





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 Nitmiluk (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.

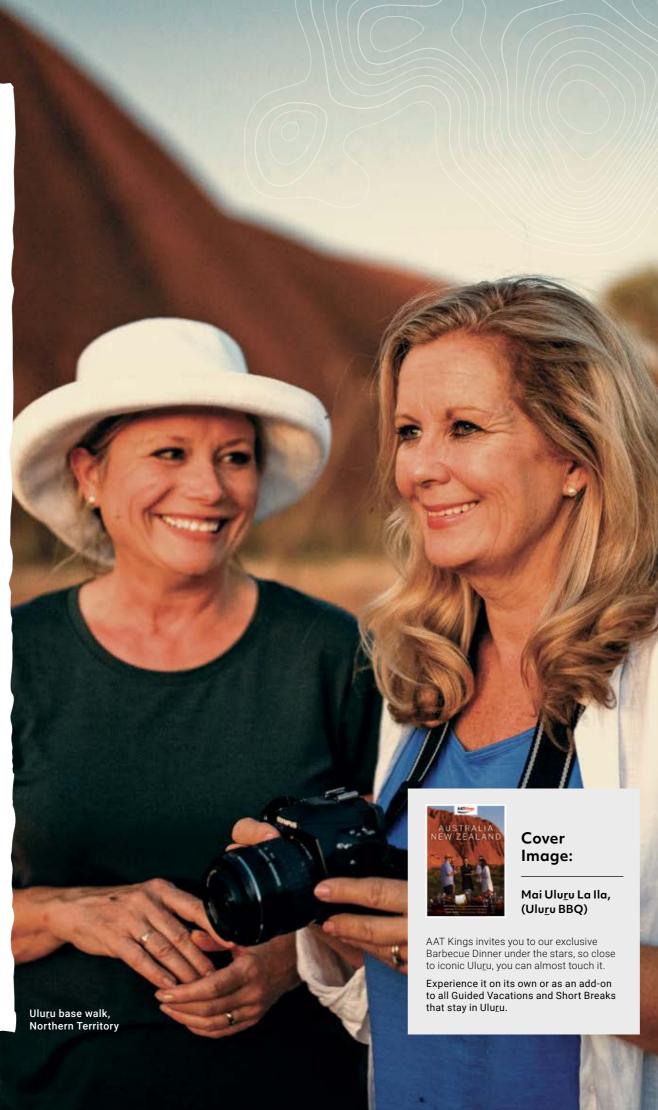
We are, and always have been, pioneers leading the way and pushing boundaries. Together with our extraordinary Travel Directors on the road, we're committed to worry-free and sustainable travel - making every single second of your journey remarkable.

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

Sincerely,

Ben Hall

AAT Kings Group | CEO



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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.

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+ 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 Pike 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.

Australia & New Zealand, but not as you know them.

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

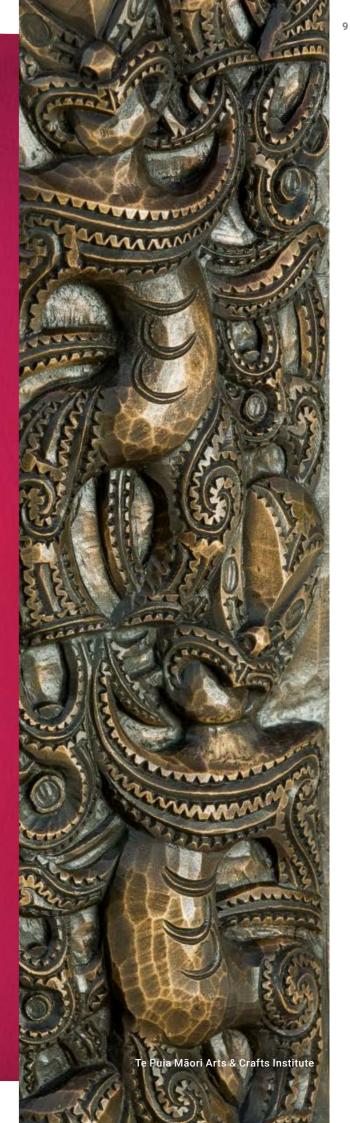
There are plenty of things we can all do while travelling to contribute to sustainable tourism practices. We've developed a series of tours with signature MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experiences – to ensure travel has a positive impact on our planet, the communities we visit and the wildlife we encounter.

