's a good thing the Coonawarra wine region is around the corner. After a few sips, you may find yourself getting deep – literally. Naracoorte's Alexandra Cave is a maze of delicate needle-like stalactites and massive twisting columns. Hotel: William MacIntosh Motor Lodge, B DW

7. **Naracoorte – Kangaroo Island**
   The Fleurieu Peninsula is a natural adventure playground, all rolling hills, twisting columns. Alexandra Cave is a maze of delicate needle-like stalactites and massive twisting columns. Hotel: William MacIntosh Motor Lodge, B DW

8. **Kangaroo Island**
   You’ll be making a stop at the South Australian capital, known for its well-preserved churches and well-appointed hotels. Did you know that Adelaide locals eat more restaurants per capita than any other city in Australia? The afternoon is yours to see just how many you can sample – we have a few recommendations, including the epic Central Market, where you can try green ant gin with cheese, among so many other delicacies. This place is the largest of its kind in the Southern Hemisphere. Hotel: Crowne Plaza, 2 nights, B.

9. **Kangaroo Island – Adelaide**
   You've arrived in the South Australian capital, known for its well-preserved churches and well-appointed hotels. Did you know that Adelaide locals eat more restaurants per capita than any other city in Australia? The afternoon is yours to see just how many you can sample – we have a few recommendations, including the epic Central Market, where you can try green ant gin with cheese, among so many other delicacies. This place is the largest of its kind in the Southern Hemisphere. Hotel: Crowne Plaza, 2 nights, B.

10. **Adelaide Hills & The Barossa**
    Adelaide today is one of the most significant breeding colonies in the country. L B L FD

11. **Farewell from Adelaide**
    By day 11, you will have a suitcase full of gin, wine and cheese; a camera full of dreamy images; and more memories than you can count. B

Flights are not included in the vacation price – flights to depart anytime from Adelaide Airport Day 10 – Flights to arrive anytime into Sydney Airport Day 11 – Flights to depart anytime from Adelaide Airport Flights are not included in the vacation price. **Highlights**

**Local Connection**
Ever wanted to know what life on a 400-hectare sheep farm is like? Meet Craig Starr and his family at Gold Creek Station for a talk or two, and a BBQ.

**Insider Knowledge**
Australian Parliament House and the War Memorial offer insights into the Australian capital best revealed with an in-the-know local by your side.

**Cultural Immersion**
As this vacation departs at 7.30am from the Vibe Hotel Sydney, Southern Australia your service to help arrange optional sightseeing experiences. After you've through the lush Dandenong Ranges on the Puffing Billy Steam Train, followed by a sip or two of wine in the Yarra Valley. The choice is yours. B

**Sustainable Footprints**
Further on, you'll be welcomed to Gold Creek Station by sheep farmer Craig Starr for a 48 My Guest BBQ lunch and talks about life on the land. Onward to the country's cool little capital, home to Parliament House, where you'll go behind the political scenes, as well as the Australian War Memorial. Hearing the Last Post is a moving experience. Hotel: Crowne Plaza, BG DW

**Wildlife & Nature**
Across the Great Ocean Road's 240 kilometres you'll discover all manner of natural drama, from limestone stacks to World Heritage listed rainforest and untouched coastal coves.

**Tastes of Southern Australia**
As this vacation departs at 7:30am from the Vibe Hotel Sydney, accommodation will need to be pre-booked for the previous night.

**Hotel: Crowne Plaza, 2 nights. B DW**

**Hotel: Aurora Ozone, 2 nights. B DW**

**Hotel: William MacIntosh Motor Lodge. B DW**

**Hotel: Deep Blue Hotel & Hot Springs. B DW**

**Hotel: Crowne Plaza, 2 nights. B**

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**Hotel: Crowne Plaza, 2 nights. B DW**

**Hotel: William MacIntosh Motor Lodge. B DW**

**Hotel: Deep Blue Hotel & Hot Springs. B DW**

Farewell Dinner from Adelaide

ESMA • FIRST CHOICE

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# Great Ocean Road & Kangaroo Island

**Highlights**

- **Local Connection**
  - Mike established Kangaroo Island Brewery in 2015, and loves talking to guests about the flavours distinguishing his beers.

- **Insider Knowledge**
  - Who better to guide you around a Barossa vineyard than a local wine aficionado? You'll be an expert in no time.

- **Cultural Immersion**
  - Tower Hill is a spiritual place, its Aboriginal significance revealed by in-the-know guides. Koalas, emus and kangaroos are a bonus.

- **Sustainable Footprints**
  - Support bushfire and wildlife rehabilitation projects on Kangaroo Island when you visit Hanson Bay Wildlife Sanctuary.

- **Wildlife & Nature**
  - The underworld beckons at Naracoorte’s Alexandra Cave, a maze of delicate needle-like stalactites and massive twisting columns.

As this vacation departs at 7:30 am from the Crowne Plaza Melbourne, accommodation will need to be pre-booked for the previous night.

### Melbourne – Warrnambool

Want an adventure that starts with a bang? This is it. You’re on your way to the Great Ocean Road, a snaking coastal route that is one of the world’s most epic journeys. Across a dramatic 240 kilometres you’ll take in limestone stacks like the Twelve Apostles, Loch Ard Gorge and London Bridge. Then traverse through World Heritage listed rainforest, skirting untouched coastal coves, and pausing in sleepy towns like Lorne and Apollo Bay, where bare feet and boardshorts are the dress code. **Hotel: Deep Blue Hotel & Hot Springs. DW**

### Warrnambool – Naracoorte

The south’s volcanic history bubbles to the surface at Tower Hill Wildlife Reserve, an immense natural wonder spanning a dormant volcanic crater. You’ll learn about the area’s flora and fauna – emus, kangaroos, koalas and echidnas – with an Aboriginal guide. More volcanic history awaits across the South Australian border in Mt. Gambier, home to the crater-filling Blue Lake. Bring your sunglasses, because the lake’s name doesn’t do it justice – the intensity of the hue is blinding. By now you’ll be pretty thirsty, so wine aficionado? You’ll be an expert in no time.

### Kangaroo Island

First stop today truly deserves its name: the orange-lichen-clad Remarkable Rocks command your attention over the blazing blue of the Southern Ocean. Then there’s Admirals Arch, home to an immense colony of raucous fur seals and a very photogenic lighthouse. Like much of the island, AAT Kings-sponsored Hanson Bay Wildlife Sanctuary was badly damaged by the 2019 bushfires. On your visit, you’ll discover the role that fire plays within this delicate ecosystem, and how koalas and other wildlife adapt to their environment. More wildlife greets you at Seal Bay Conservation Park. More sizable, enormous sea lions regularly barrel down the sand toward the water. **B L**

### Kangaroo Island – Adelaide

On your cruise back to the mainland, picture some of the culinary opportunities that await in the South Australian capital. Adelaide is known as the ‘city of churches’, but we think a more apt title is the ‘city of cuisine’. The afternoon is yours to see just how many restaurants and bars you can sample. Want recommendations? We might point you in the direction of the epic Central Market, the largest of its kind in the Southern Hemisphere with more than 70 stalls selling artisan edibles (and drinkables). **Hotel: Crowne Plaza, 2 nights. B**

### Adelaide Hills & The Barossa

Now that you have a taste for South Australian produce, take a deep dive on today’s adventure through the Adelaide Hills and the Barossa, dotted with atmospheric towns like Hahndorf, Australia’s oldest surviving German settlement. Wander down its tree-lined streets and take time to explore the quaint shops. Wining and dining dominate the landscape, with some of the country’s oldest grape vines planted across this pocket of the state. Discover local favours at the South Australian Company Store, followed by a visit to a popular local vineyard for a wine tour and tasting in neighbouring Barossa. **Hotel: William MacIntosh Motor Lodge. B DW**

### Kangaroo Island Brewery

Take a tasting of craft beers at Kangaroo Island’s only brewery. How does a**Galapagos’ Kangaroo Island deserves its moniker, as you’ll discover**

### Wildlife & Nature

**Wildlife & Nature**

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Perfect Tasmania

**Local Connection**
Whether you're cruising the Gordon River and Wineglass Bay, or going behind the scenes at wineries and whisky distilleries, in the know locals will keep you company.

**Insider Knowledge**
A cider in Penguin – no, it's not the name of a novel, but instead your Be My Guest lunch experience at Mt. Gnomon Farm in this charming north-coast town.

**Cultural Immersion**
Cataract Gorge is a special, and spiritual, place – and it's remotely close to Launceston's CBD. Explore at your leisure.

**Sustainable Footprints**
Help keep Tasmania pristine, by assisting horticulturists with propagating seeds, which will be planted to regenerate the site at a former wood chip mill.

**Wildlife & Nature**
Cradle Mountain-Lake St Clair National Park is the kind of place that makes you put life into perspective. How can nature be this humbling?

Welcome to Hobart
You don't have to venture far from your hotel to find inspiration in Hobart, whether you're exploring the harbour or easing into one of the city's applauds galleries and wine bars. Save room for dinner, enjoyed in the company of your fellow adventure-seekers. Hotel: Grand Chancellor, 2 nights.

Salamanca Market and City Sights
From alpaca throws to woodwork, Salamanca Market unites Tassie talent. Grab a coffee and roll and navigate stalls, wedged alongside the precinct's historic sandstone warehouses. Your afternoon excursions delve deep into many of the things that make Hobart great: the Botanical Gardens, historic Battery Point and the Cascade Brewery. End the day on a literal high at Mt. Nelson Lookout, offering dizzying views over the city.

Hobart – Strahan
Waterfalls, lakes and ancient mooriscapes – today is a journey of contrasts. Not to mention soul revival. Embark atop a boat and cruise the Gordon River and Wineglass Bay, your cruise boat backdropped by the dusty pink Hazards mountains of Coles Bay. Hotel: Eastcoaster Tasmania. B LD

Strahan – Cradle Mountain
No day that involves a cruise is a bad day. Even better it's the deep, dark waters of the Gordon River. Soak up the silence of this untouched wilderness area en route to Sarah Island, Tasmania’s oldest convict settlement; today, haunting ruins have been reclaimed by nature. Your commute toward infamous Cradle Mountain- Lake St Clair National Park visits Rosebery – tagline: “welcome to the rainforest, don’t complain about the rain” – and tiny Tullah, population 165. Hotel: Cradle Mountain, 2 nights. B LD

Cradle Mountain
In the heart of the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area, Cradle Mountain is one moss-covered ancient rainforests and deep river gorges, snow-tipped peaks, wild alpine meadows and glacial lakes – case in point Dove Lake, where you'll likely spot Bennetts wallabies, echidnas and pademelons. Pause at Waldheim Chalet, once the home of Gustav and Kate Weindorfer, the duo pivotal in the park’s formation. B DW

Cradle Mountain – Launceston
A pioneer in delicious Aussie distillations, Hellyers Road Distillery produces some of the tastiest whiskys you’ll come across. Breakfast sorted. Continue your palate expansion at Mount Gnomon Farm, in the Hills overlooking the petite town of Penguin. Farmer Guy Robertson is as passionate about his orchard as he is the cider he makes. So your way through a Be My Guest lunch. Continue to quirky Sheffield, the ‘Town of Murals’ and through the Meander Valley to Launceston. Hotel: Grand Chancellor, 2 nights. B LD

Launceston
Prepare for goobupsoms – Cataract Gorge is humbling. Even more remarkable is the fact that this enormous cavern is just a few minutes’ walk from the heart of Launceston. Explore at your leisure. By the time you reach Josef Chromy Wines, you’ll have worked up a thirst. We’ve got you covered. This afternoon is yours: an optional cruise along the Tamar River, perhaps? B LDW

Launceston – Bicheno
You’ll smell Bridestowe Estate well before you arrive – this lavender farm welcomes with soothing aromas, and addictive flavours in the form of lavender ice-cream. Moving moments await at Legerwood Carved Memorial Trees, a series of trees carved with sculptures as an homage to fallen WWII soldiers. It’s a poignant reminder just how lucky we are to have Tasmania’s iconic steaming landscapes to pack over. Be sure to head out tonight to catch a glimpse of the little penguins that call Bicheno’s home. Hotel: Diamond Island Beach Resort. B DW

Freycinet National Park & Wineglass Bay Cruise
There’s a reason this part of Tasmania takes home top honours for its beaches – they were made for postcards. The brilliant blue ocean follows you through Cape Tourville’s virgin eucalypt forests, with golden beaches as far as the eye can see. Perhaps the only sight more dazzling is the flawless crescent of sand that marks Wineglass Bay, your cruise boat backdropped by the dusty pink Hazards mountains of Coles Bay. Hotel: Eastcoaster Tasmania. B LD W

Triabunna – Hobart
Freestone Point was once home to the world’s largest wood chip mill, built on the unaided lands of the Panaperme people. It’s had philosophy change, and is now intent on charting a sustainable path. As if your Welcome to Country at Oyster Bay wasn’t humbling enough, you’ll then have the chance to visit beaches and wrecks farms, and assist horticulturists in propagating seeds to regenerate the area. The GPS is now set for the historic town of Richmond; explore the convoluted goul and bridge or browsing the quaint boutique shops in town. This evening is at your leisure in Hobart. Hotel: Grand Chancellor (Harbour View Room), 3 nights. B

Port Arthur Historic Site
While the World Heritage listed Port Arthur Historic Site has a grim connect history, you wouldn’t know it today – the countryside is all rolling green fields and ocean views. Only the place names give its heritage away: cruise around the isle of the Dead, glimpse rugged sea cliffs from Pirates Bay Lookout, and veer past Tasmania’s Arch, Devil’s Kitchen and the Blowhole. Tonight is at your leisure – we can recommend any number of stellar restaurants.

Hobart Free Time
There’s something about Tasmania’s capital that encourages life in the slow lane. You’ll quickly fall into step today, yours to spend as you please. Perhaps add on a Bruny Island cruise to spot playful sea lions and tidy Australia’s highest sea cliffs? Or enjoy a bird’s-eye view on a scenic flight down to the great South West? Or get your cultural fix with a visit to the Tasmanian Museum & Art Gallery. B FD

Departure Information
Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 3.00pm into Hobart Airport.
Day 13 – flights to depart anytime from Hobart Airport.
Flights are not included in the vacation price.

**16 Included Experiences**

**Departure Dates**

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A limited number of single rooms are available. Ask your travel agent at time of booking.

See available prices and departure dates from 01 Apr 2024 at askttings.com. Or contact your local travel agent.

**Dining**

Day 1 12 Full breakfasts B
Day 3 7 Dinners with wine DW
Day 5 1 Farewell Dinner FD

**Flight Information**

Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 3.00pm into Hobart Airport.
Day 13 – flights to depart anytime from Hobart Airport.

From $6130
per person twin share land only
Getaway

Welcome to Hobart
You don’t have to venture far from your hotel to find inspiration in Hobart, whether you’re exploring the harbour or strolling into one of the city’s abundance of galleries and wine bars. Save room for dinner, enjoyed in the company of your fellow adventure-seekers. Hotel: Grand Chancellor, 2 nights. DW

Salamanca Market and City Sights
From alpaca throws to woodwork, Salamanca Market unites Tassie talent. Grab a coffee and navigate stalls, wedged alongside the Maritime Museum. 2 lunches. L

Dining
6 Full breakfasts B
1 Night Buffet lunch BG
2 Lunches L
4 Dinners with wine DW

Upgrade
Start & end your tour in Hobart. See Perfect Tasmania page 46.

Insider Knowledge
Farmer Guy Robertson knows a thing or two about growing heritage apples. Taste the fruit of his labours in lip-smacking ciders, enjoyed over a Be My Guest lunch.

11 Included Experiences
From $3490
per person twin share land only

As this vacation departs from the Cordia Auckland at 7:30am, accommodation will need to be pre-booked for the previous night.

1  Bay of Islands Free Time
We hope you slept soundly, because today is jam-packed with adventures. Hit the road in the morning for a scenic jaunt to the Bay of Islands. This pocket of the country deserves its name – there are more than 140 subtropical islands off the coast here. It’s undeniably beautiful, but it also holds a special historical secret; this is where the Treaty of Waitangi was signed in 1840, between Captain William Hobson and Māori chiefs. Your guide, likely an ancestor of one of the original signatories, will explain the significance of the site, while pointing out the world’s largest ceremonial war canoe and a canoes museum. You will have an introduction to New Zealand heritage on day one – one you got it.

1  Bay of Islands
If you’ve never heard of Whangārei, you’re probably not alone. But today, New Zealand’s most northerly city is well and truly on your radar. A place where waterfalls meet beaches, galleries meet museums, Whangārei is the country in a tantalising snapshot – a union of nature and forward-thinking culture. Explore at your leisure before linking back into your seat for the mesmerising commute back to Auckland.

1  Auckland – Bay of Islands
If there’s a travel destination that inspires wanderlust, the Bay of Islands is it. Today, trip the light fantastic and head off-in whatever direction you please. Perhaps out to the water to ride the waves aboard a historic tall ship, glass of New Zealand wine in hand. Or maybe on a mini-tour around the romantic town of Russell, the country’s first permanent European settlement and seaport. Fun fact: the town’s streets retain their original names and layout from 1840. Just ask your Travel Director for touring tips – and places to wine and dine some dusk. This part of the country was made famous by the Bay of Islands Treaty, signed in 1840. Between Captain William Hobson and Māori chiefs, this treaty is pivotal in the park’s formation. Pointing out the world’s largest ceremonial war canoe and a canoes museum. You will have an introduction to New Zealand heritage on day one – one you got it. Hotel: Copthorne Resort (Waterfront). 2 nights, 2 full buffet breakfasts. B B

Flight Information
Day Prior – flights to arrive any time into Auckland Airport.
Day 2 – flights to depart after 10:00pm from Auckland Airport.
Flights are not included in the vacation price.

Dining
2 Full buffet breakfasts B
1 Dinner D

Highlights
Local Connection
Farmer Guy Robertson knows a thing or two about growing heritage apples. Taste the fruit of his labours in lip-smacking ciders, enjoyed over a Be My Guest lunch.

Cultural Immersion
Listen to local street performers as you taste delicious homegrown produce at Tassie’s iconic Salamanca Market.

Wildlife & Nature
Gazed by sea disclaiming cataracts over the last two million years, Lake St Clair is the deepest of its kind in Australia. 2 lunches. L

Flight Information
Day 1 – Flights to arrive prior to 3:00pm into Hobart Airport.
Day 7 – Flights to depart after 10:00pm from Launceston Airport.
Flights are not included in the vacation price.

Dining
6 Full breakfasts B
1 Night Buffet lunch BG
2 Lunches L
4 Dinners with wine DW

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Start & end your tour in Hobart. See Perfect Tasmania page 46.

Insider Knowledge
Farmer Guy Robertson knows a thing or two about growing heritage apples. Taste the fruit of his labours in lip-smacking ciders, enjoyed over a Be My Guest lunch.
New Zealand Panorama

Highlights

Local Connection
If you’re ever wondered what life on the land was like, South Island farmer Laura will reveal all. She’s been here her whole life – there’s not much she doesn’t know.

Insider Knowledge
Your guide to the Ruakuri Cave at Waitomo will light up your life – and if they don’t, the glowworms surely will.

Cultural Immersion
Kiwis celebrate their heritage at every chance possible, as you’ll discover at Mitai Maori Village, where your hangi dinner is accompanied by a cultural performance.

Sustainable Footprints
The national symbol of New Zealand, kākāriki birds are as adorable as they are endangered. Your visit to a hatchery supports breeding programs to ensure their future.

Wildlife & Nature
Blessed with snow-capped peaks and vast mirror-like lakes, Queenstown is the kind of place that makes you want to instantly become a New Zealand resident.

Welcome to Queenstown
Queenstown deserves its destination crown. And you’ll have plenty of time to explore. But first stop is Arrowtown, a former mining town so dreamy it looks like it has stepped straight from a movie set. Drop in on bijou boutiques, cafés and bars along the tree-lined promenade before an afternoon at your leisure in Queenstown. Hit us up for dining recommendations. Hotel: Millennium, 3 nights.

Queenstown & Surrounds
Arriving in New Zealand, the first thing you probably notice is that there’s a lot of farmland. It’s fitting, then, that one of the first people you’ll meet is southern girl Laura, who will introduce you to the sheep farm she was born and raised on. Come down, cruise across Lake Wakatipu aboard the TSS Earnslaw; the only thing more inspiring than the peaks of the Remarkables – and if they don’t, the glowworms surely will. Your guide to the Ruakuri Cave at Waitomo will light up your life – quite literally, as thousands of bright green and blue glow-worms light up your next destination: the cavernous Ruakuri Cave at Waitomo. From overhead attractions to those below the ground, this evening your dinner is prepared in an earthen hangi at the Mitai Maori Village. It’s an eye-opening (and tasty) introduction to Māori culture, with musical and dance performances revealing stories passed down through generations. Hotel: Millennium, 2 nights. B HD

Queenstown Free Time
You clearly need more than one day to appreciate Queenstown and its surrounds. And when we say surrounds, we mean Milford Sound. Today, sign up to dive deep into this awe-inspiring gorge within World Heritage listed Fiordland National Park – it’s within easy reach of your base, and is best explored on an optional South Island tour that sees you jumping aboard boat to cruise the mirror-like waters. Don’t be surprised if you see dolphins and seals playing in the wake of waterfalls. If you like things fast paced, opt for bungy jumping, jetboating or ziplining. You are in the adventure capital of New Zealand, after all.