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 Uluru La IIa) is so close to Uluru 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 from the grill. Enjoy dessert in the desert while the night sky lights up with billions of stars and your specialist AAT Kings Guide shares insights into the Southern Hemisphere's constellations.

Discover NZ's wildlife haven, Stewart Island

New Zealand's southernmost community resides on Stewart Island, a slip of land where brown kiwi 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. This is nature at its most awe-inspiring and humbling.

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

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 clifftops 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.



You'd be forgiven for thinking you'd been transported to Mars when flying over the Anna Creek Painted Hills, a smudge of fiery colours decorating a rocky outcrop popping from the South Australian desert. It's almost as otherworldly as the saltpans of Lake Eyre which – on miraculous occasions – fills with water and attracts all manner of birds. Both are aerial art of the most inspiring kind.





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 hidden along the Milky Way through an optical telescope, the mysteries and magic of the starry sky above decoded by a specialist astronomy guide.

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

Painted Hills Flight Experience, South Australia

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 Tassiein a fresh and flavourful mouthful.





Experience places that will fill you with wonder and let us take you beneath the surface to show you the enchanting beauty and soul of these two truly diverse countries. From the white sandy beaches of the Great Barrier Reef to the snowcapped mountains of New Zealand's South sland, you'll learn the history of these lands and be inspired by their ancient cultures. Our experts' knowledge and passion for showcasing Australia & New Zealand is unrivalled, making our Guided Vacations a truly unforgettable experience. But we'll let you see it for yourself and hear it in our quests' own words.

Perfect way to see it all.

Fantastic guide + driver, super knowledgeable and friendly. Inclusions + food was all fantastic. Got to see so much of Tassie by doing the tour, couldn't have fit it all in ourselves.

Joanne ★★★★★



Amazing!

Our 18 day coach tour to New Zealand was outstanding BEST trip ever. The tour guides were amazing very informative and friendly. They had every base covered with every new destination. We were WOWING 18 days straight. The coach was very comfortable. The accommodation was very comfortable and the restaurants sensational. We now love New Zealand wines YUM. We can't wait to do the same trip again.

Edward ****



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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?







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).

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).

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

Morry-free Travel

The travel landscape is forever changing, something we know only too well at AAT Kings - after all, life-changing itineraries for more than a century. Now, more than ever, we're committed to sparking your wanderlust. ensuring your wellbeing. We're by your side to take the hassle and worry out of your vacation, so you can enjoy the jo (and the company), then sleep soundly knowing we're doing what it takes behind-the-scenes to ensure your safety and

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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



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

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.





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.



costsaver.



INSIGHT VACATIONS



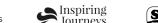












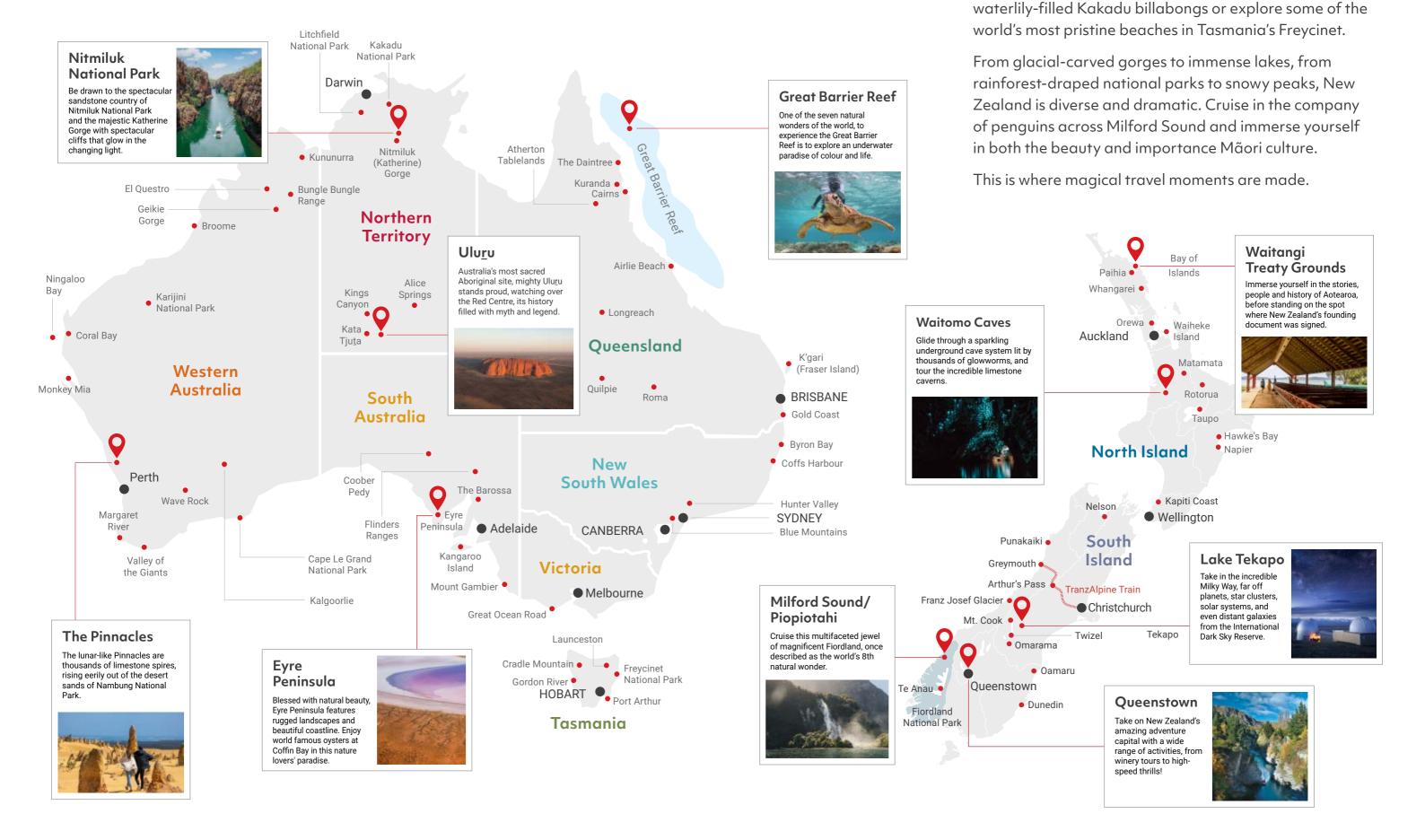


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The vibrant colour and irresistible spirit of Australia can be found everywhere, across its vast plains and mountain

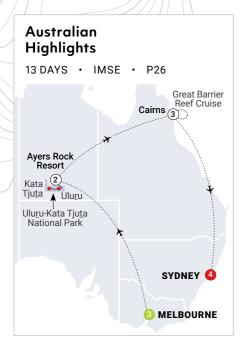
ranges, beaches and islands. So many unforgettable moments await you – watch the sun turn golden across

Explore Australia & New Zealand



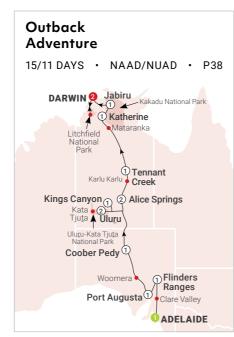
First Choice

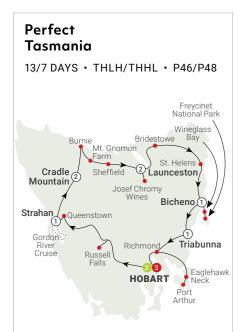
Uncover the heart and soul of Australia and New Zealand. Choose from 16 fully curated guided vacations.