Queenstown – Auckland
Touching down in Auckland, you’ll immediately understand why it’s known as the ‘City of Sails’ – New Zealand’s largest city has two lovely yacht-filled harbours, which you can explore at our leisure this afternoon. Hotel: The Grand by SkyCity.

Auckland – Rotorua
Today is set to sparkle – quite literally – as thousands of bright green and blue glow-worms light up your next destination: the cavernous Ruakuri Cave at Waitomo. From overhead attractions to those below the ground, this evening your dinner is prepared in an earthen hangi at the Mitai Maori Village. It’s an eye-opening (and tasty) introduction to Māori culture, with musical and dance performances revealing stories passed down through generations. Hotel: Millennium, 2 nights. B HD

Rotorua
Cute and cuddly, NZ’s national bird, the kākāriki, is also endangered. Go behind the scenes on a working kākāriki nursery and hatchery to learn how breeding programs are helping the population thrive. The natural drama reaches boiling point at Whakarewarewa, a geothermal reserve and the country’s only living Māori village. Home to famous Pohutu Geyser (the country’s largest) and the bubbling beauty of mud pools. B FD

Farewell from Rotorua and Auckland
Your guide to the Ruakuri Cave at Waitomo will light up your life – quite literally, as thousands of bright green and blue glow-worms light up your next destination: the cavernous Ruakuri Cave at Waitomo. From overhead attractions to those below the ground, this evening your dinner is prepared in an earthen hangi at the Mitai Maori Village. It’s an eye-opening (and tasty) introduction to Māori culture, with musical and dance performances revealing stories passed down through generations. Hotel: Millennium, 2 nights. B HD

Flight Information
Day 1 – Flights to arrive prior to 4.00pm into Queenstown Airport
Day 7 – Flights to depart after 2.00pm from Auckland Airport

Dining

- 6 Full breakfasts B
- 2 Highlight Dinners HD
- 1 Farewell Dinner FD
- 2 Sightseeing stops

5 Included Experiences

- Local Connection
- Insider Knowledge
- Cultural Immersion
- Sustainable Footprints
- Wildlife & Nature

From $3000* per person twin share land and internal-vacation airfare

For more information and availability visit aatkings.com. Or contact your local travel agent.
Contrasts of New Zealand

Welcome to Auckland
New Zealand’s largest city is also one of its prettiest, as you’ll discover exploring at your leisure. Arrive early to linger in its hip harbourside precincts, where galleries and design-driven stores await. You’ll have worked up an appetite by the time you meet your fellow travel companions for a new local triples at a Welcome Reception and dinner. Hotel: The Grand by SkyCity, 2 nights. DW

Rotorua – Rotorua
If you didn’t get your Auckland bearings yesterday, you will today. Have your camera poised as you reach Mission Bay, a dreamy waterside suburb where the Blues patchwork to the horizon. Then get snap happy at Bastion Point and the Michael Joseph Savage Memorial, offering epic vistas to Auckland and its harbours. Want some tips on how to spend your free afternoon? How about going behind the scenes of the All Blacks or cruising to Waiheke Island to sip more wine? F

Queenstown Free Time
Take today at your own pace. Like things fast and furious? Feel the wind in your hair on the high-octane Shotover Jet, perhaps. Prefer to be able to talk while you cruise? Glide across Lake Wakatipu aboard the historic TSS Earnslaw to Walter Peak High-Country Farm for a gourmet barbecue lunch. Wherever you wander, be sure to save space for tonight’s Highlights Dinner at Postmasters Café, a historic Arrowtown cottage replete with picket fence and Instagrammable gardens. B HD

Christchurch
Start your last full day of your travels touring the beautiful English city of Christchurch, which is not only rebuilding itself after the devastating 2010/11 earthquakes, but is changing the way architects think about design. Case in point the mind-bending Transitional Cathedral, made largely of cardboard, and Te Rapa, the gold-clad central library. A big day leads to a big evening joining your Travel Director and travel mates for a celebratory Farewell Dinner featuring produce from the Canterbury region. B FD

Dining
9 Full buffet breakfasts
1 Lunch
1 Be My Guest Lunch
2 Highlight Dinners HD
2 Dinners with wine DW
1 Farewell Dinner FD

Flight Information
Day 1 – flights to arrive by 4.00pm into Auckland Airport
Day 10 – flights to depart any time from Christchurch Airport
*Internal-vacation flight: Please note that the price above includes land and internal-vacation airfare, which is required to be booked in order to fulfill the vacation itinerary:
Day 4 – Auckland to Queenstown
Return airfares from your home port are not included in the price above.

Highlights
- Local Connection
- Insider Knowledge
- Cultural Immersion
- Sustainable Footprints
- New Zealand Wildlife & Nature
- New Zealand Local Connection
- New Zealand Sustainable Footprints
- New Zealand Wildlife & Nature
- New Zealand Insider Knowledge
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New Zealand Uncovered

**Highlights**

- **Local Connection**
  Enjoy an exclusive Be My Guest lunch at the Red Barn, a Waikato working dairy farm of a retired champion jockey and his wife.

- **Insider Knowledge**
  Milford Sound/Piopiotahi has World Heritage status for good reason. Discover its flora and fauna with an eagle-eyed guide.

- **Cultural Immersion**
  Māori culture is celebrated across the country, no more so than at Te Pa Tā Māori Experience. Be immersed in art, tradition, culture… and cuisine at a hangi feast cooked underground.

- **Sustainable Footprints**
  New Zealand’s remote regions are home to a cache of wildlife. Help protect native birds that reside on the country’s largest island through the Pomona Island Charitable Trust.

- **Wildlife & Nature**
  Penguins and sea lions are among the wildlife you’ll meet when visiting Dunedin – which creature wouldn’t want to live amid this postcard-perfect harbour?

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1. **Welcome to Auckland**
   - Auckland is the kind of place you could lose yourself in for a couple of weeks. Arrive at your leisure and explore new waterfront precincts, cruise to the wineries of Waikato Island, or just steel yourself to meet fellow travellers over dinner and a few local lagers. **Hotel: Cordis, 2 nights. DW**

2. **Rotorua**
   - This town of Te Pako grew most of the country’s kiwi, and you’ll enjoy a taste before venturing toward another hot spot – Rotorua. Visit steaming Te Puia and tour the Whakarewarewa Thermal Reserve, a staging area where geysers pop and thermal springs jettison skyward. The hot rocks in this part of the world are perfect for cooking your hangi (underground) feast at Te Pa Tā Māori Experience, a bastion for Māori culture. **Hotel: Millennium, 2 nights. HD**

3. **Tauranga – Rotorua**
   - The Benmore Dam holds back New Zealand’s largest artificial lake, and when the Benmore Power Station was opened in 1956 it was the biggest in the country. That should fuel you through to Gisborne, with its stately tree-lined streets and glam Art Deco buildings, before landing in Dunedin. **Hotel: Scenic Dunedin. B DW**

4. **Te Anau – Queenstown**
   - Your journey toward Milford Sound/Piopiotahi traverses native rainforest, alpaka flats and meadows, with mirrored lakes, punting waterfalls, dramatic rocky ranges and millennium-old valleys. That’s enough drama for an entire travel year – you still have the streets of Queenstown to explore. **Hotel: Millennium, 2 nights. B**

5. **Queenstown – Franz Josef/Waiau**
   - From Arrowtown’s tree-lined avenues to Central Otago’s glimmering lakes, nature rules. Alpine scenery tiers into rainforest along the West Coast, where you might follow. Optional sightseeing experiences include a bedazzling gondola to Bob’s Peak or tour the gorges of Skippers Canyon. **Hotel: Scenic Twizel. 1 Lunch**

6. **Haast – Punakaiki**
   - New Zealand’s remote regions are home to a cache of wildlife. Help protect native birds that reside on the country’s largest island through the Pomona Island Charitable Trust.

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**20 Included Experiences**

**Departure Dates**

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**Flight Information**

From $6545 per person twin share land only

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**Day 17 – flights to depart any time from Christchurch Airport**

Flights are not included in the vacation price

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Welcome to Christchurch
At once forward-thinking and fun, Christchurch is the kind of city you could lose yourself in for a week — or more. You have this afternoon to make the most of it. We recommend taking the rails on the vintage Christchurch Tram, a narrated hop-on, hop-off experience that loops around town, your host pointing out historic architecture and new developments that have popped up since the 2010/2011 earthquakes. Time to meet your fellow adventure-seekers over a Welcome Reception. Hotel: Distinction.

Christchurch – Twizel
If you didn’t get your Christchurch bearings yesterday, you certainly will on today’s city tour, taking in the record-breaking Transitional Cathedral — who knew you could build a church from cardboard? The buildings of the city fade into a patchwork of farms as you ease across the Canterbury Plains toward Morelea. Here, Angie and Stan Taylor welcome you to their home with a slap-up Be My Guest afternoon tea and talks about life on the land. And this land is truly dramatic, backdropped by powdery mountains and cut with turquoise lakes, none quite as pretty as Lake Tekapo, on its banks the stone-hewn Church of the Good Shepherd. Hotel: Mackenzie Country. B 8G 8DW

Twizel – Dunedin
More water, awes, your journey following the Waiatia River to mighty Benmore Dam; it powers 300,000 New Zealand homes. You’re on route to Dunedin, replete with rolling green meadows and grand stone castles. It kind of feels like you’ve been transported to Scotland — small wonder it’s known as the ‘Edinburgh of the South’. Afternoon at your leisure, we recommend a cruise to spot penguins and fur seals along the Otago Peninsula, or perhaps a visit to Speight’s Brewery – a New Zealand institution. There’s always that castle to explore. Hotel: Scenic Southern Cross. B 8DW

Dunedin – Te Anau
Leave Dunedin’s bucolic sheep-farming countryside behind as you venture into World Heritage listed Fiordland National Park, a place of yawning gorges and gem-like glaciers, and azure lakes so large they have their own perspective of this immense ice fall on an optional helicopter flight — you may even get to land on it. Hotel: Scenic Franz Josef Glacier (Douglas Wing). B 8DW

Franz Josef/Waikawaka – Punakaiki
Wandering Hokitika’s windswept shore on the West Coast feels a bit like you’ve discovered the end of the Earth. The town’s other natural beauty is pounamu (native jade or greenstone). Artisans will show you just how talented they are at carving jewellery and mementos. Nature carved Punakaiki’s Pancake Rocks and blowholes, where waves thunder through cracks in the Earth. Hotel: Ocean View Retreat. B 8DW

Punakaiki – Christchurch
While you steal the scene across much of New Zealand, but at legendary Montana’s Brewery, beer rules. Sip your way through a tasting paddle of XPA, IPA, Lager and Pale Ale because, hey, you’re not driving to the station where your TranzAlpine train awaits. This is one of those experiences where the journey matters just as much as the destination, as you sweep through tunnels and over viaducts with panoramic views of snow-capped peaks, icy rivers, beech forests, gorges and river valleys. What a way to end a day. Hotel: Distinction. B 8FD

Farewell from Christchurch
Wait, the last 10 days flew by. Return home with new friends, a full SD card on your camera — and even more memories. B 7

Highlights

Local Connection
Angie and Stan Taylor are the kind of people you will want as best friends. After visiting their lush estate in Tekapo – Angie’s afternoon tea is a dream – they will be

Insider Knowledge
Cruising World Heritage listed Milford Sound/Popohotai is a ‘pinch me’ experience. The only way it gets better is with a guide pointing out dolphins and fur seals.

Cultural Immersion
Farming is a big deal in New Zealand, as you’ll fast discover at Walter Peak Station. Learn about life on the land, then sit down to a barbecue dinner. We recommend a cruise to spot penguins and fur seals along the Otago coast. Hotel: Scenic Southern

Sustainable Footprints
Pomona Island Charitable Trust works with passionate volunteers to rehabilitate the South Island’s largest inland island. You get to be part of the magic.

Wildlife & Nature
Snow-capped mountains, a mirror-like lake, white-water rivers and vine-laced fields. Queenstown is blessed with natural assets. Snow-capped mountains, a mirror-like lake, white-water rivers and vine-laced fields. Queenstown is blessed with natural assets.

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Best Buys

Awe-inspiring Attractions, Built-in Flexibility

For explorers who want the essentials taken care of and the unrivalled knowledge of a Travel Director, but also the option of exploring independently, Best Buys Guided Vacations offer flexibility with optional extras.

Flexible Vacations
Striking the perfect balance between a guided vacation and an independent trip, with peace of mind and expert advice alongside the freedom to choose your own adventures.

Iconic Sites
Whether a UNESCO World Heritage listed site or a fabled landmark, Australia and New Zealand don’t disappoint in their natural attractions. We help you get there, sharing some fascinating stories along the way.

Time For You
Sometimes, the travel moments you remember the most are those that are unplanned and unscripted, when you slip away to explore at your own pace and discover a side to a destination you never imagined possible.

Sustainable Travel
We’ve been exploring Down Under for over 100 years, and hope to do so for many more to come. Over that time we’ve worked with, supported and sustained environments and communities, far and wide, big and small. Their future ensures our future.

Natural Wonders
Ground yourself in nature and explore some of Australia and New Zealand’s postcard-worthy attractions, from gorges and glaciers to tranquil lakes and windswept coasts.

What’s included on a Best Buys Vacation?
• Comfortable accommodation with easy access to city centres
• Flexible free time on your vacation
• Earlier starts to maximise your days
• Many meals including daily breakfast
• Iconic destinations = Bucket List achieved!
• Active optional experiences, for you to add on to your vacation
• Travel in purpose-built air-conditioned coaches with reclining seats and WiFi
• The services of a highly experienced Travel Director
• Luggage handling and taxes
As much as you’ll want to linger in Sydney, Coffs Harbour is calling. On the mid-North Coast of New South Wales, this pocket of paradise has some of the state’s most impressive beaches, not to mention the glorious national parkland that surrounds. Follow the breeze (and lead of locals) to the beach for a dazzling end of day, before meeting your fellow adventure-seekers at: Hotel: BreakFree Airlie Beach Resort. B

Coffs Harbour – Gold Coast
Australia’s most easterly point is the stuff that postcards were made for, as you’ll discover when you reach the Cape Byron Lighthouse, standing proud over the Pacific Ocean. Dolphins are a common sight all year round, and they’re joined by whales during migration. For lunch, we can point you in the direction of a tasty Byron Bay fish-and-chip shop – order a haul to fill your gut before heading on to the state’s most impressive beaches, not to mention the glorious national parkland that surrounds. Follow the breeze (and lead of locals) to the beach for a dazzling end of day, before meeting your fellow adventure-seekers at: Hotel: BreakFree Airlie Beach Resort. B

K’gari (Fraser Island)
The island also has a really long sand highway, which you’ll get to zip along on a 4WD tour across 75 Mile Beach, all the way up the east coast to the Pinnacles Coloured Sands, calf Eli Creek and the Maheno shipwreck, which offers quite the photo opportunity. Just when you thought the island couldn’t get any prettier, Lake McKenzie appears on the horizon, this dazzling patch of blue formed only with rainwater. It’s a hard act to follow, but the ancient rainforest at Central Station and Wanggoolba Creek live up to the challenge with its huge sandal, scarily tall gum trees and unique heathland. Hike, swim, refuel, repeat.

K’gari (Fraser Island) – Rockhampton
Back on the mainland you’re in Queensland’s cattle country. Case in point Langmorn Station, where the Creed family will welcome you with afternoon tea and a tour of the immense (and historic) cattle property – the original family homestead was built in 1879. The Creeds will regale you with stories about life on the land. The theme continues as you cross the Tropic of Capricorn to arrive in Rockhampton, the beef capital of Australia. See if it deserves its title sampling some of the town’s restaurants. Ask us for tips.

Rockhampton – Airlie Beach
Another town with an impressive title is Sarina, Australia’s sugar capital. If you’ve ever wanted to know how sugar cane is processed and distilled, you’ll find the guided tour at the Sarina Sugar Shed a sweet addition to the itinerary. And yes, you get to sample the wares. Continue on a high, to Airlie Beach, the gateway to the Whitsundays. Life moves at a leisurely pace here. Fall into step and take things slow tonight. Hotel: Mantra, 2 nights. B

Airlie Beach Free Time
The Whitsunday Islands need little introduction, the 74 tropical drops of land a beguiling union of powder beaches and rainforest, all ringed by the Coral Sea. There are endless ways to explore this part of the Great Barrier Reef – today, we’re letting you choose. Perhaps rise early for an optional helicopter ride over Heart Reef. Or catch a catamaran to Whitehaven Beach, with sand so high in silica it squeaks underfoot. B

Airlie Beach – Cairns
After all the excitement of yesterday, today it’s time to relax and enjoy the scenery – more sugar cane fields and rolling green paddocks, all framed by the ocean and rainforest-clad mountains. Stretch your legs en route to Cairns and soak up this steampy part of the state. Hotel: DoubleTree by Hilton, 3 nights. B

Cairns
The Cairns Esplanade is a hive of activity in the morning, with active locals out before the humidity of the day sets in. Keep pace, before cooling off in the Atherton Tablelands, a high tropical plateau of rainforest, including the heritage listed Curtain Fig Tree. And waterfalls, like Millaa Millaa Falls, where enormous abscissid Lyssyss butterflies like to dance. Explore Kuranda before getting some perspective on the Skyrail Rainforest Cableway, high above the canopy of the Barron Gorge National Park. B

Great Barrier Reef
Just when you thought your outlook couldn’t get any better, you’re zipping over the Great Barrier Reef on a high-speed catamaran. Snorkel with six of the world’s sea turtles bobbing over fans of coral, as well as so many fish you won’t know where to look. If you prefer to keep your head above water, the marine world can also be glimpsed from an underwater observatory and glass-bottom boat. L LD

Cairns to Sydney
Day 12 – flights to depart after 9.00pm from Sydney Airport
Flights are not included in the vacation price

**From $5305**

per person twin share land only

**10 Included Experiences**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Departure Dates</th>
<th>QSC: Sydney to Cairns</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 17</td>
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Child prices and a limited number of single rooms are available.
Ask your travel agent at time of booking.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dining</th>
<th>11 Full breakfasts</th>
<th>1 Dinner</th>
<th>3 Lunches</th>
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<th>1 Farewell Dinner</th>
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| Flight Information |
|--------------------|------------------|
| QSC: Sydney to Cairns |
| Day prior – flights to arrive anytime into Sydney Airport |
| Day 12 – flights to depart anytime from Cairns Airport |
| QSC: Cairns to Sydney |
| Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 2.00pm into Cairns Airport |
| Day 12 – flights to depart after 9.00pm from Sydney Airport |

**9 Included Experiences**

**10 Included Experiences**

**Flight Information**
As this vacation departs at 7.30am from Novotel Surfers Paradise, accommodation will need to be pre-booked for the previous night.

1. **Gold Coast** – **K'gari (Fraser Island)**
   *We hope you love sinking your toes into the sand because there’s a lot to come.* Bid adieu to the Gold Coast’s 70-kilometre coastline and venture north to Harvey Bay for the ferry ride to the world’s largest sand island, and the only place on the planet where rainforest grows from the sand. Welcome to World Heritage listed K’gari. Disconnect from tech and reconnect with nature. 
   **Hotel:** Kingfisher Bay Resort. 2 Nights.

2. **K’gari (Fraser Island)**
   *The other thing sandy is K’gari’s highway – you’ll get to zip along on a 4WD tour across 75 Mile Beach, all the way up the east coast to the Pinnacles Coloured Sands, calm Eli Creek and the Maheno shipwreck.* Bring your camera, because between the wreck and Lake McKenzie – a dazzling patch of blue formed only with rainwater – you’ll accumulate dozens of happy snaps. It’s a hard act to follow, but the ancient rainforest at Central Station and Wanggoolba Creek lives up to the challenge with its huge satin, scribbly gum and kauri trees.