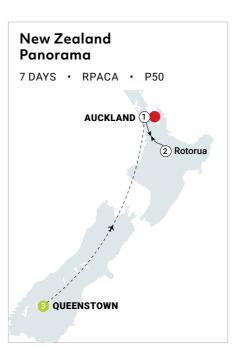




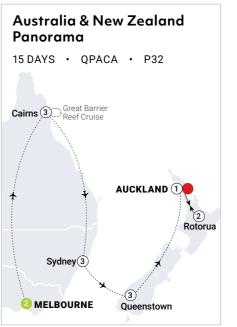


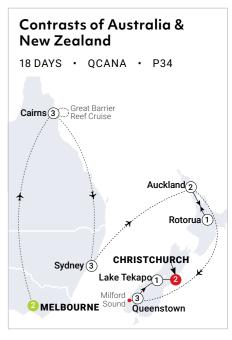








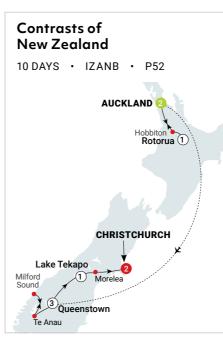




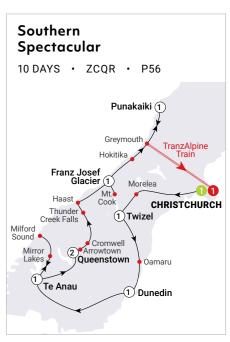


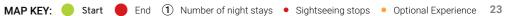


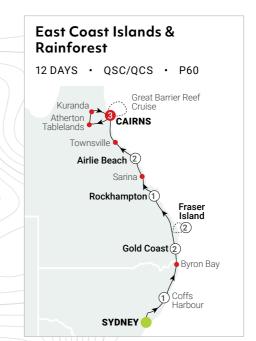




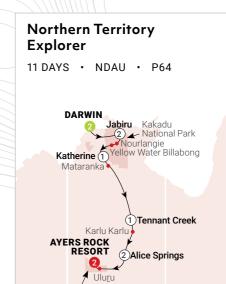




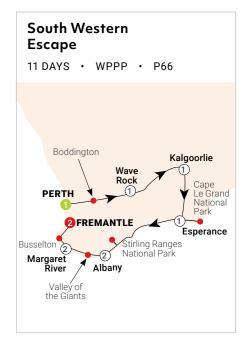




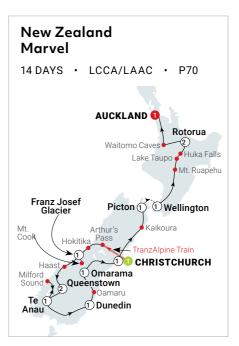


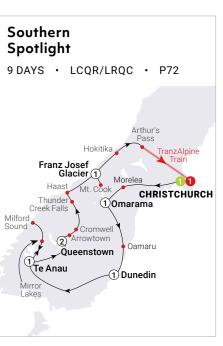


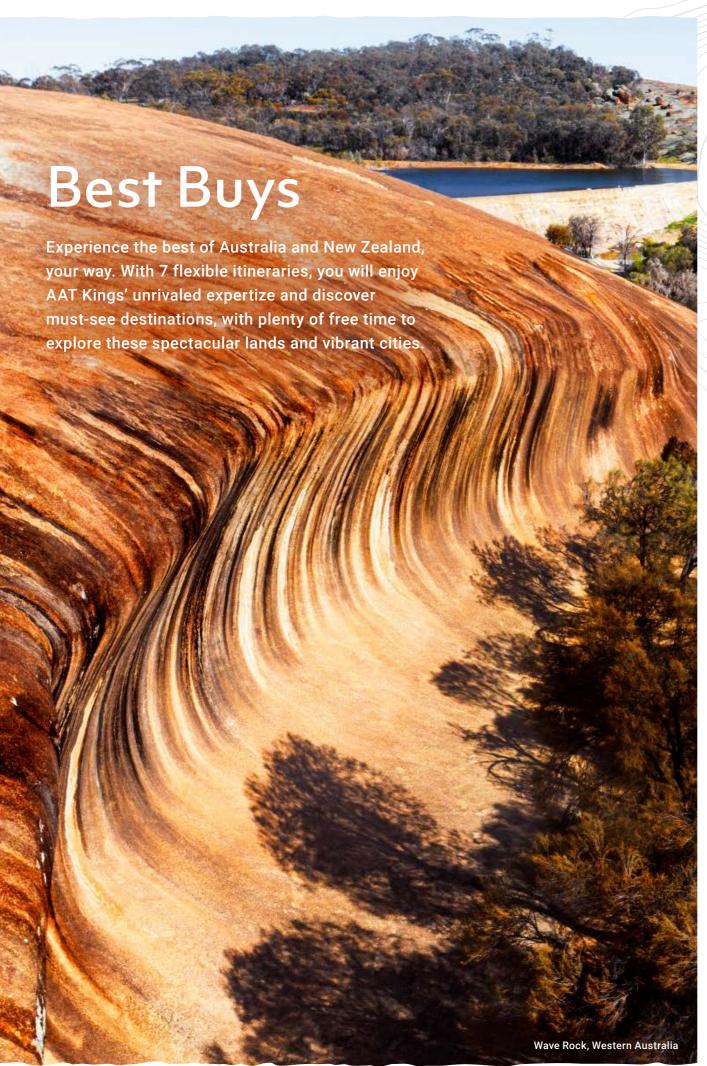
Ulu<u>r</u>u-Kata Tju<u>t</u>a National Park













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

13 DAYS • MELBOURNE > SYDNEY IMSE • FIRST CHOICE 27 CALL OF A SHARE WAS A STATE OF THE STATE OF

Australian Highlights

Highlights

(1) 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

MAKE TRAVEL MATTER

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

1 Welcome to Melbourne

3 Melbourne Free Time

4 Melbourne – Uluru

5 Uluru & Kata Tjuta

nights. B

Hotel: Crowne Plaza, 3 nights. DW

2 Melbourne Sightseeing and Free Time

The only living organism you can see from outer space, the Great Barrier Reef is among the world's most important, and biodiverse. ecosystems. Dive under the surface and see for yourself.

Is there such a thing as too much time in Melbourne? Arrive early before

Melbourne is known for its cool cafés - 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

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

boutiques, galleries, and eclectic suburbs. But if it's time to venture further

stretch of coastline that deserves its reputation as one of the most scenic

Phillip Island to see penguins waddle from the ocean to the sand? We

If you're still getting your Melbourne bearings, linger in town to explore

afield, you might want to sign up to discover the Great Ocean Road, a

touring routes in the world. Wherever you wander, be sure to take in a

show at one of the city's glorious theatres. We can assist with tickets. B

Spiritual, sacred and spectacular, the world's largest rock monolith will

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

If there's one thing worth getting out of bed early for, it's sunrise over

ochres and silvery greens of the NT outback follow you to Kata Tjuta,

where Walpa Gorge humbles with its soaring cliffs. Wander through the

tallest domes before yet another sparkling sunset (and sparkling wine). B

Uluru. Incredibly, 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

(sparkling wine essential). Hotel: Desert Gardens, Ayers Rock Resort, 2

give you goosebumps. In Australia's Red Centre, Uluru has been home to

meeting your fellow adventure-seekers over a beverage or two.

6 Uluru - Cairns

installation Field of Light at dawn - 50,000 glowing spindles of light blanketing the desert. Clamber to the top of a sand dune to marvel in the morning unfolding over this very special part of the world. An Anangu artist will explain just what makes it so spiritual over an introduction to Western Desert art, introducing totems and symbols important to the region and represented in paintings and installations. Hotel: Hilton, 3

7 Cairns Free Time

If you're in the habit of getting up early now, you may wish to begin your

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 plucked straight from the ocean, highlighting fresh, local ingredients, and prepared on their custom-built Argentinian wood fired grill. B L DW

Touch down in Australia's largest city, with a harbour you could gaze at all Travel Director and travel mates on a Highlight Dinner cruise around House. Hotel: InterContinental, 4 nights. B HD

Ok, so the other reason to get up early is to view artist Bruce Munro's

day with an optional horizon-bending hot-air-balloon ride over the Atherton Tablelands. Prefer to stay grounded? Sign up for a guided walk through the Daintree Rainforest, or surround yourself with nature riding the Scenic Railway to Kuranda returning on the Skyrail Rainforest Cableway perhaps with a side visit to Hartley's Crocodile Adventures for a wetlands cruise? **B**

8 Great Barrier Reef

9 Cairns – Sydney

day long. And all night. Freshen up and do just that when you join your Sydney Harbour against the backdrop of the Harbour Bridge and Opera

Departure Dates

15 Included Experiences

From **\$7470***

internal-vacation airfares

per person twin share land and

2023 continued 2024 **Apr** 09 **Jan** 07, 14, 21, 28 **Feb** 04, 11, 18, 25 Nov 06, 13, 20, 27 **May** 28 **Dec** 11, 25 Mar 03, 10, 17, 24 **Jun** 25 Aug 27 2023 **Sep** 10, 24 **Jan** 01, 08, 15, 22, 29 **Oct** 08, 29 Feb 05, 12, 19, 26 Nov 05, 12, 19, 26 Mar 05, 12, 19, 26 **Dec** 10, 24, 31

Child prices and 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 aatkings.com. Or contact your local travel agent.