3. **K’gari (Fraser Island) – Rockhampton**
   *In a whiplash, you leave the coast behind and reunite with Queensland’s cattle country.* First stop: Langbrook Station, where the Creed family welcome you to their immense (and historic) cattle property with open arms. 
   **Hotel:** DoubleTree by Hilton. 3 Nights. B L

4. **Rockhampton – Airlie Beach**
   *From Australia’s beef capital to its sugar capital – today you’re en route to Rockhampton, the beef capital of Australia. See if it deserves its title sampling some of the region’s restaurants. Ask us for tips.** 
   **Hotel:** Quality Regent. B

5. **Airlie Beach Free Time**
   *The Whitsunday Islands are the stuff of postcards, a dreamy collection of 74 tropical islands that are all white sandy beaches and dense rainforest, surrounded by the Great Barrier Reef. You have to decide how to take it in. Perhaps on a scenic flight over the legendary Heart Reef, or on a cruise to Whitehaven Beach, where high amounts of silica in the sand means that it squeaks under your feet. Bring your sunglasses – the colours are blinding.*

6. **Airlie Beach – Cairns**
   *Hello – today is all about soaking up the scenery. Think sugar cane fields and rolling green paddocks, all framed by the ocean and rainforest-clad mountains on one side, and the Coral Sea on the other. Stretch your legs on route to Cairns and soak up this steamy part of the state.** 
   **Hotel:** DoubleTree by Hilton. 3 nights. B

7. **Cairns**
   *Early morning is the ideal time to explore Cairns before things get too steamy. Join locals on a heart-starting stroll along the Esplanade.**
   *The temperature dips as you climb into the Atherton Tablelands, a high tropical plateau of rainforest, including the heritage listed Curtain Tree. And waterfalls, like Millaa Millaa Falls, where enormous iridescent Ulysses butterflies like to dance. Explore Kuranda before getting some perspective on the Skyrail Rainforest Cableway, high above and through the canopy of the Barron Gorge National Park.*

8. **Great Barrier Reef**
   *Just when you thought your outlook couldn’t get any better, you’re zipping over the Great Barrier Reef on a high-speed catamaran. Snorkel with six of the world’s sea turtles bobbing over fans of coral, as well as so many fish you won’t know where to look. If you prefer to keep your head above water, the marine world can also be glimpsed from an underwater observatory and glass-bottom boat.*

9. **Farewell from Cairns**
   *From underwater love to overwater love – bid adieu to your new crew of travel buddies.*
South Australian Outback Adventure

Welcome to Adelaide
The South Australian capital often flies under the radar – locals like it that way, happy to keep their bustling dining precincts, glorious gardens and on-your-doorstep wineries to themselves. But the secret is well and truly out, and over the course of the afternoon you’ll discover just how diverse Adelaide really is. Touring the city you’ll cover every interest base: sports (Adelaide Oval), horticulture (the Botanic Garden), culture (the Art Gallery of South Australia) and food (Adelaide Central Market). Tonight, wander up to the foodie hub of North Terrace. The city offers plenty of eateries in which to while away your evening.

Adelaide – Ikaa-Finders Ranges National Park
You don’t have to travel far from Adelaide to be surrounded by vines. In fact, just 1.5 hours north lies the Clare Valley, and therein one of Australia’s most awarded wineries. Kruppstein Enterprise Wilko’s roots reach back to 1878, which yields extremely tasty drops, as you’ll discover at the cellar door before lunch in the Clare Valley’s atmospheric central town. It’s the perfect way to ease into the wide-open, otherworldly spaces of the Finders Ranges – your commute is a short journey by coach, but it transports you to seemingly Marnean landscapes, some 803 million years in the making and home to the Adnyamathanha people; for tens of thousands of years.

Arkaroola – Marree
What was happening in Arkaroola 1.6 billion years ago? Your guide will help decode the region’s mind-boggling geological history as you navigate the steep slopes and hair-raising ascents of the RidgeTop Track. Plants here are found nowhere else on the planet, and gorges are so vast that they seem to creep clear off the edge of the earth. A patha follows your journey northwest to the Ochre Cliffs outside Lyndhurst, where an artist’s smudge of fiery hues paints the countryside all the way to the horizon. It’s as sacred as it is spectacular, with the Aboriginal community having utilised the rich clay soil in ceremonies for centuries. You can see why this part of Australia was attractive to the 1880s settlers of nearby Farina – but you’ll also learn why they departed, leaving an eerie ghost town on the outskirts of Marree, where you’ll lay your swimming head for the night.

Lake Eyre Scenic Flight

Port Augusta – The Barossa
It’s hard to imagine landscapes more dramatic than those you’ll have experienced so far. But the bar is officially raised by those at Lake Hart, another vast saltpan that sparked a community in the 1930s. Today, it’s all but deserted, the isolation reminding you that Mother Nature always rules. The vastness of the South Australian outback here was no doubt one of the reasons why it – specifically Woomera – was chosen to become the world’s largest military land base. Established by the British in 1947, the countryside here has been a testing base for atomic bombs, ballistic missiles and satellite boosters. It’s a piece of Australian history few know about, but that you’ll leave appreciating, as you head toward your evening’s repose in the natural harbour of Port Augusta.

Dining
7 Full breakasts  B 2 Lunches  L

Flight Information
Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 11.00am into Adelaide Airport
Day 2 – flights to depart after 5.00pm from Adelaide Airport

Flights are not included in the vacation price

10 Included Experiences

South Australian Outback Adventure

Highlights

Flexible Holidays
South Australia dazzles, whether from the sky on a flight over Lake Eyre, or from below the ground gazing opals in Coober Pedy. Do either – or both.

Iconic Sites
The South Australia countryside is humbling, as you’ll discover when you leave the world behind and hike the Flinders Ranges or gaze at the heavens on an astronomy tour.

Time For You
Tuck off only in Australia; locales: the world’s oldest vines in the Barossa, a subterranean community in Coober Pedy, Australia’s largest inland sometimes lake.

Sustainable Travel

Natural Wonders
The landscapes of the Finders Ranges are ancient, and revel history through endemic flora and fauna as well as some of the most dramatic geological landscapes imaginable.

Hotel: Adabco Boutique Hotel.

Hotel: Arkaroola Wilderness Sanctuary. B D

Hotel: Desert Cave, 2 nights. B

Hotel: Majestic Oasis. B

Hotel: Marree. B L D

Hotel: Arkaroola.

Hotel: Marree.

Hotel: William Creek.

Hotel: Arkaroola.

Hotel: Coober Pedy Opal Fields Golf Club, where the fairways are dirt and sand. Pick up a clump to thump balls around the oil-soaked putting green. B D

Coober Pedy
The self-proclaimed ‘opal capital of the world’, Coober Pedy’s many attractions lie primarily below the earth’s surface. Due to the above-ground heat (temperatures can soar) many locals choose to take up a subterranean residence as well. Once you’ve explored this fascinating community – including fossicking for opals in surrounding mines – look further afield to Aboriginal owned Karku-Breakaways Conservation Park, where you’ll travel along a stretch of the ancient Dog Fence, a barrier spanning 1,530 kilometres across three states. As mind-boggling as the construction is, it pales in comparison to the setting’s moonscape of fossilised shells and cracked grey clay. The only thing more surreal than the natural landscape is the constructed one this afternoon at Coober Pedy Opal Fields Golf Club, where the fairways are dirt and sand. Pick up a clump to thump balls around the oil-soaked putting green. B D

Coober Pedy – Port Augusta
It’s hard to imagine landscapes more dramatic than those you’ll have experienced so far. But the bar is officially raised by those at Lake Hart, another vast saltpan that sparked a community in the 1930s. Today, it’s all but deserted, the isolation reminding you that Mother Nature always rules. The vastness of the South Australian outback here was no doubt one of the reasons why it – specifically Woomera – was chosen to become the world’s largest military land base. Established by the British in 1947, the countryside here has been a testing base for atomic bombs, ballistic missiles and satellite boosters. It’s a piece of Australian history few know about, but that you’ll leave appreciating, as you head toward your evening’s repose in the natural harbour of Port Augusta.

Hotel: Majestic Oasis.

Port Augusta – The Barossa
The Barossa needs no introduction – your journey today will take in one of Australia’s oldest wine regions, and local makers know a thing or two about creating memorable vintages. The South Australian Company Store reveals some of the finest regional drops, your lunchtime tipples complemented by glorious views over the vines. You’ll arrive in plenty of time for your Adelaide flight, your heart, mind and spirit filled with the natural and human wonders of a region that exudes superlatives.

Lake Eyre
Northern Territory Explorer

Highlights

 departamento

Northern Territory Explorer

Welcome to Darwin

Get to know the steamiest NT capital at your own pace – you’ll find that the characters here are almost as colourful as the sunsets. You’ll enjoy the latter over drinks and nibbles with your Travel Director and fellow adventure-seekers. A taxi trip to your 11-day odyssey.

Hotel: Vibe Darwin Waterfront, 2 nights.

Darwin

Today is all about getting your Darwin bearings on a city tour revealing the events that have shaped the city over the decades, from wars to natural disasters. You’ll be a Darwin expert after visiting attractions like East Point Military Reserve and the Darwin Museum. The afternoon is at your leisure. If you’re as keen as we are, we can point you in the direction of the Royal Flying Doctor Service Tourist Facility, perhaps, or the Mindil Beach Sunset Market, loaded with 200+ stalls. Grab a bite and watch the day end with a refreshing is a cold beverage at the Daly Waters Pub, self-declared as Australia’s original outback pub. You can imagine the kind of swagger the locals bring. Visitors are encouraged to leave their mark as well; a memento, perhaps, or autograph on the walls.

Hotel: Mercure Kakadu Crocodile, Jabiru, 2 nights. B D

Kakadu – Katherine

From one glorious national park to another... today’s backdrop is the end of Earth-escarpments of Ntiritji National Park, carved by rivers millions of years ago. Cruising through Ntiritji (Katherine) Gorge is a humbling experience even before you know the region’s history. Small wonder freshwater crocodiles and all manner of birds call the cavern home.

Hotel: Contour, B D

Katherine – Tennant Creek

If the Elsey Homestead looks familiar, that’s because it starred in the 1982 Aussie drama We of the Never Never. Today it’s better known for its Mataranka thermal hot springs. Pop on your swimsuit and have a soothing soak, the magical setting surrounded by palms. The only thing more refreshing is a cold beverage at the Daly Waters Pub, self-declared as Australia’s original outback pub. You can imagine the kind of swagger the locals bring. Visitors are encouraged to leave their mark as well: a memento, perhaps, or autograph on the walls.

Hotel: Bluestone Motor Inn, B D

Tennant Creek – Alice Springs

The Stuart Highway is long (2,700 kilometres), very straight and very flat. Which makes the appearance of Karlu Karlu (Devils Marbles) on the horizon all the more dramatic. These massive granite boulders jut out of the countryside aglow. Exploring the base of the monolith, you’ll begin to understand why this part of the country is so special to the Anangu people. Go at your own pace this afternoon. We wouldn’t blame you for taking a dip in the resort pool. But if you want to see the monolith in another different light, opt to chopper around it, in a helicopter or on the back of a Harley. Either way, you’ll have plenty of stories to tell over your Farewell Dinner.

Hotel: Outback Pioneer, Ayers Rock Resort, 2 nights. B

Uluru Sunrise

There aren’t many things worth getting up in the dark for. Sunrise over Uluru is one. It’s a magical time of day, the shifting light casting the country-side aglow. Exploring the base of the monolith, you’ll begin to understand why this part of the country is so special to the Anangu people. Go at your own pace this afternoon. We wouldn’t blame you for taking a dip in the resort pool. But if you want to see the monolith in another different light, opt to hopper around it, in a helicopter or on the back of a Harley. Either way, you’ll have plenty of stories to tell over your Farewell Dinner.

Hotel: Ayers Rock Resort, 2 nights. B

Farewell from Uluru

Another reason to rise early to catch the (optional) Field of Light art installation that blankets the desert floor. Your spirit will glow just as brightly as you bid farewell to the NT.

Day 12 – flights to depart anytime from Ayers Rock Airport

From $4810

per person twin share land only

16 Included Experiences

Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 3.00pm into Darwin Airport

Day 11 – flights to depart anytime from Ayers Rock Airport

Flight Information

Dining

Day 10 Full breakfasts B 1 Farewell Dinner FD 3 Dinners D

Flights are not included in the vacation price

Ask your travel agent at time of booking.

Child prices and a limited number of single rooms are available.

Available prices and departure dates from 01 Apr 2024 at aekings.com. Or contact your local travel agent.

Departure Dates

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<tr>
<th>Departure Date</th>
<th>2023</th>
<th>2023 continued</th>
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<tr>
<td>Day 1</td>
<td>Jan 19</td>
<td>May 19, 21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Day 11</td>
<td>Aug 02, 10</td>
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Included Experiences

- Flexible Holidays
- Iconic Sites
- Sustainable Travel
- Natural Wonders

Sunrise over Uluru has this incredible ability to make you forget everything else around you and just look on the now.
Welcome to Auckland
Explore waterfront precincts filled with yachts, take a cruise out to the wineries of Waiheke Island, or just meet fellow travellers over a few local ales tonight. Hotel: Holiday Inn Express.

Auckland – Bay of Islands
Say goodbye to the ‘City of Sails’ as you journey north to the Bay of Islands – 140 dropets of land jutted by turquoise sea. It’s undoubtedly beautiful, but it also holds a special historical secret; this is where the Treaty of Waitangi was signed in 1840. Your guide, likely an ancestor of one of the original signatories, will explain the significance of the site, while pointing out the world’s largest concentration of caves and a cave meeting house. Hotel: Copthorne Hotel & Resort (Garden View), 2 nights. B D

Bay of Islands Free Time
Today, try the light fantastic and head off in whatever direction you please. Perhaps travel up to Cape Reinga/Te Rerenga Wairua, the very top of New Zealand, via ninety Nine Mile Beach. Or glide around on an historic tall ship, enjoy local drops on a wine tour of the region, or join a tour of Russell and learn more about the settling of the Bay of Islands. B

Bay of Islands – Auckland
Whangarei is a place where waterfalls meet beaches, galleries meet museums. It’s like the country in a tantalising snapshot – a union of nature and forward-thinking culture. Explore at your leisure before sinking back and forwarding culture. Explore at your leisure before sinking back and forwarding culture. Explore at your leisure before sinking back and forwarding culture. Explore at your leisure before sinking back and forwarding culture. Explore at your leisure before sinking back and forwarding culture. Explore at your leisure before sinking back.

Auckland – Rotorua
After a morning of sightseeing, set your GPS for the Waitomo Caves. Cruising into your seat for the mesmerising commute back to Auckland.

Rotorua Free Time
Explore at your own pace today. Want a bit of down time? Bliss out at the Polynesian Spa. Animal lover? Go behind the scenes at a working kiwi hatchery. Hobbit fans will want to take advantage of today’s opportunity to visit the sights featured in ‘The Lord of the Rings movies at Hobbiton. B

Rotorua – Wellington
At Huka Falls, 220,000 litres of water thunder over an 11-metre high waterfall every second. The road ahead unfurls in a broad panorama of mint blue Lake Taupo. Traverse the Kapiti Coast to New Zealand’s coastal little capital. Wellington, where there are so many restaurants and bars to choose from, you’ll find a guidebook. Wait, you have an in-the-know Travel Director to talk to. Hotel: Travelodge. B

Wellington – Picton
Wellington is known for its Uber cool cafés, designed to fuel you through a day of discovery. Your guide will be the key. Hotel: Beachcomber Inn. B L D

Picton – Christchurch
There aren’t many beaches more dramatic than the black sands of Kaikoura. Beach point is often a seat for icicles whim sometimes. Your Travel Director has tips on where to dine tonight. Hotel: Ibis. B

Christchurch – Omarama
Christchurch or Omarama is not only travelling itself after the 2010/11 earthquakes, but is changing the way architects think about design. From here, you’ll look into the Canterbury Plains, the turquoise waters of Lake Tekapo, snow capped mountains and atmospheric towns. Take it all in on an optional scenic flight for added perspective of the Southern Alps. Hotel: Heritage Gateway. B D

Omarama – Dunedin Free Time
Omarama, with its stately tree-lined streets and limestone buildings, stands proud and untroubled before you journey furthest south toward the ‘Edinburgh of the South’. Dunedin. While away the afternoon in the city’s art-filled alleys, or venture further afield to discover the wildlife that thrives here – fur seals and penguins among them. Hotel: Scenic Dunedin City. B

Dunedin – Te Anau
Dunedin’s Scottish ancestry is everywhere you look, from the manicured grounds of Otago University to Larnach Castle. Weave your way into Fiordland National Park and the South Island’s biggest lake and the town of Te Anau. Hotel: Luxmore. B D

Te Anau – Queenstown
Your route through Fiordland National Park is an intoxicating union of beefeats, الاخوان، and mirror-lake lakes. All roads lead to Milford Sound/Piopiotahi, where a string of waterfalls create a misty curtain across sheer escarpments. Look out for dolphins – they’re a common sight here. Hotel: Copthorne Hotel & Resort, 2 nights. B

Queenstown Free Time
Take Queenstown at your own pace today. Feel the wind in your hair on a high-octane Shotover Jet, perhaps. Whatever you wander, make sure you’re back in time to glide across Lake Wakatipu aboard the historic TSS Earnslaw to Walter Peak High Country Farm for a gourmet barbecue dinner. B HD

Queenstown – Te Anau
Leaving Lake Wakatipu behind, Arrowtown and Lake Dunstan appear on the horizon. Then there’s Lake Hawke. Followed by Lake Waikare, with its Insta-worthable shoreline of poplars and willows. Over the Haast Pass, Franz Josef Glacier and Rob Roy Glacier, the Hekurupakea sparkle like a gem. Hotel: Scenic Franz Josef Glacier (Graham Wing). B D

Franz Josef – Christchurch
Swap snow for pounamu (native greenstone or jade) in Hokitika. In Māori tradition, it’s bad luck to buy this sacred stone for yourself; flutter your eyelids at your loved one. Just when you thought your adventure couldn’t get any better, you’ll aboard the TranzAlpine train bound for Christchurch, through tunnels and over viaducts with panoramic views.

Hotel: Ibis. B FD

Farewell from Christchurch
Two islands, glaciers, lakes, thermal springs and a parade of wildlife... We hope you find the words to describe this epic adventure. B

Te Puia
New Zealand Marvel

Welcome to Christchurch
There are plenty of reasons to arrive in New Zealand’s ‘Garden City’ early, among them the astonishing transformation that has reinvented streets since the devastating 2010/11 earthquakes. Explore at your leisure. We recommend jumping aboard the Christchurch Train. Hotel: Ibis.

Christchurch – Franz Josef/Waiau
Jump aboard the TransAlpine train to Christchurch, with panoramic views of snow-capped peaks, gorges and river valleys. Arriving in Hokitika, your outlook is all pounamu (native greenstone or jade). In Māori tradition, it’s bad luck to buy this sacred stone for yourself; flutter your eyelids at the site is as humbling as it is immense.

Franz Josef/Waiau – Queenstown
Over the Haast Pass, alpine scenery of the Southern Lakes spreads before you. It’s all part of World Heritage listed Fiordland National Park, an intoxicating union of beach forests, aluvial flats, meadows and gin-clear rivers, carving up the countryside. This is your backdrop all the way to Te Anau. Hotel: Lumino. B D

Te Anau – Dunedin
Swap the forested slopes of Fiordland for the rolling green hills of the Edinburgh of the South. Welcome to Dunedin, a beguiling union of both Māori and Scottish heritage. While away the afternoon in atmospheric art-lined alleys or sipping a lager or two in Speight’s Brewery (a national institution). Or venture further afield to discover the wildlife that thrives in this pretty pocket of the country – fur seals and penguins, anyone? Hotel: Scenic Dunedin City. B

Dunedin – Omarama
If you didn’t get a taste for Dunedin’s Scottish heritage yesterday, you surely will today. Explore grand Larnach Castle at your leisure – this is, after all, the only one of its kind in the country – then wander the manicured grounds of Otago University or the city’s mum George Street for an additional reminder of the city’s ties to Europe. If you’ve ever wanted to see New Zealand’s oldest public gardens, today you’re in luck with a visit to Dunstan, known for its stately tree-lined streets and limestone buildings. Hotel: Heritage Gateway. B D

Oamaru – Christchurch
Your outlook today is changing. Take it in on an optional scenic flight for added perspective of the Southern Alps and on to Franz Josef Glaciers’ Roymont in Hinkalake. Back on the ground, it’s time to become reacquainted with Christchurch, your in-the-know guide pointing out the city’s miraculous transformation. Hotel: Ibis. B D

Christchurch – Picton
Forget powdery white sand – once you’ve seen the dramatic black Kairakau cove, you’ll be spoilt for all future beach bathing. Bonus points if you spot a sea lion or sperm whale frolicking offshore; a sighting is practically guaranteed if you opt for an aerial tour over the coastline. Your onward route skirts the pink-tinted crystallisation ponds of the Lake Grassmere Salt Works, before arriving in the pretty seaside fishing village of Picton. Hotel: Beachcomber. B D

Picton – Wellington
Cruising through Queen Charlotte Sound, up the Tory Channel and across Cook Strait is a journey as scenic as it is serene. Today’s chariot, the Interislander, transports you from the South Island to the North, navigating a maze of arms and inlets into Wellington. Bring your stamina to explore Te Papa, the Museum of New Zealand. Ask your Travel Director for tips on where to sip wine and coffee tonight – this city is known for its uber-cool cafes, restaurants and bars. Hotel: Travelodge. B

Wellington – Rotorua
The road ahead unfurls in a broad panorama of Lake Taupo, the largest of its kind in the country. It’s a landscape almost as otherworldly as Rotorua, where must pop and pterions from bubbling geysers, and steam rushes skywards from cracks in the earth. Tonight, Māori culture and traditions are in the spotlight at Te Puia. Your dinner, a hung cooked underground, is served while you overlook the spectacular geothermal valley. The highlight is a Māori cultural performance in the beautifully carved meeting house, Te Aronu Rua. Hotel: Ibis. B. D. 2 nights. L B L HD

Rotorua Free Time
Sometimes, the best adventures are those that you have when you least expect them. Like wandering into Rotorua’s Polynesian Spa and falling into a few hours of bliss while soaking in steaming thermal springs. Or discovering endangered birds on a wildlife nursery and hatchery. And then there’s Hobbiton. These beautiful landscapes are not only a bucket list tour for Hobbit fans, but a gorgeous countryside getaway.