Dining

Sydney Harbour

12 Full breakfasts B 1 Lunch L 1 Be My Guest lunch BG 2 Dinners with wine DW 1 Farewell Dinner FD

Flight Information

Day 1 - flights to arrive prior to 12 noon into Melbourne Airport Day 13 – 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:

Day 4 - Melbourne to Alice Springs Day 7 - Ayers Rock to Cairns Day 10 - Cairns to Sydney

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

the Pacific Ocean. B BG Sydney Free Time

The hardest decision you have to make today: explore more of Sydney, or head to the Blue Mountains, 11,400 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. **B**

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

Bondi Surf Bathers' Life Saving Club. Learn about this historic club and

pad along 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

gain an understanding of the important work that is done here saving lives

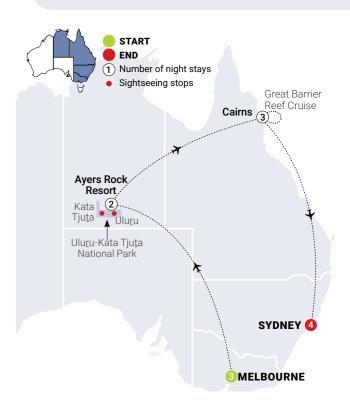
on this famous beach. Next, a Be My Guest lunch with views overlooking

2 Sydney Free Time

Now you've found your bearings in Sydney, why not linger around the harbour – perhaps it's time to glimpse it from above on a Sydney BridgeClimb? This bird's-eye view certainly puts things in perspective. Back at ground level, you're in the heart of the Rocks, the city's original colonial settlement and a place of cobbled alleys and private galleries. This evening, celebrate your holiday at a Farewell Dinner at Portside Restaurant at the Sydney Opera House. Talk about ending on a high. B FD

13 Farewell from Sydney

What an epic journey, with so many destinations explored in less than two weeks. Now you just have to sort through the photos... B



28 9 DAYS • BRISBANE > SYDNEY

ABHS • FIRST CHOICE 29

Wonders of Australia

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

The sails 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.

On Sustainable Footprints

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.

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.



1 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

2 Brisban

Discover Brisbane's First Nations history and art on a walking tour with an Aboriginal guide, whose ancestors inhabited the shores of the Brisbane River for over 40,000 years. The afternoon and evening is yours. You'll need some time to digest the day's sights – ask us for tips on where to drink and dine. $\bf B$

3 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 booking a recliner by the pool. If you feel the need to explore further afield, book a golf buggy. Wherever you wander, re-join the crew for sunset cocktails. Hotel: Reef View, Hamilton Island, 3 Nights. B DW

4 Great Barrier Reef

The Great Barrier Reef is immortalised in record books for good reason. Yes, it breaks records in size. But it also breaks them in beauty – there will be moments today, skipping over the archipelago in a catamaran, when you'll think someone has taken the glasses off your nose and cleaned them for the first time. Skip over the World Heritage-listed Coral Sea to a pontoon – your base to swim and snorkel with what lies beneath. That includes six of the world's seven marine turtles. How many can you count? 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 Heart Reef. **B** L

5 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 underfoot. It's a short boat-ride away, but we can help you get there. B

6 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 distract you: Sydney's Darling Harbour. Watch the city light up as you enjoy dinner at a waterside restaurant. Hotel: Hyatt Regency, Darling Harbour View Room, 3 Nights. B DW

Sydney

There are some places that sear into your memory. The Sydney Opera House is one. This waterside building is mind-blowing from the outside, and equally mesmerising from the inside, as you'll discover on a behind-the-scenes tour. The city's other famous landmark is Bondi Beach, a crescent of sand where the beautiful people flock to swim and surf. Don your swimsuit and join them or stroll the promenade in search of boutiques and achingly cool cafes. Speaking of food, this afternoon you're doing good at Our Big Kitchen, helping feed those in need within the Bondi community. B