Rotorua – Auckland
Before you reach your final destination, get set to glide through the Waitomo Caves. While cruising cavernous limestone waterways, your route is cast in a magical light by thousands of glowworms. Auckland, New Zealand’s largest city, appears on the horizon, dazzling with not one, but two harbours. Hotel: Holiday Inn Express. B FD

Wellington to Auckland
The City of Saints! Flutters a wave goodbye as you make your way home. B

Highlights
Flexible Holidays
From helicopter jaunts to thrilling jet-boat rides, winery expeditions to Hobbiton tours, your Travel Director is at your beck and call to organise travel optional experiences.

Iconic Sites
Waterfalls, ancient escarpments and dolphins await in Fiordland National Park’s Milford Sound/Piopiotahi. This World Heritage Site is as humbling as it is immense.

Time For You
There’s a reason why you give you downtime in Rotorua and Queenstown – there are enough attractions to fill every traveller’s wish list.

Sustainable Travel
From snow-tipped mountains to a wild and dramatic coastline, and turquoise alpine lakes, the Southern Lakes region is one of NZ’s most diverse and distinctive wilderness areas.

Naturals Wonders
From snow-tipped mountains to a wild and dramatic coastline, and turquoise alpine lakes, the Southern Lakes region is one of NZ’s most diverse and distinctive wilderness areas.
Since its 2010/11 earthquakes, Christchurch has reinvented itself in more ways than one. Discover how when you step back in time aboard the Christchurch Tram, linking some of the city's most legendary attractions.

There are some days when you're travelling, that all you want to do is sleep. Enjoy downtime to go at your own pace.

**Time For You**

Sometimes, the best travel experiences are those you have on a whim. Discover how when you step back in time aboard the Christchurch Tram, linking some of the city's most legendary attractions.

**Flexible Holidays**

Queenstown is home to more than 150 bars and restaurants. If you don't know where to look, ask your Travel Director for recommendations.

**Iconic Sites**

The TranzAlpine train ride has been described as one of the most scenic cross-country jaunts in the world. But don't take our word for it...

**Southern Spotlight**

Franz Josef Glacier/Kā Roimata o Hine Hukatere is quite possibly New Zealand’s coolest attraction. Literally. This gem sparkles like a gem. You don’t get many opportunities in life to land and walk on a glacier. This afternoon is one.

**Natural Wonders**

Franz Josef Glacier/Kā Roimata o Hine Hukatere sparkles like a gem. You don’t get many opportunities in life to land and walk on a glacier. This afternoon is one.

**Sustainable Travel**

Your journey deep into Fiordland National Park is helping sustain this wild and wonderful part of New Zealand for future generations.

**Highlights**

- **Te Anau – Queenstown**
  - From the moment you step outside today, nature rules. Your route through Fiordland National Park is an intoxicating union of beach forests, alluvial flats, meadows and mirror-like lakes. Sin-curve rivers carve the countryside, with all roads leading to Milford Sound/Piopiotahi. Cruising this World Heritage listed expanse will give you goosebumps, a string of waterfalls creating a misty curtain across sheer escarpments. Look out for dolphins – they're a common sight here. Hotel: Copthorne Hotel & Resort, 2 nights.

- **Queenstown Free Time**
  - Take today at your own pace. Like things fast and furious? Feel the wind in your hair on the high-octane Shotover Jet, perhaps. There’s a reason why Queenstown is known as the adventure capital of the country. Nature lover? Discover some of New Zealand’s broadcaster friends at a wildlife centre. Whenever you wander, make sure you’re back in time to glide across Lake Wakatipu aboard the historic TSS Earnslaw to Walter Peak High Country Farm for a gourmet barbecueHighlight Dinner.  8 HD

- **Queenstown – Franz Josef/Waiata**
  - And keep count of today’s lakes. Leaving Lake Wakatipu behind, Arrowtown appears on the horizon. You know you’ll want to linger in the movie set-like streets, lined with trees and character-filled boutiques. But Lake Dunstan awaits, as do its orchards. Pause to refuel on flavour-packed stone fruit. Then there’s Lake Hawea followed by Lake Wanaka, with its Instagrammable shoreline of poplars and willows. Over the Haast Pass, Franz Josef Glacier/Kā Roimata o Hine Hukatere sparkles like a gem. You don’t get many opportunities in life to land and walk on a glacier. This afternoon is one. Hotel: Scenic Franz Josef Glacier (Graham Boulding), 2 nights.

- **Franz Josef/Waiata – Christchurch**
  - Swap snow for pounamu (native greenstone or jade) in Hokitika. In Māori tradition, it’s bad luck to buy this sacred stone for yourself. Futter your eyelids at your loved one. Just when you thought your adventure couldn’t get any better, you’ll aboard the TranzAlpine train bound for Christchurch, through tunnels and over viaducts with panoramic views of snow-capped peaks, icy rivers, beach forests, gorges and river valleys. Hotel: Ibis Hotel, 5 nights.

### Dining

- **Start/Ends**
- **Number of night stays**
- **Sightseeing stop**

### Flight Information

Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 4.00pm into Christchurch Airport.

Day 9 – flights to depart any time from Christchurch Airport.

Flights are not included in the vacation price.
Short Breaks

Personalise Your Experience

Short Breaks are designed to let you travel on your own by including the best day tours in the region combined with your choice of up to three standards of accommodation. They give you the opportunity to learn from our expert Driver Guides, to discover the destinations and to meet new like-minded travellers each day.

Add a Short Break to your Guided Vacation

With so much to see and do in this extraordinary part of the world, we make it easy for you to customise your vacation. Add on one of our Short Breaks to your Guided Vacation to delve deeper into a place or region or make the most of your time Down Under and combine any of our itineraries for the ultimate two-country vacation experience.

What’s included on a Short Break?

• All accommodation, with your choice of up to 3 standards of quality, depending on your budget and needs
• Selected meals
• Seamless transfers between every spot on your itinerary
• Money-can’t-buy exclusives, dependant on your itinerary
• Travel in purpose-built air-conditioned coaches, with reclining seats and WiFi where available
• All National Park Entrance Fees
• The services of highly experienced Driver Guides
• Cultural activities in your destinations
• Community engagement activities
**Uluru & Kata Tjuta Highlights**

**DEPARTS**

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<th>From</th>
<th>$505 adult</th>
<th>$385 child</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CONCLUDES</strong></td>
<td>3.30pm (Apr-Sep) and 3.00pm (Nov-Mar)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Single traveller must pay the single price. Triple share price is available on request.</strong></td>
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**Ulysses RETURN**: Uluru Sunset • Uluru Sunrise • Uluru Base Tour • Mutitjulu Waterhole • Aboriginal Rock Art • Kata Tjuta • Walpa Gorge

- **Arrive Uluru** – Sacred Sites & Sunset
  On arrival at Uluru Airport you’ll be transferred to the resort (flights to arrive prior to 3:30pm). This afternoon, visit the Uluru-Kata Tjuta Cultural Centre. Later, travel around the base of Uluru in comfort as your Driver Guide provides commentary about the numerous sacred sites and features to be found at Uluru. Learn about the native flora, fauna and intriguing culture of the traditional owners, the Anangu, and discover an array of fascinating rock paintings including the famous ‘摩擦’

- **Uluru Sunrise – Kata Tjuta**
  - **Depart Uluru**
  Rise early to watch the first rays of the sun set Uluru and the Red Centre alight. Make your way to the viewing platform to see many kilometres into the distance, providing an ideal photo opportunity. Later, travel to the mystical domes of Kata Tjuta and continue to the base of Walpa Gorge. Spend time exploring the gorge and the unusual conglomerate rock formations. The walking trail through it follows the natural creek bed between two of the tallest domes of Kata Tjuta. In the afternoon, you’ll be transferred to Ayers Rock Airport. Flights to depart after 12.45pm (Oct-Mar) and 11.45pm (Apr-Sep).

- **Uluru BBQ Dinner**
  After sunset, why not add on our exclusive Aussie Barbecue Dinner from $179.

- **Field of Light**
  Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park: A once-in-a-lifetime event in Uluru. Learn about the native flora, fauna and the cultural significance of this region. The Field of Light event is open to the public from 6pm to 8pm daily, with a variety of creative light installations on display. As the sun sets, the landscape comes alive with vibrant shades of colour, creating a breathtakingly unique experience.

**Kakadu & East Alligator River**

**DEPARTS**

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<td><strong>Single traveller must pay the single price. Triple share price is available on request.</strong></td>
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**Guluyambi Cultural Cruise – Depart Darwin**
This morning, head off with your Driver Guide to explore the World Heritage area of Uluru, where you’ll explore extensive Aboriginal rock art galleries believed to be 23,000 years old. Climb to the lookout for stunning views over the floodplains, woodlands and rock ribbons of rainforest of the surrounding Nadab wetlands. Then take the Guluyambi Cultural Cruise along the East Alligator River, where an Aboriginal guide will provide insights into their culture, including local mythology, the river’s abundant food chain, as well as bush survival skills. With special permission of the local people, you are able to go ashore in Anmherb Lant. Return to Darwin, where your Short Break concludes.

As this Short Break concludes at 7.30pm, you may like to pre-book accommodation for tonight.

**Darwin**

- **Darwin – Kakadu National Park**
  Depart Darwin and travel into Kakadu National Park. Visit the Warradjan Cultural Centre, then join your local guide on an award-winning cruise to experience the dramatic scenery of the Yellow Water Billabong. Keep an eye out for saltwater crocodiles, a diverse array of smaller wildlife, and the colourful range of birdlife for which this region is renowned. Hotel: Mercure Kakadu Crocodile, Kakadu L.

**Kakadu National Park**

- **Yellow Water Billabong Cruise & Cultural Cruise**
  As this Short Break departs at 6.30am, accommodation will need to be pre-booked for the previous night.
  - **Darwin**
  - **Kakadu National Park**
  - **Depart Darwin**
  - **Arrive Kakadu National Park**
  - **Visit the Warradjan Cultural Centre**
  - **Join your local guide on an award-winning cruise to experience the dramatic scenery of the Yellow Water Billabong. Keep an eye out for saltwater crocodiles, a diverse array of smaller wildlife, and the colourful range of birdlife for which this region is renowned.**

As this Short Break concludes at 7.30pm, you may like to pre-book accommodation for tonight.
Kakadu & Tiwi Islands Explorer

As this Short Break departs at 6.30am, accommodations will need to be pre-booked for the previous night.

1 Darwin – Kakadu National Park
Depart Darwin and travel along the Arnhem Highway, through major river systems and wetlands, into Kakadu National Park. The national park covers 20,000 square kilometres of landscape from rocky escarpment home to historic Aboriginal rock art dating thousands of years, to floodplains abundant with wildlife. Visit the Warradjan Cultural Centre to view the informative displays depicting the traditions of the Aboriginal people in Kakadu. Join your local guide for a cruise on Yellow Water Billabong. Search for saltwater crocodiles and the colourful range of birdlife for which this region is renowned. After lunch, stop at Nourlangie, where your Driver Guide will lead you on a walk to view the rock art galleries. Hotel: Mercure Kakadu Crocodile.

2 Kakadu – Tiwi Islands
Join your Driver Guide to explore the World Heritage area of Ubirr, where you’ll climb up through the ancient Aboriginal rock art galleries, believed to be 20,000 years old, to the lookout for the view over the surrounding wetlands. Later board the Guluyambi Cultural Cruise along the East Alligator River. An Aboriginal guide will provide an insight into their culture, including local mythology, the river’s abundant food chain, as well as bush survival skills. With special permission of the local people you’ll be able to go ashore in Arnhem Land, before heading back downstream. Visit Marrawuddi Art Gallery before returning to Darwin. Hotel: Travelodge Resort.

3 Tiwi Islands
Spend time with some Tiwi women, while they demonstrate their totem dances and perform a smoking ceremony to bless your purchases. You’ll sample billy tea and damper before lunch. Visit the Arts & Crafts Centres, where you can purchase art and crafts at reasonable prices. Transfer to your ferry departing the island at 3.15pm for the previous night.

DARWIN RETURN: Kakadu National Park • Yellow Water Billabong Cruise • Aboriginal Rock Art & Culture • Tiwi Islands Experience

From $1299 adult $985 child per person twin share

DEPARTS 6.30am (May-Sep)
CONCLUDES 5.45pm approximately

Single transfer must pay the single price.
Triple share price is available on request.

DARWIN RETURN: Kakadu National Park • Aboriginal Rock Art • Yellow Water Billabong Cruise • Arnhem Land by 4WD • Cultural Cruise with Aboriginal Guide

As this Short Break departs at 6.30am, accommodations will need to be pre-booked for the previous night.

1 Darwin – Kakadu National Park
Depart Darwin and travel into Kakadu National Park. Visit the Warradjan Cultural Centre to view the informative displays. Join your local guide for a cruise on Yellow Water Billabong. Search for saltwater crocodiles and the colourful range of birdlife for which this region is renowned. After lunch, stop at Nourlangie, where your Driver Guide will lead you on a walk to view the rock art galleries. Hotel: Mercure Kakadu Crocodile.

2 Darwin – Tiwi Islands – Depart Darwin
Take the 2½ hour ferry to Bathurst Island. You’ll be met by your local guide for a journey through the progressive, modern day Aboriginal community of Wurrumiyanga. Visit the Museum and Early Mission Precinct. Spend time with some Tiwi women, while they work on their weaving and painting. They will demonstrate their totem dances and perform a smoking ceremony to bless the visitors. You’ll sample billy tea and damper before lunch. Visit the Arts & Crafts Centres, where you can purchase art and crafts at reasonable prices. Transfer to your ferry departing the island at 3.15pm for Darwin, where your Short Break concludes.

3 Tiwi Islands
If you wish to take home Aboriginal artwork from Tiwi Islands, please ensure you have cash for your purchases from the Museum and local artists, and credit card for the Arts Centre.

DEPARTS 6.30am (May-Sep)
CONCLUDES 7.30pm approximately

Single transfer must pay the single price.
Triple share price is available on request.

From $1389 adult $1069 child per person twin share

Visit our website or call your Travel Agent for latest pricing and days of departure.
**Kakadu & Nitmiluk (Katherine) Gorge**

**DAWNTOP END**

**DG42** From $1175 adult $895 child

**DG52** From $1225 adult $895 child

per person twin share

**DEPARTS** 7.25am (May-Sep)

**CONCLUDES** 6.00pm approximately

Single traveller must pay the single price. Triple share price is available on request.

**DG45** From $1515 adult $1159 child

**DG55** From $1425 adult $1065 child

per person twin share

As this Short Break departs at 7.25am, accommodations will need to be pre-booked for the previous night.

1. **Darwin – Jumping Crocodile Cruise – Kakadu**
   - Cruise on the Adelaide River, home to over 1,600 crocodiles, where you’ll see these prehistoric creatures up-close. Later, travel into Kakadu National Park, home to a myriad of animals and hundreds of bird species. Stop at the Marrakwaddi Art Gallery, and then continue to Ubir. Climb up through the ancient Aboriginal rock art galleries to the lookout for a spectacular view over Kakadu. Hotel: Mercure Kakadu Crocodile. L

2. **Kakadu – Katherine**
   - This morning you’ll be mesmerized as you explore the renowned Nourlangie rock art site, which had provided shelter to Indigenous people for millennia. Visit the Warradjan Cultural Centre for an insight into the local Binjari culture. Later, join your local guide for a cruise on Yellow Water Billabong, Kakadu’s most famous wetland and home to saltwater crocodiles and dozens of species of colourful birdlife. Continue to Katherine, the third largest town in the Northern Territory, stopping at Lelyak (Edith Falls) along the way. The paperbark and pandanus-fringed natural pool at the base of the falls is suitable for swimming throughout most of the year (conditions permitting). Hotel: Contour. L

As this Short Break concludes at 6.00pm, you may like to pre-book accommodations for tonight.

Planning to travel in April, November or March? We have a green/summer season itinerary available. Ask for details or visit aatkings.com/DG52.

**Kakadu Scenic Flight**

Today, experience Kakadu from the air for a true sense this wondrous landscape. Please enquire for details.

**DAWN RETURN**

1. **Darwin**
   - Jumping Crocodile Cruise – Kakadu National Park
   - Cruise on the Adelaide River, home to over 1,600 crocodiles, on the Jumping Crocodile Cruise, and then travel into Kakadu National Park. View ancient Aboriginal rock art and take a guided walk to the top of Ubir for magnificent views over the surrounding wetlands. Hotel: Mercure Kakadu Crocodile. L

2. **Kakadu – Katherine**
   - Explore awe-inspiring Aboriginal rock art at Nourlangie; then continue to Warradjan Cultural Centre before taking a cruise on the magnificent Yellow Water Billabong to observe saltwater crocodiles and prolific wildlife. Travel via Pine Creek to Katherine. Hotel: Contour. L

**SeaDS**

Today, experience Kakadu from the air for a true sense this wondrous landscape. Please enquire for details.

**Nitmiluk (Katherine) Gorge Cruise • Edith Falls • Yellow Water Billabong Cruise**

As this Short Break departs at 7.25am, accommodations will need to be pre-booked for the previous night.

1. **Darwin – Litchfield – Depart Darwin**
   - Darwin – Litchfield National Park today your first stop is Florence Falls, where you can take a scenic bush and monsoon vine forest walk. After a swim in its pristine plunge pool, travel on to Tolmer Falls for a stunning view of the water cascading down to the deep waterhole below. Wangi Falls, with its large crystal-clear pool, is another relaxing spot for a swim. At Howard Springs Nature Park, you’ll have the opportunity to feed the barramundi and turtles. Return to Darwin, where your Short Break concludes. L

As this Short Break concludes at 6.00pm, you may like to pre-book accommodations for tonight.

Planning to travel in April or March? We have a green/summer season itinerary available. Ask for details or visit aatkings.com/DG55.

**Kakadu Scenic Flight**

Today, experience Nitmiluk from the air for a true sense this wondrous landscape. Please enquire for details.

**Nitmiluk (Katherine) Gorge Cruise**

Cruise through Nitmiluk (Katherine) Gorge, watching for crocodiles basking in the sun. It’s a stunning network of thirteen gorges carved from billion year old sandstone that are home to rapids and fall flowing from the Nitmiluk River. Gain cultural insights at Nitmiluk Visitor Centre before traveling to Edith Falls, whose paperbark and pandanus-fringed natural pool at the base of the falls is safe for swimming, most of the year (conditions permitting). Stop at Adelaide River War Cemetery en route to Darwin. Hotel: Travelodge Resort. L

**DEPARTS** 7.25am (May-Sep)

**CONCLUDES** 6.00pm approximately

Single traveller must pay the single price. Triple share price is available on request.

As this Short Break concludes at 6.00pm, you may like to pre-book accommodations for tonight.

Planning to travel in April or March? We have a green/summer season itinerary available. Ask for details or visit aatkings.com/DG55.

**Kakadu National Park**

**Kakadu Scenic Flight**

**Darwin**

**Litchfield**

**Ubir**

**Nourlangie**

**Howard Springs Nature Park**

**Wangi Falls**

**Tolmer Falls**

**Adelaide River War Cemetery**

**Nitmiluk Visitor Centre**

**Edith Falls**

**Katherine**

**Kakadu Crocodile**

**Edith Falls**

**Yellow Water Billabong Cruise**

**Katherine Gorge Cruise**
**The Outback Railway**

From $1649 adult per person twin share

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<th>DEPARTS</th>
<th>Morning of Day:</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ADELAIDE</strong></td>
<td><strong>ALICE SPRINGS</strong></td>
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**The Ghan**

On arrival in Adelaide make your own way to Adelaide Parklands Terminal to board The Ghan for your journey to Alice Springs. Flights to arrive prior to 10:00am. Once you’ve settled in, make your way to the classically styled Queen Adelaide Restaurant carriage for lunch. Watch the rolling pastoral lands of South Australia merge into rugged Mallee scrub. Marvel as the spectacular Flinders Ranges disappear into the horizon, all the while enjoying the solitude of your cabin, then mingling with fellow travelers in the Lounge car. Dinner is bound to satisfy and the selection of wines is equally outstanding. Then head back to your cabin for a good night’s sleep.

**Rail: Gold Service, The Ghan.**

**Alice Springs – Uluru**

Depart Alice Springs through the rugged desert landscape, passing the beautiful MacDonnell Ranges. View flat-topped Ayers (Mt. Conner) in the distance, before arriving at Ayers Rock Resort ready to explore. After a visit to the Cultural Centre, join your guide for a drive around the base of Uluru. Walk to the Mutitjulu Waterhole to view Aboriginal rock art and learn about the area as your Driver Guide points out native flora and fauna. Head to the Uluru sunset viewing area and witness its striking colour changes, while enjoying sparkling wine. Later, join us at our exclusive venue for a barbecue (Mali Uluru La Ilu) under the stars. See page 24 for more details.