8 Sydney Free Time

You could spend weeks exploring Sydney. Months even. But you have today, so get set for a wild ride. Your agenda is completely up to you, but we have more than a few ideas. Perhaps a bird's-eye perspective of the city on a Sydney BridgeClimb? Maybe a ferry to Manly for fish-and-chips on the beach? And ideally a stroll through the Royal Botanic Garden, which

offers so many lookouts for sparkling harbour views, amplified over dinner when you jump on a boat to cruise under the Harbour Bridge and beside the Opera House. **B FD**

9 Farewell from Sydney

You've experienced Sydney from most angles, but you're about to see it from above the clouds as you bid farewell to your fellow companions. **B**



From \$4820*

per person twin share land and internal-vacation airfares

12 Included Experiences

Departure Dates

2022	2023 continued	2024
Nov 03	Mar 02, 30	Jan 18
Dec 01	Apr 13	Feb 15, 29
	May 11	Mar 28
	Jun 29	
2023	Aug 31	
Jan 19	Sep 28	
Feb 16	Nov 02, 30	

Child prices and 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 aatkings.com. Or contact your local travel agent.

Dining

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

2 Dinners with wine DW 1 Farewell Dinner FD

Flight Information

Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 2.00pm into Brisbane Airport
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:

Day 3 - Brisbane to Hamilton Island

Day 6 - Hamilton Island to Sydney





30 15 DAYS • BRISBANE > AUCKLAND
BPACA • FIRST CHOICE 31

Wonders of Australia & New Zealand

Highlights

(1) Local Connection

An urban winery with an edge, Brisbane's City Winery offers an insight into making delicious drops. Join a sommelier or vintner for a few sips paired with more-ish bites.

Insider Knowledge

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

Cultural Immersion

A barbecue below ground? It's a reality at the Mitai Maori Village, where your meal comes with an eye-opening performance revealing New Zealand's Indigenous heritage.

(), Sustainable Footprints

New Zealand's National Kiwi Hatchery is a vital piece of the puzzle when it comes to sustaining the country's national bird. Visit, and learn about their breeding program.

Wildlife & Nature

If Rotorua reminds you of Mars, you're not alone. Mud pops and jettisons from cracks in the Earth, and steam rushes skywards. Nature is in control here.

1 Welcome to Brisbane

The best way to make new friends? At a winery, of course. It turns out you don't even need to leave Brisbane to do just that thanks to City Winery, and urban hub for delicious drops. Grapes are sourced from across the state then turned into wine you'll enjoy under the guidance of a sommelier or vintner, plus your fellow travellers. Hotel: Adina Apartment, 2 nights. BG

2 Brisbane

Discover Brisbane's First Nations history and art on a walking tour with an Aboriginal guide, whose ancestors inhabited the shores of the Brisbane River for over 40,000 years. You'll need some time to digest the day's sights – ask us for tips on where to drink and dine. **B**

3 Brisbane – Hamilton Island

Get ready to set your body clock for 'island time'. Arriving on Hamilton is quite the experience: you land on a tiny airstrip, then are told the only way to get around is in a golf buggy or foot. Do either or both, and then regroup for sunset cocktails at One Tree Hill with some of the best views over the Whitsundays. Hotel: Reef View, Hamilton Island, 3 nights. B DW

4 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, 3,000 molluscs, six of the world's seven marine turtle species, and 30 species of dolphins and whales are residents? Head out on a catamaran to swim and snorkel – or enjoy a bird's-eye view of paradise on a scenic flight over Heart Reef. **B** L

5 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 underfoot. It's a short boat-ride away, but we can help you get there. **B**

6 Hamilton Island - Sydney

One last Hamilton ocean swim? Why not. Touchdown Sydney and you have equally enticing views over Darling Harbour, where dinner is served. Is there any better way to end a day than this? Hotel: Hyatt Regency, Darling Harbour View Room, 3 nights. B DW