**Hotel: Desert Gardens, Ayers Rock Resort.**

**Uluru – Kata Tjuta – Kings Canyon**

Rise early to travel to the Uluru sunrise viewing area with the first sunlight of the day creep across the desert plains. Travel to the mystical domes of Kata Tjuta and continue to the base of Uluru Gorge to explore the unusual conglomerate rock formations. Later, travel through spectacular desert scenery on your way to Kings Canyon Resort. After turning off the Lasseter Highway and on to the Luritja Road your Driver Guide will provide informative commentary about the history of the surrounding cattle area. **Hotel: Kings Canyon Resort.**

**Kings Canyon – Alice Springs**

This morning join your Driver Guide for the rocky climb to the canyon rim for superb views of Watarrka National Park (for those with a good level of fitness) or explore the canyon creek bed, an easier, shady walk. Travel through the desert to Alice Springs. **Hotel: Crowne Plaza Alice Springs Lasseters.**

**Alice Springs – Uluru**

Depart Alice Springs through the rugged desert landscape, passing the beautiful MacDonnell Ranges. View flat-topped Ayers (Mt. Conner) in the distance, before arriving at Ayers Rock Resort ready to explore. After a visit to the Cultural Centre, join your guide for a drive around the base of Uluru. Walk to the Mutitjulu Waterhole to view Aboriginal rock art and learn about the area as your Driver Guide points out native flora and fauna. Head to the Uluru sunset viewing area and witness its striking colour changes, while enjoying sparkling wine. Later, join us at our exclusive venue for a barbecue (Mali Uluru La Ilu) under the stars. See page 24 for more details.

**Hotel: Desert Gardens, Ayers Rock Resort.**

**Uluru – Kata Tjuta – Kings Canyon**

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**Depart Alice Springs**

Your short break concludes this morning. Make your own way to Alice Springs Airport for your onward flight (flights anytime).

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**Tropical Reef & Rainforest**

**For latest pricing and days of departure, visit aatkings.com/PD11**

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<tr>
<th>DEPARTS</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CAIRNS</strong></td>
<td><strong>GREAT BARRIER REEF</strong></td>
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**CAIRNS RETURN** - [Great Barrier Reef Cruise](#) & [Kuranda Scenic Rail](#)

**CAIRNS RETURN** - [Great Barrier Reef Cruise](#) & [Kuranda Scenic Rail](#)

**Arrive Cairns**

On arrival at Cairns Airport, make your own way to your hotel (flights anytime). The rest of the day is at leisure. **Hotel: Flynn, 3 nights.**

**Great Barrier Reef**

Join us for a unique outer Great Barrier Reef cruise, where the Sunlover catamaran docks alongside a floating pontoon, stationed in a natural lagoon fringed with beautiful coral at Moore Reef. Snorkel (equipment provided) in the natural lagoon or stay dry with semi-submersible and glass bottom boat tours. Visit the underwater observatory to discover the world’s most impressive natural fish tank and get up close to marine life. Enjoy a tropical buffet lunch on the water before returning to Cairns early evening. B L

**Scenic Rail & Kuranda – Skyrail**

Board the Kuranda Scenic Railway at Freshwater Station for a historic journey. Wind through hand-hewn tunnels, across bridges and canyons. On arrival in Kuranda there’s time to explore the ‘village in the rainforest’. Later, board the Skyrail Rainforest Cableway for your journey over and through the ancient rainforest, showcasing spectacular views, with time at both Red Peak and Barron Falls Stations for education and interpretation. B

**Depart Cairns**

Your Short Break concludes this morning after breakfast. Make your own way to Cairns Airport (flights anytime).

**For latest pricing and days of departure, visit aatkings.com/CC11**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DEPARTS</th>
<th>Number of night stops</th>
<th>Sightseeing stops</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>KURANDA</strong></td>
<td><strong>SKYRAIL</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**CAIRNS RETURN** - [Great Barrier Reef Cruise](#) & [Kuranda Scenic Rail](#)

**CAIRNS RETURN** - [Great Barrier Reef Cruise](#) & [Kuranda Scenic Rail](#)

**CAIRNS RETURN** - [Great Barrier Reef Cruise](#) & [Kuranda Scenic Rail](#)

**CAIRNS RETURN** - [Great Barrier Reef Cruise](#) & [Kuranda Scenic Rail](#)

**Arrive Cairns**

On arrival at Cairns Airport, make your own way to your hotel (flights anytime). The rest of the day is at leisure. **Hotel: Flynn, 3 nights.**

**Great Barrier Reef**

Join us for a unique outer Great Barrier Reef cruise, where the Sunlover catamaran docks alongside a floating pontoon, stationed in a natural lagoon fringed with beautiful coral at Moore Reef. Snorkel (equipment provided) in the natural lagoon or stay dry with semi-submersible and glass bottom boat tours. Visit the underwater observatory to discover the world’s most impressive natural fish tank and get up close to marine life. Enjoy a tropical buffet lunch on the water before returning to Cairns early evening. B L

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**Depart Cairns**

Your Short Break concludes this morning after breakfast. Make your own way to Cairns Airport (flights anytime).

---

**Dreamtime Gorge Walk.**

A traditional Aboriginal smoking ceremony, where you will be welcomed to the land with a beautiful coral gardens. A tropical buffet lunch is served before you return to Port Douglas. B L

**Port Douglas – Depart Cairns**

Your Short Break concludes this morning after breakfast. Make your own way to Cairns Airport (flights anytime).
Day Tours

Full or Half day Sightseeing Tours

Enjoy Bucket List highlights on our selection of curated Day Tours, and allow our Driver Guides to enrich your experience with local knowledge and immersive stories. Day Tours are the perfect add-ons to Short Breaks or Guided Vacations, or equally ideal for independent travellers. All you need to do is sit back, relax, and leave the driving to us.

What’s included on a Day Tour?

• Travel in purpose-built air-conditioned coaches with reclining seats and WiFi where available
• The services of a highly experienced Driver Guide
• Cultural activities in your destinations
• Community engagement activities

Uluru Sightseeing Passes

Experience all the wonders of the Red Centre by purchasing one of our convenient and comprehensive passes and save on the cost of individual tours. You also save on the cost of our exclusive Uluru BBQ when you add it to your pass.

Your pass is valid for 3 consecutive days from the start of your first tour and includes the Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park Entry Fee.

Active

If staying active and immersing yourself in the natural environment are an important part of your vacation experience, our Active Pass is for you. Our Three Day Active Pass includes a 6.5 miles fascinating guided walk around the base of Uluru and a 3.4 miles spectacular Valley of the Winds walk, so we suggest a moderate level of fitness.

Leisurely

If you prefer a little more comfort, combined with gentle walks while taking in the natural surrounds, we suggest our Leisurely Passes. Our luxury air-conditioned coach will take you from point to point and our Driver Guide will then walk you into the culturally significant areas. A low level of fitness is suitable.

What’s included on a Day Tour?

• Travel in purpose-built air-conditioned coaches
• The services of a highly experienced Driver Guide
• Cultural activities in your destinations
• Community engagement activities

Uluru Sunrise & Field of Light

Internationally acclaimed artist Bruce Munro is noted for his immersive site-specific installations that employ light to evoke emotional response, often in an outdoor context and on a monumental scale. His Field of Light, inspired by a trip to Uluru over 30 years ago, is installed in a remote desert area within sight of majestic Uluru. It is his largest installation to date, with Munro and his team installing more than 50,000 slender stems crowned with radiant frosted glass spheres. It is truly a magical sight to behold.

DEPARTS
105 minutes prior to sunrise from Ayers Rock Resort

RETURNS
30 minutes after sunrise

National Park Entry Ticket is not required.
For latest pricing, days of departure and itinerary details, visit aatkings.com/FOL

From
$75 adult $49 child

From $309 adult $215 child

Add on Uluru BBQ from $155

Add on Kings Canyon from $235

Tiwi Islands Cultural Experience

After a 2½ hour cruise, you’ll be led by a local guide through the community of Wurrumiyanga. Enjoy billy tea and damper with your lunch. Sit down with Tiwi Ladies as they weave and paint, perform totem dances, and bless visitors with a smoking ceremony. At the museum view art and displays of Tiwi ‘dreamtime’ stories. Explore the Early Mission Precinct with its unique Tiwi-style Catholic Church. Visit the Tiwi Arts & Crafts Centre where you can buy art at island prices. Depart for Darwin at 3.15pm.

DEPARTS
7.30am check-in for 8.00am departure from Cullen Bay Ferry Terminal

RETURNS
Depart Bathurst Island at 3.15pm to arrive in Darwin at 5.45pm approximately

For latest pricing, days of departure & itinerary details, visit aatkings.com/TFER

From $75 adult $49 child

From
$309 adult $215 child

Add on Uluru BBQ from $155

Add on Kings Canyon from $235

From
$75 adult $49 child

From
$309 adult $215 child

Add on Uluru BBQ from $155

Add on Kings Canyon from $235

Tiwi Islands Cultural Experience
Mai Uluru La Ila

Wander at the scale of Uluru at night on the only evening dining experience inside Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park. Explore native apples, bush tomato, and quandong flavours, savour restaurant-quality Australian BBQ steak, kangaroo and seafood, fresh salads and classic dessert with a twist. All accompanied by Australian wine and stargazing with our local guide. Price includes return transfers to sunset & barbecue dinner at our exclusive area right next to Uluru.

DEPARTS
45 minutes prior to sunset from Ayers Rock Resort

2% hrs approximately after sunset

FROM
$189* adult $95* child

-about the area from your hotel

From $199* adult $105* child

-ultra,Thaddeus, Jarrod Emms, Mark Pickthall, Shaana McNaught, Miles Holden, Emily Godfrey, Jason Charles Hill, Grant Hunt, Natalie Mendham,

Uluṟu & Kata Tjuṯa

The early rise is well worth it as you experience the two major landmarks in Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park. Start with an amazing sunrise at Kata Tjuta, a collection of domes and sandstone formations. Afterwards, on the 45 minute drive to Kata Tjuta your Driver Guide will provide you with an historical overview of the National Park. The walk through the sheer walls of Kata Tjuta won’t disappoint as you’re led into a world of rare plant species and lush evergreen scrub. Fitness level is Grade 3, moderate.

DEPARTS
95 minutes prior to sunrise from Ayers Rock Resort

4 hrs approximately after sunset

RETURN
1.00pm (Nov-Mar) and 1.45pm (Apr-Oct)

FROM
$239* adult $169 child

-Uluru Aboriginal Art & Cultural Experience

Experience the oldest culture on earth with an Aranu (Aboriginal) guide and interpreter. Learn how the Aranu live in this extraordinary environment and connected with the land, as your guide shares traditional stories passed down from elders and interprets rock art. Discover more on the Mala Walk and see important Aboriginal landmarks on a drive around the base of Uluru. While learning the art of dot painting, you’ll create your own story to take home.

DEPARTS
7.30am (Nov-Mar) and 8.30am (Apr-Oct) from Ayers Rock Resort

RETURN
12 noon (Nov-Mar) and 1.00pm (Apr-Oct)

-times approximate

FROM
$149* adult $105* child

-Ayers Rock to Alice Springs

Travel through spectacular desert scenery from Ayers Rock Resort. Pass through Curtin Springs Station and see Atla (Mt. Conner). Call in at Ellidina, a roadhouse located at the junction of the Stuart and Lasseter Highways, where you can purchase afternoon tea. Continue along the Stuart Highway before arriving in Alice Springs.

DEPARTS
12.30pm (Oct-Mar) and 1.00pm (Apr-Sep)

7.00pm approximately (Oct-Mar) and 7.30pm approximately (Apr-Sep)

RETURN
1.00pm from Alice Springs

FROM
$165* adult $115* child

-A Town like Alice

Tour the sights of ‘The Alice’ including the School of the Air and the historic Telegraph Station, which marks the original site of the first European settlement in Alice Springs. Visit the Royal Flying Doctor Service, where you’ll see medical initiatives in place to ensure the wildlife and vulnerable geology of Phillip Island remains protected. As the sun goes down, head to the beach for the main attraction – the little penguins waddling up the sand to their dune burrow homes returning from their daily fishing excursion.

DEPARTS
1.00pm from Melbourne

10.30pm (Apr-Sep) and 11.30pm (Oct-Mar)

RETURN
6.00pm approximately

FROM
$165* adult $115* child

-Kuranda, Scenic Railway & Skyrail

Board the Kuranda Scenic Railway at Freshwater Station for a historical rail journey, enjoying breathtaking views across the cane fields to tropical rainforest. In Kuranda it’s time to explore this fascinating village. The Heritage Museum showcases full of arts and crafts, later board the Skyrail Rainforest Cableway for your journey over and through World Heritage protected rainforest. This 90 minute experience showcases spectacular views, with time at both Red Peak and Barron Falls Stations for education and interpretation.

DEPARTS
8.15am from Cairns

4.00pm approximately

RETURN
8.15am from Cairns

FROM
$155* adult $105* child

-Phillip Island: Penguins, Koalas & Wildlife

Start your day tour to Phillip Island with a visit to the Koala Reserve. Join a Park Ranger and explore the tree top boardwalks to see the koalas up close in their natural habitat. At the Penguin Parade Visitor Centre learn about the initiatives in place to ensure the wildlife and vulnerable geology of Phillip Island remains protected. As the sun goes down, head to the beach for the main attraction – the little penguins waddling up the sand to their dune burrow homes returning from their daily fishing excursion.

DEPARTS
1.45pm from Melbourne

RETURN
7.00pm approximately (Oct-Mar)

FROM
$249* adult $175* child

-Sydney, Melbourne & Cairns

For latest pricing, days of departure and itinerary details, visit aatkings.com

-Kakadu National Park Explorer

World Heritage listed and the largest National Park in Australia, Kakadu is one of the most diverse landscapes you’ll ever experience, and you’ll be amazed at the population of wildlife in the water, on the land and in the air. See some of the most amazing terrain Australia has to offer on your way to and inside Kakadu. Marvel at the concentration of rock art sites that illustrate Aboriginal culture, some dating 50,000 years.

DEPARTS
6.30am from Darwin

7.30am approximately

RETURN
6.30am approximately

FROM
$299* adult $209* child

-Blue Mountains All Inclusive Discovery

Explore the World Heritage Listed Blue Mountains, in style, starting with a visit to Sydney Zoo. Australia’s most advanced Zoo, at the gateway to the Blue Mountains. See dingoes, koalas, wombats, Tasmanian devils, and echidnas in a cage free environment. Enjoy a lunch in a Leura café surrounded by locals. Visit the famous Three Sisters rock formation up close from Echo Point. Stop at Scenic World to ride the Scenic Railway, Cableway and Skyway. Walk along the rainforest boardwalk and immerse yourself in nature from the valley floor.

DEPARTS
8.00am from Sydney

5.30pm approximately

RETURN
7.30pm from Melbourne

FROM
$249* adult $175* child

-Booking Conditions

Full Booking Conditions can be found at aatkings.com/booking-conditions and form the legal agreement between us and you as our guest.

-Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park Entry Fee:
The entry fee must be added to the Day Tour prices in this brochure, where indicated. The fee is $33 per adult. Children 17 years and under are free of charge. It is valid for 3 consecutive days. When taking multiple Day Tours over 3 consecutive days in the National Park you only need to pay the fee once.

Northern Territory Parks Pass (separate from Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park Entry Fee). From 01 November 2013, the NT Parks Pass is $15 per adult/$9 for each park for each day. These are an additional compulsory government charge and are subject to change without notice. You must carry your ticket with you every time you enter the National Parks or you will be required to purchase another.

GUESTS
1-866-240-1659
TRADE
1-866-240-1659
ONLINE
aatkings.com

info@aatkings.com
reservations@aatkings.com

AAT Kings Tours (USA) Inc
5551 Katella Avenue, Cypress, California 90630

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Mark Pickthall, Shaana McNaught, Miles Holden, Emily Godfrey, Jason Charles Hill, Grant Hunt, Natalie Mendham, James McMahon, Adam Nolan, 1545 Brown, Australian Arms Victoria Park, Melbourne, David Ching, Greg, Steve, James, Robert, James, Jason, Alan, 1545 Brown, Australian Arms Victoria Park, Melbourne, Mark Pickthall, Shaana, Emily, Robert, Emily, Soheil, Jason, Charles, Neil, Steve, James, Michael, James, Natalie, Adam, 1545 Brown, Australian Arms Victoria Park, Melbourne, Mark Pickthall, Shaana, Emily, Robert, Emily, Soheil, Jason, Charles, Neil, Steve, James, Michael, James, Natalie, Adam, 1545 Brown, Australian Arms Victoria Park, Melbourne, Mark Pickthall, Shaana, Emily, Robert, Emily, Soheil, Jason, Charles, Neil, Steve, James, Michael, James, Natalie, Adam, 1545 Brown, Australian Arms Victoria Park, Melbourne, Mark Pickthall, Shaana, Emily, Robert, Emily, Soheil, Jason, Charles, Neil, Steve, James, Michael, James, Natalie, Adam, 1545 Brown, Australian Arms Victoria Park, Melbourne, Mark Pickthall, Shaana, Emily, Robert, Emily, Soheil, Jason, Charles, Neil, Steve, James, Michael, James, Natalie, Adam, 1545 Brown, Australian Arms Victoria Park, Melbourne, Mark Pickthall, Shaana, Emily, Robert, Emily, Soheil, Jason, Charles, Neil, Steve, James, Michael, James, Natalie, Adam, 1545 Brown, Australian Arms Victoria Park, Melbourne, Mark Pickthall, Shaana, Emily, Robert, Emily, Soheil, Jason, Charles, Neil, Steve, James, Michael, James, Natalie, Adam, 1545 Brown, Australian Arms Victoria Park, Melbourne, Mark Pickthall, Shaana, Emily, Robert, Emily, Soheil, Jason, Charles, Neil, Steve, James, Michael, James, Natalie, Adam, 1545 Brown, Australian Arms Victoria Park, Melbourne, Mark Pickthall, Shaana, Emily, Robert, Emily, Soheil, Jason, Charles, Neil, Steve, James, Michael, James, Natalie, Adam, 1545 Brown, Australian Arms Victoria Park, Melbourne, Mark Pickthall, Shaana, Emily, Robert, Emily, Soheil, Jason, Charles, Neil, Steve, James, Michael, James, Natalie, Adam, 1545 Brown, Australian Arms Victoria Park, Melbourne, Mark Pickthall, Shaana, Emily, Robert, Emily, Soheil, Jason, Charles, Neil, Steve, James, Michael, James, Natalie, Adam, 1545 Brown, Australian Arms Victoria Park, Melbourne, Mark Pickthall, Shaana, Emily, Robert, Emily, Soheil, Jason, Charles, Neil, Steve, James, Michael, James, Natalie, Adam, 1545 Brown, Australian Arms Victoria Park, Melbourne, Mark Pickthall, Shaana, Emily, Robert, Emily, Soheil, Jason, Charles, Neil, Steve, James, Michael, James, Natalie, Adam, 1545 Brown, Australian Arms Victoria Park, Melbourne, Mark Pickthall, Shaana, Emily, Robert, Emily, Soheil, Jason, Charles, Neil, Steve, James, Michael, James, Natalie, Adam, 1545 Brown, Australian Arms Victoria Park, Melbourne, Mark Pickthall, Shaana, Emily, Robert, Emily, Soheil, Jason, Charles, Neil, Steve, James, Michael, James, Natalie, Adam, 1545 Brown, Australian Arms Victoria Park, Melbourne, Mark Pickthall, Shaana, Emily, Robert, Emily, Soheil, Jason, Charles, Neil, Steve, James, Michael, James, Natalie, Adam, 1545 Brown, Australian Arms Victoria Park, Melbourne, Mark Pickthall, Shaana, Emily, Robert, Emily, Soheil, Jason, Charles, Neil, Steve, James, Michael, James, Natalie, Adam, 1545 Brown, Australian Arms Victoria Park, Melbourne, Mark Pickthall, Shaana, Emily,Robert, Emily, Soheil, Jason, Charles, Neil, Steve, James, Michael, James, Natalie, Adam. Prices in this brochure are indicative only and are not final. Destinations visited.
AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND

TASMANIA • ULURU • KAKADU • NEW ZEALAND • MARGARET RIVER
Inspiring Journeys is proud to pay respect to the continuing cultural practices of First Nations, Torres Strait Islander and Māori peoples.

The immersive, vast beauty of Australia and New Zealand awaits. You’ll witness the many hues of an outback sunset blend into ochre natural wonders, hear ancient languages spoken and see stories written in the sand. Indulge in native flavours and relax in dwellings nestled within the heart of your destination.

This is where your journey begins.

Meet our vibrant makers and creators, and the local storytellers whose passion it is to share with you the very best of these unique lands. Delight the senses with exclusive culinary experiences and allow your expert guide to show you the iconic sights that promise moments of awe and wonder.

Your small group journey will be expertly curated with no detail forgotten, ensuring your adventure is seamless, stress free and timed to perfection. With more than 100 years’ experience in showcasing these mesmerising locations, we’ve collected a wealth of unmatched knowledge and passion that allows us to create an unforgettable travel experience for you.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>START EXPLORING</th>
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**Look for these icons to learn about your small group experience:**

- **IMMERSE**
- **INDULGE**
- **EXPLORE**
- **RELAX**

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**The Long White Cloud**

10 days • NZFLY

Traverse the dramatic contrasts of the North and South Islands, as you discover the extraordinary natural landscapes and rich ancient heritage.

---

**Inspiring New Zealand**

10 days • NZFLY

A tale of epic natural beauty and ancient Maori traditions, explore the vibrant cities and the rolling countryside on this wide ranging journey through the North and South Islands.

---

**Inspiring Australia**

13 days • IJFLY

Explore Australia’s highlights on a journey from the Tropical North, to its spiritual heart and on to sparkling Sydney.

---

**Tastes of Tasmania**

7 days • IJTHBL

Delve into the untouched landscapes of Maria Island and the Bay of Fires. Head deep into the Tasmanian wilderness and soak up panoramic views of one of the world’s most beautiful beaches.

---

**Kakadu’s Ancient Secrets**

5 days • MNDD

Be awe-struck by Australia’s Top End, where you’ll discover untamed waterfalls, vast wetlands and ancient cultures.

---

**Flavours of South Australia**

5 days • SATA

Embark on a culinary discovery through the Barossa, Adelaide Hills and McLaren Vale wine regions.

---

**A Journey to the West**

7 days • IJWA

Unique Rottnest Island, renowned wine region Margaret River and an enriching Cape Naturaliste Aboriginal cultural experience await you.

---

**The Long White Cloud**

19/12/8 days • NZIJ/NZSI/NZNI

Traverse the dramatic contrasts of the North and South Islands, as you discover the extraordinary natural landscapes and rich ancient heritage.

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---

**Independent reviews from our guests**

"Everything & every place we went to & experienced was bucket list material."

---

5.0/5

Alan S

"An unforgettable trip! This was a most amazing journey from the minute we were picked up at the airport to the last bitter-sweet moment of saying goodbye to our travel companions. Our tour guide was delightful, knowledgeable, humorous, caring – perfect! She took excellent care of us. Our driver was extremely competent and a pleasure to travel with. Loved the unique destinations and little side trips. Accommodations were great and the travel days nicely planned. I would go again tomorrow if I could!"

---

5.0/5

Linda L
Explore
Embrace your adventurous spirit and embark on an epic exploration. Visit the wondrous places you’ve dreamt of, discover hidden gems and insider experiences that may become the highlight of your tour. Walk, cycle, swim, see wildlife – or simply just soak up the awe-inspiring scenery.

Indulge
Meet the growers and producers while indulging in the local delicacies of unique communities. Savour award-winning wines, sample Aboriginal inspired cuisine and embark on a culinary journey as you unwind in spectacular surrounds.

Immerse
Cover Story: A multi award-winning cultural attraction in Rotorua, the Te Pā Ōtāni Korero will ignite your spirit and immerse you in the fascinating traditions of Māori culture. Wander through the ancient forest village, learn about Māori art forms and indulge in the delicious flavours of the traditional hangi, cooked in the earth with geothermal steam.

Experience Bruny Island cruise on Tastes of Tasmania, pg 22.

Look for this icon to find Explore highlights

Look for this icon to find Indulge highlights

Look for this icon to find Immerse highlights

Relax
Renowned for its rainforests, waterfalls and towering peaks, the beauty of Milford Sound/Piopiotahi will be embedded in your mind for years to come. Take time to unwind in your eco-friendly mountain view chalet, nestled in Fiordland, an exclusive lodging out of reach for larger groups.

Experience Bruny Island cruise on Tastes of Tasmania, pg 22.

Look for this icon to find Relax highlights

Stay at Milford Sound Lodge on The Long White Cloud pg. 10.
THE INSPIRING JOURNEYS EXPERIENCE

MEET JOURNEY DIRECTOR,

Courtney

“You can relax knowing that every step of the way on your small group journey you are in the hands of our experts, who are continuously trained and highly experienced. From start to finish, we’ll be there making sure your journey is outstanding.”

MEET MANA WAHINE,

Rosie

In the geothermal wonderland of Rotorua, cultural performer Rosie, a woman of spiritual power and strength invites you to discover the true heart and soul of Māori culture. At Te Pā Tū Māori Experience, the descendants of Māori warriors welcome you to sacred grounds, introducing you to the wisdom of their ancestors. Listen to the master storytellers, understand the language of the Moko tattoo, taste the earthy flavours of a traditional hangi feast and hear the echo of the Taonga Pūoro.
THE LONG WHITE CLOUD

CHRISTCHURCH | QUEENSTOWN | FRANZ JOSEF GLACIER/KĀ ROIMATA O HINE HUKATERE | MILFORD SOUND/PIPIOTIHAI | WELLINGTON | ROTORUA | AUCKLAND

19 DAYS

Be awed as you traverse New Zealand’s North and South islands, from the hot pools of Franz Josef/Waiau, an exclusive TreadRight experience in Rotorua, to the brave depths of Queenstown, the adventure capital. Explore extraordinary landscapes and ancient heritage, as you encounter exhilarating New Zealand as few have seen it before.

Day 1: Welcome to Christchurch

On arrival in Christchurch, board a private transfer to your hotel. Tonight, meet your Journey Director for a Welcome Reception.

HOTEL: Hotel Montreal

Day 2: Christchurch – TranzAlpine – Franz Josef/Waiau

Travel through the Southern Alps aboard TranzAlpine train. From Arthurs Pass, visit the small town of Hokitika, and meet a local greenstone (jade) carver. Continue to Franz Josef/Waiau, where you’ll spend two nights in an eco-friendly retreat nestled in the wilderness.

HOTEL: Te Waonui Forest Retreat, 2 nights

MEALS: Breakfast, dinner with wine

Day 3: Franz Josef Glacier/Kā Roimata o Hine Hukatere (Relaxed Start)

This morning, explore Franz Josef/Waiau, where a local guide explains the history behind the imposing Franz Josef Glacier/Kā Roimata o Hine Hukatere. This afternoon, your Local Dining Experience is in one of Queenstown’s exclusive restaurants.

HOTEL: Hotel Montreal

Day 4: Franz Josef/Waiau – Arrowtown – Queenstown

Discover the Haast River this morning as you journey its length in a fully enclosed motor jet boat. Stop at Makarora, then explore the heritage gold-mining area. Continue onwards to the Māori settlement of Arrowtown, before an orientation of breathtaking Queenstown.

HOTEL: Hotel St. Moritz, 3 nights

MEALS: Breakfast, dinner with wine

Day 5 & 6: Queenstown at Leisure

Enjoy two full days to discover Queenstown. Perhaps consider a wine tour, or an adrenaline-filled activity. On your second day, your Local Dining Experience is in one of Queenstown’s exclusive restaurants.

Day 7: Queenstown – Te Anau – Milford Sound/Piopiotahi (Relaxed Start)

Tavel south along the shores of Lake Wakatipu to Te Anau and then through the rainforest of World Heritage Fiordland National Park. Tonight, stay at Milford Sound Lodge, with views of the majestic Cleddau Valley.

HOTEL: Milford Sound Lodge, 2 nights

MEALS: Breakfast, dinner with wine

Day 8: Milford Track Walk & Milford Sound/Piopiotahi Cruise

Get a taste of the world-famous Milford Track with a half-day walk. Walking in a small group, your nature guide will point out the native fauna and flora and share the fascinating human heritage of the track. This afternoon, enjoy Milford Sound/Piopiotahi awe-inspiring scenery from the comfort of a small boat. Cruise the length of the Fiord, view iconic Mitre Peak and get up close to Stirling Falls. With limited numbers, you’ll be rewarded with an intimate experience and unobstructed photo opportunities from the outdoor viewing decks. Keep an eye out for seals and maybe a pod of dolphins. The perfect way to round off your day.

HOTEL: Distinction Dunedin Hotel, 2 nights

MEALS: Breakfast, dinner with wine

Day 9: Milford Sound/Piopiotahi – Gore – Dunedin

Depart majestic Fiordland National Park for the fertile sheep-dotted pastures of South Otago. Travel through the country music town of Gore, before arriving in Dunedin.

HOTEL: Distinction Dunedin Hotel, 2 nights

MEALS: Breakfast, dinner with wine

Day 10: Dunedin (Relaxed Start)

Join a behind the scenes tour at a state-of-the-art SLO MO craft brewery, Emerson’s, before joining your hosts for an exclusive tasting. This afternoon is at leisure, so perhaps consider an optional experience.

MEALS: Breakfast

Day 11: Dunedin – Omaru – Timaru – Christchurch

Travel up the east coast through Omaru and Timaru. On arrival in Christchurch, embark on a sightseeing tour of the city.

HOTEL: Hotel Montreal

MEALS: Breakfast, dinner with wine

Day 12: Christchurch – Kaikoura – Wellington

Guests depart this morning in Christchurch (Code: NZ39). Travel along the Pacific coast to Kaikoura. Continue to the seaside village of Picton and later, cross the Cook Strait to Wellington. Guests join the afternoon in Wellington (Code: NZ2N).

HOTEL: QT Wellington, 2 nights

MEALS: Breakfast, dinner with wine

Day 13: Wellington at Leisure

Today see Wellington your way. Why not visit the Weta Workshop, home of the creative wizards behind The Lord of the Rings and The Hobbit trilogies, or visit Te Papa Museum of New Zealand.

MEALS: Breakfast

Day 14: Wellington – Hawk’s Bay

Travel through the dairy farming land of Manawatu to Napier. This evening, enjoy wine-tasting and a Local Dining Experience in Napier, the shadow of spectacular Te Mata Peak.

HOTEL: Porters Boutique Hotel, 2 nights

MEALS: Breakfast, Local Dining Experience

Day 15: Napier (Relaxed Start)

Join a local guide for a vintage car tour through Napier and surrounds areas. You’ll learn about the earthquake that destroyed the city in 1931 and hear stories of the people that led the rebuild in the Art Deco style.

MEALS: Breakfast, dinner with wine

Day 16: Hawk’s Bay – Rotorua

Continue your journey, arriving in Rotorua. Visit Waimangu Volcanic Valley, the world’s youngest geothermal valley. Cruise around the tranquil waters of Lake Rotomahana to see stunning geothermal activity as well as rare native birds.

HOTEL: Palmen Rotorua, 2 nights

MEALS: Breakfast

Day 17: Rotorua

Ascend the breathtaking Redwoods Treetop Walkway for an elevated birds eye view of the 120-year-old redwood giants. At the National Kiwi Hatchery, fascinating conservationists reveal how they are saving the local population, one incubated egg at a time. Your Local Dining Experience is a Māori hangi and cultural performance at the Te Pā Tū Māori Experience.

MEALS: Breakfast, Local Dining Experience

Day 18: Rotorua – Auckland

Make your way to the famous Caveworld Waitomo for an exclusive 5-star Waitomo Glowworm experience at Footwhistle Cave. Later, travel to Auckland. This evening, toast your tour at a Celebration Dinner.

HOTEL: QT Auckland

MEALS: Breakfast, Celebration Dinner

Day 19: Farewell from Auckland

Your New Zealand journey comes to an end today and you are transferred to Auckland Airport for your onward flight.

MEALS: Breakfast

DEPARTURES

NZIJ: Christchurch to Auckland (19 Days)

TWIN SHARE LAND

FROM $11,170 P.P.

DEPARTURES

2022 2023 2024

Oct 10 Jan 02, 09, 30 Jan 01, 08, 29

Nov 07 Feb 04, 06, 08

Mar 04

Apr 09

May 06

Jun 04

Jul 08

Aug 04

Sep 06

Oct 09

Nov 06

Dec 06

NZSI: Christchurch Return (12 Days)

TWIN SHARE LAND ONLY

FROM $7,225 P.P.

DEPARTURES

2022 2023 2024

Oct 10 Jan 02, 09, 30 Jan 01, 08, 29

Nov 07 Feb 04, 06, 08

Mar 04

Apr 09

May 06

Jun 04

Jul 08

Aug 04

Sep 06

Oct 09

Nov 06

Dec 06

NZNI: Wellington to Auckland (8 Days)

TWIN SHARE LAND ONLY

FROM $4,295 P.P.

DEPARTURES

2022 2023 2024

Oct 21 Jan 13, 20 Jan 12, 19

Nov 18 Feb 10, 17, 24

Mar 07

Apr 20

May 17

Jun 04

Jul 01

Aug 05

Sep 02

Oct 09

Nov 06

Dec 06

See available prices or additional departure dates including dates from 01 Oct 2024 at inspiringjourneys.com/nzij or contact your local agent.

Single traveller must pay the single price.

NZIJ / NZSI / NZNI
INSPIRING NEW ZEALAND
AUCKLAND | WAIHEKE ISLAND | ROTORUA | WELLINGTON | QUEENSTOWN | DOUBTFUL SOUND/PATEA

10 DAYS

IMMERSE

Soak up the grandeur of the breathtaking Doubtful Sound/Patea, encountering wildlife such as dolphins, fur seals and penguins in the depths of the wilderness.

INDULGE

Embark on a culinary discovery of Waiheke Island, famous for its pristine beaches, world-class wines and farm-to-fork dining.

EXPLORE

Discover the labyrinth of magnificent undisturbed caves. Journey to the volcanic landscapes of Rotorua, where Māori culture takes centre stage. Visit the Te Pā Tū Māori Experience for insights into their soulful expanse of its stunning untamed landscapes.

RELAX

Take a deep breath and unwind in the healing waters of the Polynesian Spa, the world-class geothermal relaxation experience.

Te Pā Tū Māori Experience, Rotorua

A tale of two great islands, of epic natural beauty and ancient rituals and traditions – yours to explore on this Inspiring Journey across the length and breadth of New Zealand. Embrace the sophistication of its cities and the soulful expanse of its stunning untamed landscapes.

Day 1: Welcome to Auckland

Welcome to New Zealand’s vibrant North Island hub. Spend your day at leisure before joining your Journey Director and fellow travel companions for a Welcome Recepiton and dinner.

HOTEL Sofitel Auckland Viaduct Harbour, 2 nights

MEALS Dinner with wine

Day 2: Auckland Sights – Waiheke Island

A city tour will start your morning in Auckland. Travel around the waterfront from central city out to Mission Bay. Next up we take a ferry over to Waiheke Island. With pristine beaches, world-class wines, and fantastic cuisine it’s easy to see why Waiheke Island is considered the jewel in the Hauraki Gulf’s crown. Only a short distance from Auckland, you’ll feel like you’re a world away as you embrace the essence of Waiheke with your local guide. Enjoy wine tasting at some of Waiheke’s award-winning wines, including beautiful Mudbrick Vineyard with spectacular views of the Hauraki Gulf. Followed by a light lunch, before you cruise back to the city.

MEALS Breakfast, lunch

Day 3: Auckland – Rotorua

Your leisurely discovery of New Zealand’s North Island continues as you follow the meandering trail of the Waikato River to the famous Cenworld Waikato for an exclusive 5-star Eco Glowworm experience. Your guide sets the scene for a cave experience where you will see glowworms, cave formations and appreciate the beauty of Footwhistle Cave. Journey to the volcanic landscapes of Rotorua, where Māori culture takes centre stage. Visit the Te Pā Tū Māori Experience for insights into the local rituals and traditions of this fascinating culture. Embrace their gracious traditional greeting, experience the heart-pounding wero challenge and enjoy a Local Dining Experience, the delicious flavours of the hangi cooked in the earth with geothermal steam.

HOTEL Pullman Rotorua, 2 nights

MEALS Breakfast, Local Dining Experience

Day 4: Rotorua

First up, visit Whakarewarewa Living Village where you’ll be accompanied by a Local Guide to view New Zealand’s biggest geyser, bubbling mud pools and thermal springs. Later, the day is all yours to explore the sacred lakes, thermal marvels and Māori traditions of Rotorua. Why not indulge in a spa treatment at the Polynesian Thermal Spa, or if you’re up for a challenge, take the native forest zipline adventure tour with Canopy Tours.

MEALS Breakfast

Day 5: Rotorua – Wellington

Visit the National Kiwi Hatchery Aotearoa, the national leader in kiwi husbandry, for a guided tour. Learn about the work being done to save New Zealand’s national bird, see kiwi eggs being incubated, the hatching process and newly hatched kiwi chicks. Later, fly to Wellington. Spend the evening at your leisure, enjoying dinner at one of the quirky cafés at Courtney Place or Cuba Street.

HOTEL Sofitel Wellington, 2 nights

MEALS Breakfast

Day 6: Wellington & Zealandia

This is your chance to get to know Welly like a local, on a guided walking tour. Discover the stunning waterfront and the hidden laneways in the soulful expanse of its stunning untamed landscapes.

Welcome to New Zealand’s vibrant North Island hub. Spend your day at leisure before joining your Journey Director and fellow travel companions for a Welcome Recepiton and dinner.

HOTEL Sofitel Wellington, 2 nights

MEALS Breakfast

Day 7: Wellington – Queenstown

Explore New Zealand’s fascinating culture, nature, heritage and art at Te Papa Museum of New Zealand. It’s time to prime yourselves for a few days of adventure, flying to Queenstown, New Zealand’s adventure-capital. On arrival, journey to the goldrush village of Arrowtown. Enjoy a tour of Queenstown, and gaze at the natural splendour in its midst – from the peaks of the Remarkables to beautiful Lake Wakatipu.

HOTEL Hotel St. Moritz, 3 nights

MEALS Breakfast

Day 8: Queenstown – Lake Manapouri

Your tour begins in Manapouri, where you’ll embark on a cruise across Lake Manapouri. Then travel to the heart of Fiordland National Park and take in the beauty and vastness of remote Doubtful Sound/Patea on a Wilderness Cruise. It will take your breath away as you experience its deep wilderness. Keep a look out for wildlife including dolphins, fur seals and even occasionally penguins.

MEALS Breakfast, lunch, dinner with wine

Day 9: Queenstown at Leisure

Experience Queenstown, your way. You could embark on a moutain tour through the scenic gorge of Skippers Canyon or immerse yourself in award-winning wines and spectacular scenery of Central Otago on a Boutique Wine tour. As your final day ends enjoy a Celebration Dinner at one of the local restaurants with your Journey Director and new-found friends.

MEALS Breakfast, Celebration Dinner

Day 10: Farewell from Queenstown

For now, all that’s left to say is a fond farewell as your inspiring journey comes to an end after breakfast. Throughout today you will be transferred to Queenstown Airport for your onward flight.

MEALS Breakfast

See available prices or additional departure dates including those from 01 Oct 2024 for more information or contact your local agent. Single traveller need pay the single price.

INCLUSIONS

• 9 Nights premium accommodation
• 15 included meals
• 9+ Unforgettable experiences

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• 9 Nights premium accommodation
• 15 included meals
• 9+ Unforgettable experiences

UPGRADE

Combine Inspiring New Zealand with Inspiring Australia for the ultimate two-country vacation experience. See page 8 for details.
Day 1: Welcome to Cairns – Palm Cove

Welcome to Tropical Far North Queensland. The afternoon is free to relax or explore. This evening join your Journey Director for a Welcome Reception followed by dinner at Reef House Restaurant nestled under Melaleuca trees, overlooking the stunning crystal clear water of the Coral Sea.

HOTEL: The Reef House Palm Cove, 3 nights

MEALS: Dinner with wine

Day 2: Daintree Rainforest

Enjoy a guided tour of the ancient Daintree Rainforest and gain an insight into the deep relationship the Aboriginal people have with their land. Learn about cultural traditions, taste bush foods and sample traditional medicines of the Aboriginal people.

MEALS: Breakfast, lunch with wine

Day 3: Cairns Included Choice

Today you can explore tropical Cairns in your own style with an Included Choice option. Either board a Quicksilver wave piercing catamaran and cruise to the outer edge of the Great Barrier Reef and gain an insight into the deep relationship the local Kuku Yalanji people have with their land. Learn about cultural traditions, taste bush foods and sample traditional medicines of the Aboriginal people.

MEALS: Breakfast, lunch with wine

Day 4: Cairns – Uluru & Kata Tjuta

Today we fly from Cairns to the heart of the Red Centre, Uluru. This afternoon you’re off to the domes of Kata Tjuta, where you’ll join your Journey Director for a guided walk through Walpa Gorge. Later enjoy a Welcome Reception followed by dinner at Sails in the Desert Hotel, Ayers Rock Resort, for your onward flight.

MEALS: Breakfast

Day 5: Uluru

Rise early to experience the renowned Field of Light, where 50,000 glass spheres in colours of ochre, deep violet, blue and gentian white, have been installed within sight of Uluru. Wander through the paths and then, from the dune-top, watch as the dawn creeps across the desert plain and lights up the Red Centre. After breakfast you will have the opportunity to take a walk around part of the base of Uluru and hear timeless stories, from the dune-top, watch as the dawn creeps across the desert plain and lights up the Red Centre. After breakfast you will have the opportunity to take a walk around part of the base of Uluru and hear timeless stories, from the dune-top, watch as the dawn creeps across the desert plain and lights up the Red Centre. After breakfast you will have the opportunity to take a walk around part of the base of Uluru and hear timeless stories.

HOTEL: Sails in the Desert Hotel, Aen’s Rock Resort, 2 nights

MEALS: Breakfast

Day 6: Uluru – Kings Canyon

Experience the magic of the sunrise over Uluru. Later, travel towards Kings Canyon for your stop at a Curtis Springs home on the Seven-Devils since 1954. Enjoy a barbecue lunch, where you will meet one of the locals and gain insight into the cattle rearing heritage.

HOTEL: Kings Canyon Resort

MEALS: Breakfast, lunch, dinner with wine

Day 7: Kings Canyon – Alice Springs

Today you’re off on a sunset six-kilometre Rim Walk exploration of the spectacular Kings Canyon. This evening, join your hosts at an outdoor bushfire Local Dining Experience under the stars.

HOTEL: Kings Canyon Resort

MEALS: Breakfast, lunch, dinner with wine

Day 8: Alice Springs Included Choice – Sydney

Explore Alice Springs in your own style with an Included Choice option. Either visit the School of the Air, a crucial service providing education to children living in remote areas. Or at the Royal Flying Doctor Service you will hear how this facility provides medical assistance to those living in remote Australia. This afternoon, Alice Springs goes way to cosmopolitan Sydney.

HOTEL: The Langham

MEALS: Breakfast

Day 9: Sydney Included Choice – Hunter Valley

Enjoy a Sydney sightseeing tour including a stroll along the coastal walk for incredible views over the Pacific Ocean and wild coastal cliffs. Mid-morning offers you an Included Choice activity so you can see more of the Harbour City. Escape to the cottage-lined Hawkesbury River and be touched by the most ancient human culture on earth. Join an Aboriginal guide for a 90-minute leisurely walkabout through the Rocks District. Hear dreamtime stories passed down from Elders and discover how Aboriginal people existed by the harbour. For a different pace, say ‘cheers’ to your local guide from Dave’s Tours on a historic walking tour of Sydney. Between watering holes, you will take you through the alays & condensed streets of the Rocks as they share the group, shouts, and stories of Australia’s first European settlement. This afternoon, depart Sydney for the Hunter Valley wine region.

MEALS: Breakfast, lunch, dinner with wine

Day 10: Hunter Valley

Spend the day exploring the amazing Hunter Valley Wine Region. It includes good food, great wine and beautiful scenery. Indulge in exclusive private wine tastings at boutique vineyards and sit down to an exceptional tasting lunch. There will be time to explore cellar doors, a cheese shop, chocolate maker, and more before spending the evening at leisure. You may like to relax on your balcony with a good book and bottle of wine or treat yourself to one of the doorings.

MEALS: Breakfast, lunch with wine

Day 11: Hunter Valley – Sydney

Return to Sydney in time to enjoy magical Sydney Harbour. Cruise around the glittering harbour while you savour a delicious lunch with a strong focus on local produce and wines. Relax on the spacious deck as you sail past the harbour’s iconic sights like the Sydney Opera House, Harbour Bridge and sail around a sparkling landscape surrounded by multimillion-dollar waterfront homes.

MEALS: Breakfast, lunch with wine

Day 12: Sydney at Leisure

Wake up to free day in the harbour city of Sydney. There are so many sights to experience. You may choose to climb the Sydney Harbour Bridge; take the ferry to Manly Beach, or explore some of the lesser-known interesting pockets of Sydney to see how the locals live. Late afternoon, join a VIP guided tour of the Sydney Opera House before a Celebration Dinner at Peter Glimm’s iconic Bennelong restaurant under the famous ‘sails’, the perfect location to celebrate this inspiring journey.

MEALS: Breakfast, Celebration Dinner

Day 13: Farewell from Sydney

Bid farewell to the Harbour City as you are transferred to Sydney Airport for your onward flight.

MEALS: Breakfast

Notes:
- Small group (22 guests max)
- 17x Unforgettable experiences
- 23 Included meals
- 12 Nights premium accommodation
**AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND EXPEDITION**

**CAIRNS | GREAT BARRIER REEF | ULURU | KINGS CANYON | SYDNEY | HUNTER VALLEY | AUCKLAND | ROTORUA | QUEENSTOWN | DOUBTFUL SOUND/PATEA**

Venture on a journey through Australia’s most iconic sights. Experience the ancient Gondwara Rainforests of Northern Australia, majestic Uluru in the spiritual Red Centre, and the iconic harbour city of Sydney.

Day 1: Welcome to Cairns – Palm Cove
Welcome to Tropical Far North Queensland. This afternoon meet your Journey Director and fellow travellers for a Welcome Reception followed by dinner overlooking the stunning crystal-clear water of the Coral Sea.

HOTEL: The Reef House Palm Cove, 3 nights
MEALS: Dinner with wine

Day 2: Daintree Rainforest
Join your Aboriginal guide on an exclusive experience to discover the ancient Daintree Rainforest and learn about cultural traditions, taste bush foods and sample traditional medicines of the Aboriginal people.

MEALS: Breakfast, lunch with wine

Day 3: Cairns Included Choice
Today you can explore tropical Cairns with an Included Choice option.

MEALS: Breakfast, lunch with wine

Day 4: Cairns – Uluru & Kata Tjuta
Today fly to Uluru. You’re off to the domes of Kata Tjuta, to join your Journey Director for a guided walk through Walpa Gorge. Later enjoy sparkling wine while you watch Uluru change colour on the sun sets.

HOTEL: Sails in the Desert Hotel, Ayers Rock Resort, 2 nights
MEALS: Breakfast

Day 5: Uluru Sunrise & Field of Light
Rise early to experience the renowned Field of Light, where 50,000 glass spheres in colours of embers, deep violet, blue and gentle white, have been installed within sight of Uluru. After breakfast you can take a walk around part of the base of Uluru to view rock art and visit the Mutujulu Waterholes.

This evening, dine under a million stars at the Sounds of Silence Dinner.

MEALS: Breakfast, Local Dining Experience

Day 6: Uluru – Kings Canyon
Witness a magical sunrise over Uluru. Later, travel to Kings Canyon.

HOTEL: Kings Canyon Resort
MEALS: Breakfast, lunch, dinner with wine

Day 7: Kings Canyon – Alice Springs
You’re off on a sunrise six-kilometre Rim Walk exploration of spectacular Kings Canyon. This evening, join your hosts on an outdoor bush barbecue under the stars near Alice Springs. HOTEL: Crowne Plaza Alice Springs Lasseters
MEALS: Breakfast, lunch, Local Dining Experience

Day 8: Alice Springs Included Choice – Sydney
Explore Alice Springs with an Included Choice option. Either visit the School of the Air, a crucial service providing education to children living in remote areas. Or at the Royal Flying Doctor Service you will hear how this facility provides medical assistance to those living in remote Australia. This afternoon, Alice Springs gives way to cosmopolitan Sydney.

HOTEL: The Langham
MEALS: Breakfast

Day 9: Sydney Included Choice – Hunter Valley
Enjoy a Sydney sightseeing tour including a stroll along the coastal walk for incredible views over the Pacific Ocean and wild coastal cliffs. Middlemor offers you an Included Choice option. Join an Aboriginal guide for a 90-minute leisurely walkabout through the historic Rocks District at Circular Quay. For a different pace, say hi to the local guide from Dave’s Tours on a walking tour at some of Sydney’s oldest pubs. Later this day, you’ll be exploring the sacred lands, thermal marvels, and Maitl traditions of Rotorua.

MEALS: Breakfast

Day 10: Hunter Valley
Enjoy a Sydney sightseeing tour including a stroll along the coastal walk for incredible views over the Pacific Ocean and wild coastal cliffs. Middlemor offers you an Included Choice option. Join an Aboriginal guide for a 90-minute leisurely walkabout through the historic Rocks District at Circular Quay. For a different pace, say hi to the local guide from Dave’s Tours on a walking tour at some of Sydney’s oldest pubs. Later this day, you’ll be exploring the sacred lands, thermal marvels, and Maitl traditions of Rotorua.

MEALS: Breakfast

Day 11: Hunter Valley – Sydney
Return to Sydney and board your lunch cruise around Sydney Harbour.

HOTEL: The Langham, 2 nights
MEALS: Breakfast, lunch with wine

Day 12: Sydney at Leisure
Wake up to free day in the harbour city of Sydney. Late afternoon, join a VIP guided tour of the Sydney Opera House before a Celebration Dinner at Peter Gilmore’s iconic Balmoral restaurant under the famous ‘sails’, the perfect location to celebrate this inspiring journey.

MEALS: Breakfast, Celebration Dinner

Day 13 Sydney – Auckland
Bid farewell to the Harbour City as you are transferred to Sydney Airport for your flight to Auckland. Meet your Journey Director for a Welcome Reception and dinner.

HOTEL: Sofitel Auckland Viaduct Harbour, 2 nights
MEALS: Breakfast, dinner with wine

Day 14: Auckland Sights – Waiheke Island
A city sights tour will start your morning. Next, up we take a ferry over to Waiheke Island. Only a short distance from Auckland, you’ll feel like you’re a world away as you embrace the essence of Waiheke with your local guide. Enjoy wine tasting at some of Waiheke’s award-winning wineries, including beautiful Mudbrick Vineyard, followed by a light lunch, before you cruise back to the city.

MEALS: Breakfast, Light lunch

Day 15: Auckland – Rotorua
Your keenly discovery of New Zealand’s North Island continues as you follow the meandering trail of the Waikato River to the famous Caveworld Waitomo. You’ll then visit the Waitomo Caves where you will see the mesmerising glowworm displays at Footwhistle Cave in Waitomo, for incredible views over the Pacific Ocean and wild coastal cliffs.

HOTEL: Polman Rotorua, 2 nights
MEALS: Breakfast, Local Dining Experience

Day 16: Rotorua
First up, visit Waitanuiwae Living Village where you’ll be accompanied by a Local Guide to view New Zealand’s biggest geyser. Later, the day is all about you exploring the sacred lands, thermal marvels, and Maiti traditions of Rotorua.

MEALS: Breakfast

Day 17: Rotorua – Wellington
Visit the National Kiwi Hatchery Aotearoa. Learn about the work being done to save New Zealand’s national bird, see kiwi eggs being incubated, the hatching process and newly hatched kiwi chicks. Later, fly to Wellington.

HOTEL: Sofitel Auckland Viaduct Harbour, 2 nights
MEALS: Breakfast

Day 18: Wellington & Zealandia
Explore Te Papa Museum of New Zealand. Now it’s time to prime yourself like a local, on a guided walking tour of some of Wellington’s oldest pubs. This afternoon, depart for the city.

MEALS: Breakfast

Day 19: Wellington – Queenstown
Explore Te Papa Museum of New Zealand. Now it’s time to prime yourself like a local, on a guided walking tour of some of Wellington’s oldest pubs. This afternoon, depart for the city.

MEALS: Breakfast

Day 20: Queenstown – Lake Manapouri
Embark on a cruise across Lake Manapouri. Then travel to the heart of Fiordland National Park and take in the beauty and vastness of remote Doubtful Sound/Pana on a Wilderness Cruise. Keep a look out for wildlife including dolphins, for seals and even occasionally penguins.

MEALS: Breakfast, lunch, dinner with wine

Day 21: Queenstown at Leisure
A full day to explore Queenstown, your way. As your journey ends with a Celebration Dinner at one of the local restaurants with your Journey Director and new-found friends.

MEALS: Breakfast, Celebration Dinner

Day 22: Farewell from Queenstown
For now, all that’s left is to say is fond farewell as your inspiring journey comes to an end and after breakfast. Throughout today you will be transferred to Queenstown Airport for your onward flight.

MEALS: Breakfast
Day 1: Darwin & Litchfield National Park

Welcome aboard! This morning meet your Journey Director and board your luxury vehicle to begin your journey of discovery in the Top End. Travel across desert landscapes to Curtin Springs Station, a vast farming property, for lunch. Afterwards, arrive at Ayers Rock Resort, your launchpad to Australia’s heart, in Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park. This evening, watch the town of Katherine and experience first-hand the fine art of rarrk (cross-hatch) painting. Later, enjoy a swim to cool off at Wangi Falls, surrounded by tropical monsoon rainforest, and relax into the eastern sunlight before stopping for lunch. This afternoon return to Darwin, where you’ll get to know your fellow travellers over dinner with wine.

Day 2: Darwin – Kakadu National Park

Get ready for a once-in-a-lifetime journey to magnificent Kakadu National Park. Kakadu really is a diverse UNESCO world heritage site. Keep your eyes peeled for crocodiles as you cross the South Alligator River and Bridge, Maguk Gorge and Jabiru, as you traverse along the long grasses of the wetlands. After lunch, the famous Yellow Water Billabong boat cruise will be a highlight of your journey. You will see a myriad of different bird species, spot estuarine crocodiles and simply enjoy the stunning billabong and floodplains system. This afternoon check into the Crocodile Hotel where you’ll have the chance to relax by the hotel’s shaded pool or wander through the on-site Aboriginal Art Gallery. 

Day 3: Kakadu – Nitmiluk National Park

This morning there’s a chance to take to the air on an optional scenic flight over Kakadu one of the best ways to experience the enormity of this wonderful National Park, as well as the diversity from waterfalls and billabongs to flood-plains and wildlife. Later, visit Northernter to address the ancient Dreamtime art of the Berry and Mangguy people. Hear from your Journey Director a detailed interpretation of the art and the rich Aboriginal culture as you explore the various outdoor ‘galleries’ with art that dates some 25,000 years. Continue driving through the ancient lands of Kakadu National Park to the town of Katherine and further on to Nitmiluk National Park. Indulge in five-star luxury accommodation, a stunning eco-lodge surrounded by nature, where each room has a private balcony that opens to the National Park. Cool off in the pool after the heat of the day, and then experience a glorious sunset.

Day 4: Nitmiluk (Katherine) Gorge

This morning meet Dalabon didgeridoo expert Manuel Pamkal and share in his passion for the rich traditional culture into which he was born. Hear about life in the bush and experience first-hand the fine art of rarrk (cross-hatch) painting. Later, board a special dinner cruise on Nitmiluk (Katherine) Gorge and learn about the history and culture of the local Jawoyn people.

Day 5: Katherine – Darwin

Emerging from the wilderness to journey north on your return to Darwin, stopping to cool off in the cascading and clear waters of majestic Edith Falls. Later, visit the poignant Adelaide River War Cemetery. 

Day 6: Darwin – Alice Springs

After a morning flight to Alice Springs your Central Australia Journey Director will share with you their take on what life is like in such an isolated town as Alice Springs. Visit the historic Overland Telegraph Station, site of the first European settlement in the town. Then the stunning landscapes of the West MacDonnell Ranges take centre stage, as you embark on a walk through Simpsons Gap.

Day 7: Alice Springs – Kings Canyon

Now we’re off the beaten track exploring the WED Gexe Track, crossing dry river beds and outback landscapes to Kings Canyon Resort. Another unique Local Dining Experience, Under a Desert Moon, awaits you this evening. The flickering glow of the fire is the perfect accompaniment to sparkling wine and canapés followed by dinner, prepared from fresh produce and ingredients unique to the Australian outback.

Day 8: Kings Canyon – Uluru

Gaze across the deep chasm at the edge of Kings Canyon as you embark on a six-kilometre rim walk past the domed ‘Lost City’ and the iconic ‘Garden of Eden’. Relax in a more relaxed style and cross the border to Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park. Immerse yourself in First Nations’ culture on a visit the Warraman Aboriginal Community and learn about the Luritja and Parnamana people’s spiritual connection to the land. Discover bush food and medicine used for spirituality and healing. Leaving Kings Canyon behind travel across desert landscapes to Curtin Springs Station, a vast farming property, for lunch. Afterwards, arrive at Ayers Rock Resort, your launchpad to Australia’s heart, in Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park. This evening, watch as the outback sun bids a fiery farewell, the perfect backdrop for sparkling sundowners at Uluru.

Day 9: Uluru, Kata Tjuta

Enjoy a relaxed start to the day before exploring, and learning about the spiritual connection the local Anangu caretakers have with the land. Skirt the red walls of Uluru, hear ancient tales and see rock art, then visit Mu titjulu Community. Traverse the vast outback to the hidden gem, Rainbow Valley, a significant property, for lunch. Afterwards, arrive at Ayers Rock Resort, your launchpad to Australia’s heart, in Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park. This evening, enjoy a relaxed dinner at Uluru Kata Tjuta National Park. Afterwards, arrive at Ayers Rock Resort, your launchpad to Australia’s heart, in Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park. This evening, enjoy dinner at Uluru Kata Tjuta National Park. Afterwards, arrive at Ayers Rock Resort, your launchpad to Australia’s heart, in Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park. This evening, enjoy dinner at Uluru Kata Tjuta National Park. Afterwards, arrive at Ayers Rock Resort, your launchpad to Australia’s heart, in Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park. 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This evening, enjoy dinner at Uluru Kata Tjuta National Park. Afterwards, arrive at Ayers Rock Resort, your launchpad to Australia’s heart, in Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park. This evening, enjoy dinner at Uluru Kata Tjua National Park.

Day 10: Field of Light – Uluru – Alice Springs

Observe the shifting lights of Bruce Munro’s impressive Field of Light installation as the desert awakens and the sunrise lights up across Uluru. Traverse the vast outback to the hidden gem, Rainbow Valley, a significant site to the southern Arrente people, before arriving in Alice Springs. Enjoy free time to wander around the town. The Todd Street Mall has cafés and Art galleries to explore. This evening, immerse yourself against the backdrop of the outback at our open-air bush BBQ Celebration Dinner. Located off the beaten track in the heart of the East MacDonnell Ranges, you’ll enjoy drinks as a bush balladeer sings classic Australian songs and shares stories of outback living, under the Southern Hemisphere’s Milky Way.

Day 11: Farewell from Alice Springs

This morning after breakfast your Inspiring Journeys comes to an end and you’ll be transferred to Alice Springs Airport for your onward flight. MEALS Breakfast
OUTBACK CONTRASTS

ALICE SPRINGS | WEST MACDONNELL RANGES | KINGS CANYON | KATA TJUTA | ULURU

06 DAYS

IMMERSE
Experience true outback life as you enjoy lunch on Peter Severin’s million acres property in the heart of the Red Centre.

INDULGE
Back in the glow of the campfire as you indulge in a five-course degustation with matching wines in the beautiful Kings Canyon Resort.

EXPLORE
Enter Walpa Gorge, an ancient temple crafted by nature, and discover the iconic wonders of the West MacDonnell Ranges.

RELAX
Nested in the rugged bush, unwind in your Deluxe Spa Room at Kings Canyon Resort, with a private balcony overlooking a beautiful rock escarpment.

Day 1: Kings Canyon – Uluru

Witness the rugged landscape of the Red Centre and marvel at the ancient cultures that have cared for this land for generations. Experience the majesty of Uluru, Kings Canyon and walk rock art dating back thousands of years, witness striking landscapes and be immersed in the stories of the Dreamtime.

Day 2: Alice Springs – Kings Canyon

Meet your Journey Director who will share their take on what life is like in such an isolated town as Alice Springs. Visit the historic Overland Telegraph Station and hear how the north and south of Australia were connected by a single wire. Then the stunning landscapes of the West MacDonnell take centre stage, as you embark on a walk through Simpson’s Gap, and later view Alice Springs and surrounds from the top of Anzac Hill. This evening join your fellow travellers for a Welcome Dinner at Talini Restaurant.

HOTEL Crowne Plaza Alice Springs Lasseters
MEALS Welcome Dinner

Day 3: Kings Canyon – Uluru

Gain access to the deep chasm at the edge of Kings Canyon as you embark on the spellbinding 6 km sunrise Rim Walk, past the sandstone domes of the ‘Lost City’ and down the stairs to the lush ‘Garden of Eden’. Or you can opt for a gentler stroll along the canyon creek bed, trecking in the footsteps of the Laritja people who once found sanctuary amidst the flora trees at the canyon’s base. Then we head off towards Uluru, visiting the local Warlpiri Community to learn about the Laritja and Pitjantjara people’s spiritual connection to the land. Discover bush food and local medicine used for spiritually and healing. Now you’ll wander across desert landscapes arriving at Curtain Springs Station, a vast farming property, for lunch. Feel the string of something bigger than you as you arrive at Ayers Rock Resort, your launchpad to Australia’s spiritual heart in Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park. As the day fades, the outback sun falls in a fiery tempest, Uluru towers over the Northern Territory’s remote landscape, the perfect backdrop for this evening’s sparkling sundowners.

HOTEL Safi in the Desert Hotel, Ayers Rock Resort, 2 nights
MEALS Breakfast, lunch

Day 4: Uluru & Kata Tjuta

Enjoy a relaxed start to the day, before exploring, and learning about the spiritual connection the local Anangu caretakers have with the land. Start the red walls of Uluru, hear ancient tales and see rock art, then visit Mutitjulu Waterhole. Relax by the resort pool or take to the skies to see Uluru from above before an afternoon visit to Kata Tjuta for a walk through Walpa Gorge. The evening enjoy dinner at Ilkari Restaurant.

MEALS Breakfast, Dinner with wine

Day 5: Field of Light – Uluru – Alice Springs

Observe the shifting lights of Bruce Munro’s impressive Field of Light art installation as the desert awakens and the sunrise lights up across Uluru. Traverse the vast outback to the hidden gem, Rainbow Valley, a significant site to the southern Arrernte people, before arriving in Alice Springs. Enjoy free time to wander around the town. The Todd Street Mall has cafes and many Aboriginal art galleries to explore. Immerse yourself this afternoon and evening against the backdrop of the outback at our open-air bush BBQ Celebration Dinner. Located off the beaten track in the heart of the East MacDonnell Ranges, you’ll enjoy drinks as a bush balladeer sings classic Australian songs and shares stories of outback living. Indulge in a dinner of local produce as the Milky Way lights up the sky.

HOTEL Crowne Plaza Alice Springs Lasseters
MEALS Breakfast, Celebration Dinner

Day 6: Farewell from Alice Springs

Your inspiring Red Centre journey comes to an end this morning when you are transferred to Alice Springs Airport for your onward flight.

MEALS Breakfast

INCLUSIONS
• Small group (22 guests max)
• 10+ Unforgettable experiences
• 11 included meals
• 5 Nights premium accommodation

NOTES
CRAA: ALICE SPRINGS RETURN
• Flights are not included in vacation price.
• Flight Information:
  Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 12.00pm into Alice Springs Airport
  Day 6 – flights to depart anytime from Alice Springs Airport

DEPARTURES

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See available prices or additional departure dates including those from 01 May 2024 at your preferred departure airport and contact your local agency. Single traveller must pay the single price.
Meet the producers of some of Australia’s best food and wine and soak up panoramic views of one of the world’s most beautiful beaches.

As this journey departs from the Crowne Plaza Hotel Hobart at 8:00am, accommodation will need to be pre-booked for the previous night.

Day 1: Welcome to Hobart
Meet your Journey Director and head out on a walking tour of the historic docks and Salamanca Place. Connect with the local artists as you explore the many galleries and shops hidden in the old sandstone warehouses. Take in the sights, smells and sounds of the vibrant Salamanca Market as you wander past hundreds of stalls overflowing with local produce, crafts, jewellery, freshly baked goods and artisanal cider. Working up a hunger, you’ll head to New Norfolk for a Local Dining Experience at the Agrarian Kitchen. Borne from a longing to grow and cook authentic local food where the ingredients speak for themselves, afterwards visit the Museum of Old and New Art (Mona). Immerse yourself in the gallery’s quirky and wonderful installations and exhibitions, before hopping on the ferry to Hobart for an evening at leisure.

HOTEL: Crowne Plaza, 2 nights
MEALS: Local Dining Experience
Day 2: Huan Valley & Tahune Airwalk
Explore the Huan Valley, a region renowned for its fresh produce, wine, seafood and other gourmet delicacies, as well as its natural beauty with pristinely clear rivers meandering through valleys bounded by World Heritage listed national parks. Visit the Honey Pot before going behind the scenes and immersing yourself in traditional wooden boat building, lovingly crafted by hand. Step by step of the road to taste fresh apples, pears and berries from the local orchards before heading deep into the Australian bush to experience the Tahune Airwalk, an elevated walkway 30 metres above the forest floor offering spectacular views of the Huan River and beyond to the peaks of the World Heritage Area. Working up a thirst, sample some local ciders at Willie Smith’s Apple Shed before returning to the city. Indulge in dinner on Hobart’s waterfront, with unsurpassed views of the city and Port, Wellington.

MEALS: Breakfast, dinner with wine.
Day 3: Hobart – East Coast & Maria Island
Travel to the working port of Triabunna just in time to catch the ferry to Maria Island. Rich in Aboriginal and European history, abundant in wildlife, and boasting spectacular views and remarkable geological features, this entire island is a National Park. Explore the coast-built Darlington township, take a walk to the Fossil or Painted Cliffs, or simply relax and recharge with a swim in the waterhole with your packed lunch full of local goodies. You’ll be in good company with an abundance of wombats, kangaroos, wallabies, possums and even Tasmanian devils who all call the island home.

This evening, enjoy locally harvested scallops and oysters or perhaps a succulent Cape Grim Scotch fillet from the state’s north-west is more to your taste.

HOTEL: Eastcoaster Tasmania
MEALS: Breakfast, lunch, dinner with wine.
Day 4: East Coast – Freycinet National Park
Today your adventure begins with a wine tasting at Boomer Creek, a lovely family run, boutique style winery hitting high up in the hills with views to die for. Heading north your next stop is at the region’s oldest vineyard. Here you’ll meet the makers whilst you indulge in a lunch platter and try some of Tasmania’s finest wines in their old barn. It’s then onto the magnificent Freycinet National Park where you may choose to hike the 90-minute round-trip up to the lookout to experience panoramic views of the world-famous Wineglass Bay. For those seeking a slightly slower pace, take a guided walk to the lookout at Cape Tourville that affords you spectacular views across the ocean and golden beaches hidden between rugged rocky outcrops. Your afternoon is at leisure as you check into your accommodation at Freycinet Lodge. Take a walk along the beach before your BBQ dinner, or if you prefer, just sit back on the balcony and watch the sun go down with a cocktail in your hand.

HOTEL: Freycinet Lodge (1 and 2 bedroom cabins)
MEALS: Breakfast, lunch, dinner with wine.
Day 5: Freycinet – Bay of Fires – Launceston
This morning after a light breakfast, journey north travelling through the quant fishing villages of Bicheno and St Helens before arriving at the glorious Bay of Fires, famous for its crystal-clear waters, secluded, white sandy beaches and orange lichen-covered granite boulders. Explore the Big Lagoon before heading to the southern end, where you’ll discover the Cape at picturesque Binalong Bay. Here you can sit on the rocks and watch the world pass you by as you indulge in some of the best freshly caught oysters that Tasmania has to offer.

From here you’ll leave the east coast and head west, stopping off at Pyengana Dairy Farm Gate to see the cheese makers at work. Take a tour of the property before enjoying a tasting of the local produce as well as a gourmet lunch platter. On route to Launceston, the capital of the north, you’ll stop at the Legg Road Carved Memorial Trees, 25 sculpted statues depicting local soldiers who lost their lives in World War One. On arrival into Launceston, your journey Director will take you on a circuit of this vibrant hub, known for its food and wine, culture and nature, before checking into your hotel and enjoying a night at leisure.

HOTEL: Peppers Silo Hotel (River Room), 2 nights
MEALS: Breakfast, lunch, dinner with wine.
Day 6: Launceston & Surrounds
Today, enjoy a full day paddock, plate and pantry tour where you will be immersed in all the very best produce that this region has to offer. Visit the home of hazelnuts and try some saucy treats at the Tasmanian Gourmet Sauce Co. Immerse yourself in traditional wooden boat building, lovingly crafted by hand. Stop by the side of the road to taste fresh apples, pears and berries from the local orchards before checking into your hotel and enjoying a night at leisure.

HOTEL: Peppers Silo Hotel (River Room), 2 nights
MEALS: Breakfast, lunch, dinner with wine.
Day 7: Farewell from Launceston
This morning your Tasmanian journey concludes, and you are transferred to Launceston Airport for your onward flight.

MEALS: Breakfast
**KAKADU’S ANCIENT SECRETS**

**DARWIN | KAKADU NATIONAL PARK | NITMILUK (KATHERINE) GORGE | LITCHFIELD NATIONAL PARK**

05 DAYS

**IMMERSE**
Visit the Adelaide River War Cemetery and learn of its moving history and discover the ancient rock art gallery at Nourlangie.

**INDULGE**
Unwind on an indulgent Nitmiluk (Katherine) Gorge getaway, where you can enjoy sunset drinks and canapés poolside looking out to the native bushland.

**RELAX**
Stay in the heart of Nitmiluk National Park at the eco-friendly Cicada Lodge, where you can enjoy the comfort of your own room with a private balcony that opens to the National Park. Cool off in the pool after the heat of the day, and then experience a glorious sunset.

**EXPLORE**
Climb Nourlangie for spectacular views over Kakadu, Lightning Man, Aboriginal clans and the crocodiles that roam Kakadu's floodplains. Admire rock art and hear stories of the Dreamtime. Embark on a journey to the heart of the Lightning Man, Aboriginal clans and the crocodiles that roam Kakadu's floodplains.

As this journey departs from Hilton Darwin at 7.30am, accommodation will need to be pre-booked for the previous night.

**MEALS**
Breakfast, lunch, dinner with wine

**Day 1: Darwin & Litchfield National Park**
Welcome to Darwin! This morning meet your Journey Director and board your luxury vehicle to begin your journey of discovery in the Top End. Travel across the Finniss River to Litchfield National Park. You’ll visit tumbling Florence Falls and enjoy a swim to cool off at Wangi Falls, surrounded by the stunning billabong and floodplains system. This afternoon check into the Crocodile Hotel where you’ll have the chance to relax by the hotel’s shaded pool or wander through the on-site Aboriginal Art Gallery.

**HOTEL**
Mercure Kakadu Crocodile, Jabiru

**MEALS**
Breakfast, lunch, dinner with wine

**Day 2: Darwin – Kakadu National Park**
Get ready for a cross-country journey to magnificent Kakadu National Park. Kakadu really is a diverse UNESCO world heritage site. Keep your eyes peeled for crocodiles as you cross the South Alligator River, and Brigitte, Maggie Gerra and Jalu as you traverse along the long grasses of the marshes and wetlands. After lunch the famous Yellow Water Billabong boat cruise will be a highlight of your journey. You will see a myriad of different bird species, spot estuarine crocodiles and simply enjoy the stunning billabong and floodplains system. This afternoon check into the Crocodile Hotel where you’ll have the chance to relax by the hotel’s shaded pool or wander through the on-site Aboriginal Art Gallery.

**HOTEL**
Mercure Kakadu Crocodile, Jabiru

**MEALS**
Breakfast, lunch, dinner with wine

**Day 3: Kakadu – Nitmiluk National Park**
This morning there’s a chance to take to the air on an optional scenic flight over Kakadu, one of the best ways to experience the enormity of this wonderful National Park, as well as the diversity from waterfalls and billabongs to flood plains and wildlife. Later, visit Nourlangie to admire the ancient Dreamtime art of the Bininj and Mungguy people. Hear from your Journey Director a detailed interpretation of the art and the rich Aboriginal culture as you explore the various outdoor ‘galleries’ with art that dates some 20,000 years. Continue driving through the ancient lands of Kakadu National Park to the town of Katherine and further on to Nitmiluk National Park. Indulge in five-star luxury at Cicada Lodge, a stunning eco-lodge surrounded by nature, where each room has a private balcony that opens to the National Park. Cool off in the pool after the heat of the day, and then experience a glorious sunset.

**HOTEL**
Cicada Lodge, Nitmiluk National Park, 2 nights

**MEALS**
Breakfast, dinner with wine

**Day 4: Nitmiluk (Katherine) Gorge**
Today meet Manuel Pamkai who will welcome you with a traditional performance on the didgeridoo. Manuel was born and raised immersed in his rich traditional Dalabon culture. He’ll share with you stories of growing up in the bush and teach you the fine art of rarrk (cross hatch) painting using a special brush from a reed called Julk. Call on the artist within you and paint your own masterpiece to take home! Enjoy lunch back on the deck at Cicada Lodge overlooking the natural surroundings, before time at leisure. This evening, relax on a Local Dining Experience cruise along Katherine River. Manuel at the gorges while you spot wildlife such as freshwater crocodile and barramundi, and learn about the history and culture of the local Jawoyn people. Enjoy the peaceful ambience during the candle-lit three course dinner onboard your boat.

**MEALS**
Breakfast, lunch, Local Dining Experience cruise

**Day 5: Katherine – Farewell from Darwin**
Enjoy a leisurely start to your day and get up early to experience the National Park completely immersed in the mystical morning light. Travel north along the Stuart Highway stopping at Edith Falls along the way for a relaxing dip. Continue to Adelaide River War Cemetery. During WWII, Adelaide River was the headquarters to a large military base and a cemetery was created especially for those who gave their lives in the service and defence of their country. Your Inspiring Journey concludes on arrival in Darwin.

**MEALS**
Breakfast, lunch

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**INCLUSIONS**
- Small group (22 guests max)
- 11+ Unforgettable experiences
- 11 included meals
- 4 Nights premium accommodation

**NOTES**
- MNDD: DARWIN RETURN
- Flights are not included in vacation price.
- Single traveller must pay the single price.
- 11 included meals
- 4 Nights premium accommodation
- Coach

**DEPARTURES**

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**Flights**
- flights are not included in vacation price.

**Single Traveler**
- single price.

**Price**
- from $3,615 P.P.

**Twin Share Land Only**

**Start**
- Darwin

**Finished**
- Darwin

**Top Didj Cultural Experience**

**Kakadu National Park**

**Darwin**

**Nitmiluk (Katherine) Gorge**

**Litchfield National Park**

**Yellow Water Billabong**

**Wangi Falls**

**Florence Falls**

**Katherine**

**Adelaide River**

**Jabiru**

**Nourlangie**

**Cicada Lodge**

**Top End Cultural Experience**

**Kakadu National Park**

**MNDD**

**MNDD: DARWIN RETURN**
- Flights are not included in vacation price.
- Single traveller must pay the single price.
- Flight Information:
- Day 5 – flights to arrive anytime into Darwin Airport.
- Day 5 – flights to depart after 8:00pm from Darwin Airport.

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Day 1: Welcome to Adelaide

We invite you to embark on a journey full of local flavours, showcasing the best of the Barossa, Adelaide Hills and McLaren Vale wine regions.

Day 2: Adelaide – The Barossa

This morning, enjoy a relaxing breakfast before leaving the city for a taste of the country. On arrival, you’ll visit Provenance Barossa, home to Penfolds Cellar Door. Barossa Distilling Company. Ember Pizzas and Stein’s Taphouse is a simple way of farming that enhances the soil and the taste.

Day 3: The Barossa – Adelaide Hills

Your day begins with breakfast overlooking the glorious Jacob’s Creek vineyards, then add some Maggie Beer’s flair to your cooking in the very studio where Maggie and Simon filmed the Cook and the Chef, at a private demonstration. Sample the many products at her farm shop. Leaving the Barossa behind, head through the picturesque Adelaide Hills to Barossa Block: a small and friendly family run winery. Here you’ll enjoy a wine tasting at their cellar door followed by a leisurely lunch of homemade pizzas and shared local platters. It’s then onto historic Hahndorf. Settled by 19th-century Lutheran migrants, it’s known for its original German-style architecture and artisinal food. To learn more, visit the Hahndorf Academy, home to the German Migration Museum. On arrival, check into your boutique style accommodation for an afternoon and evening at leisure. It will be hard to resist a stroll down the colourful main street where you’ll find the Australan Opal Company, the Alpaca Shop or the Hahndorf Leathersmith and Bush Gallery. Tonight, why not head out to taste some true German fare washed down with an ice cold beer?

Day 4: Adelaide Hills – McLaren Vale – Adelaide

After breakfast, our journey takes us to the rich landscape of the Barossa. Here we visit Gemtree who produce biodynamic wines, a simple way of farming that enhances the soil and the taste. Take a guided tour of their picturesque property to learn about this unique process before tasing out some of their wines for yourself. It’s then onto the quirky d’Arenberg Cube. This building was inspired by the complexities and puzzles of winemaking. Each of the five levels has been carefully designed to entice and excite the senses. Here, you’ll be taken on a journey like no other before arriving at the top floor for a tasting and 360-degree views of the vineyards. Afterwards, enjoy a delicious lunch with wine at the stunning d’Arry’s Verandah Restaurant.

Day 5: Farewell Adelaide

Your morning is at leisure until you’ll venture out one last time for a celebratory farewell lunch at a stunning local restaurant. On saying goodbye to your newfound friends, you will be transferred by private vehicle to the airport for your onward flight.

HOTEL: Hotel Indigo Adelaide Markets

MEALS: Breakfast, Local Dining Experience
A JOURNEY TO THE WEST
PERTH | PENGUIN ISLAND | BUNKER BAY | BUSSELTON | CAPE NATURALISTE | MARGARET RIVER | ROTTNEST ISLAND | FREMANTLE

07 DAYS

IMMERSE
Discover the land of Cape Naturaliste through the eyes of an First Nations custodian and learn about the history of Busselton Jetty.

INDULGE
Discover wine making philosophy and enjoy VIP tastings at some of Australia’s best wineries in Margaret River, including the award-winning Hayshed Hill.

EXPLORE
Discover Shoalwater Bay’s glorious marine life and meet the colony of the world’s smallest penguins, and encounter the adorable quokka.

RELAX
Enjoy the luxurious comfort of the 5 star Pullman Bunker Bay and unwind in the 1850s landmark Esplanade Hotel, located in the heart of Fremantle.

Day 1: Welcome to Perth
On arrival in Perth spend time on your own to relax or explore the surroundings. This evening meet your Journey Director and new travelling companions at your hotel for a Welcome Reception with local Western Australian wines and beers along with local produce canapés.

MEALS Breakfast, lunch

Day 2: Perth
Your Journey Director will show you the must-see sights including Elizabeth Quay, Yagan Square and you will have time to explore Kings Park with its sweeping city views and some of the 3,000 species of the State’s unique flora. This afternoon is free for you to relax or explore more of the city.

Tonight, you will dine in the heart of Perth’s historical, cultural and dining precinct at the State Buildings.

MEALS Breakfast, dinner

Day 3: Perth – Penguin Island – Busselton – Bunker Bay
Today you’ll head to world-renowned winery region of Margaret River. Your first stop is Penguin Island, which lays in the heart of the ruggedly spectacular Shoalwater Islands Marine Park. Here you will board your boat to cruise through Shoalwater Bay’s Wildlife Sanctuary to see bottlenose dolphins, Australian sea lions and sea birds such as Spinibills and Goshawks. Afterwards, you’ll continue south to explore the historic Busselton Jetty that has been standing for more than 150 years. There is the chance to explore the jetty on foot or take the Jetty Train along this 1.7km timber piled jetty that is the longest in the Southern Hemisphere. Nailed on the white sandy beaches your accommodation is the 5 star Pullman Bunker Bay. Enjoy dinner at the Other Side of the Moon Restaurant, where you will dine on an array of fresh locally sourced seasonal produce with local wines.

MEALS Breakfast, lunch, dinner with wine

Day 4: Margaret River & Cape Naturaliste
Your day begins with a moving ‘Welcome to Country’ ceremony as part of your First Nations experience at Cape Naturaliste.

Your local guide will escort you on an interactive walk around Cape Naturaliste Lighthouse precinct, where they interpret the land through the eyes of an Aboriginal custodian, followed by an artefact interpretation and didgeridoo experience. From Cape Naturaliste you’ll drive through the vineyard lined roads to your Margaret River winery experience. Upon arrival, the winemakers will take you on a guided walk through the rolling vineyard, followed by a Local Dining Experience at a degustation lunch with matching wines at Hay Shed Hill. After you have indulged in your long lunch, there is time to explore the quaint town of Margaret River before returning to your hotel.

MEALS Breakfast, Local Dining Experience

Day 5: Bunker Bay – Fremantle
Leaving the wine country behind you journey back up the beautiful south west coastline towards Fremantle. This afternoon you will join your local expert guide for an immersive walking tour of historic Fremantle. Departing from the hotel, enjoy a relaxed, informative and conversational walk and talk that is designed to entertain and educate. Walk into the past, present and future and get unique insight into the well-preserved architectural heritage.

MEALS Breakfast

Day 6: Rottnest Island
Board a catamaran and escape across the open ocean to the magnificent and historic Rottnest Island, a paradise lovingly referred to by the sun-worshiping locals as ‘Rotto’. Take a leisurely stroll along the beach and keep a keen eye out for the friendliest resident, the Quokka. Join a local guide on a Discovery Rottnest tour along the beach and keep a keen eye out for the friendliest resident, the Quokka.

MEALS Breakfast, lunch, dinner with wine

Day 7: Farewell from Fremantle
Exchange phone numbers with new friends as your inspiring Western Australia journey ends. Before you depart, you may like to visit the historic Fremantle Markets. A private vehicle will transfer you to Perth airport for your onward flight.

MEALS Breakfast

INCLUSIONS
• Small group (22 guests max)
• 23+ Unforgettable experiences
• 13 included meals
• 6 Nights premium accommodation

NOTES
IJWA: PERTH TO FREMANTLE
• Flights are not included in vacation price.
• 6 Nights premium accommodation
• 23+ Unforgettable experiences
• Small group (22 guests max)

DEPARTURES
2023
Oct 01, 29
Nov 12

Oct 15
Nov 13
Dec 18
Max
May 14
Jun 15

FROM $4,515 P.P.
TWIN SHARE LAND ONLY

Single traveller must pay the single price. See available prices or additional departure dates including those from Oct 01, 29, May 14, Nov 12 or contact your local agent. Single traveller must pay the single price.

IJWA: PERTH TO FREMANTLE
• Flights are not included in vacation price.
• 6 Nights premium accommodation

MEALS
Breakfast, lunch, Celebration Dinner

NOTES
IJWA: PERTH TO FREMANTLE
• Flights are not included in vacation price.
• 6 Nights premium accommodation

MEALS
Breakfast, lunch, Celebration Dinner

SIGHTSEEING
• Rottnest Island
• Penguin Island
• Cottesloe Beach
• Jetty Train
• Fremantle

ODIES
• Swan Fish
• Whale Watching
• Wildlife Sightseeing
• Coach
• Cruise