Sydne

You might have seen Sydney Opera House from the outside, but have you ventured within? This incredible architectural feat holds many secrets, as your local guide will reveal. From harbour to beach – Bondi beckons. Stroll the promenade in the company of Sydney's beautiful people – perhaps lingering for a coffee or spritz – before regrouping to help feed those in need via community organisation Our Big Kitchen. **B**

8 Sydney Free Time

Today is yours to get your final fix of Australia's largest city. If you haven't seen enough of the harbour, buckle in for a Sydney BridgeClimb, perhaps, before joining your companions for a sunset dinner cruise. What a way to end the day. **B DW**

9 Sydney – Queenstown

It only takes three hours to travel from Sydney to New Zealand. But you'll feel like you've stepped back in time when you arrive at former gold-mining town of Arrowtown. **Hotel: Millennium, 3 nights. B**

10 Queenstow

Flying over New Zealand, the first thing you'll 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 dusk, cruise across Lake Wakatipu aboard the TSS Earnslaw; the only thing more inspiring than the peaks of the Remarkables that surround is the festive atmosphere welcoming you to Walter Peak High Country Farm, where a gourmet barbecue at the Colonel's Homestead awaits. B HD

1 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 blissing out on an obligatory wine tour of the Otago region. It's a difficult decision. **B**

12 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**

13 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. **Hotel:** Millennium, 2 nights. B DW

14 Rotoru

Cute and cuddly, 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 Māori village, home to famous Pohutu Geyser and the bubbling beauty of mud pools. **B FD**

15 Farewell from Rotorua and Auckland

Most people travel for two weeks and don't even scratch the surface, let alone enjoy cultural immersion across two countries. What a wild and wonderful ride. ${\bf B}$

From \$8130*

per person twin share land and internal-vacation airfares

17 Included Experiences

Departure Dates

2022 2023 continued 2024	
Nov 03 Mar 02, 30 Jan 18	
Dec 01 Apr 13 Feb 15, 29	
May 11 Mar 28	
Jun 29	
2023 Aug 31	
Jan 19 Sep 28	
Feb 16 Nov 02, 30	

Child prices and 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 aatkings.com. Or contact your local travel agent.

Dining

14 Full breakfasts B 4 Dinners with wine DW
1 Lunch L 1 Highlight Dinner HD
1 Be My Guest dinner BG 1 Farewell Dinner FD

Flight Information

Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 2.00pm into Brisbane Airport
Day 15 – flights to depart after 2.00pm from Auckland 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:

Day 3 - Brisbane to Hamilton Island

Day 6 - Hamilton Island to Sydney

Day 9 - Sydney to Queenstown

Day 12 - Queenstown to Auckland





32 15 DAYS • MELBOURNE > AUCKLAND

QPACA • FIRST CHOICE 33

Australia & New Zealand Panorama

Highlights

Local Connection

Farm life is a thing for many New Zealand locals. Meet Laura, who will teach you about life on the land on her South Island property.

∂ Insider Knowledge

Ever wondered how the Sydney Opera House was crafted, and which performers have taken to the stage? Go behind the scenes with a local expert.

Cultural Immersion

Say goodbye to the run-of-the-mill barbecue and have your meal prepared underground in a hangi, a traditional Indigenous experience at Mitai Maori Village.

Sustainable Footprints

Operation Nest Egg may sound like it's from a Bond movie, but it's actually a way that the National Kiwi Hatchery is helping boost the population of kiwi birds in the wild. Your visit helps.

Wildlife & Nature

Cairns is a place two World Heritage Sites meet: The Wet Tropics of Queensland and the Great Barrier Reef. Bring your sense of adventure to explore both.

1 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:** Crowne Plaza, 2 nights. DW

2 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**

3 Melbourne - 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**

4 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, 3,000 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

5 Cairns Free Time

If you're in the habit of getting up early now, you may wish to begin your day with a horizon-bending hot-air-balloon ride over the Atherton Tablelands. Prefer to stay grounded? Sign up for a guided walk through the Daintree Rainforest or surround yourself with nature riding the Scenic Railway to Kuranda returning on the Skyrail Rainforest Cableway. Tonight, join your companions for dinner, with native ingredients highlighted at Ochre Restaurant on the waterfront. B DW

6 Cairns - Sydney

You flew over Sydney Harbour to get here from Cairns; tonight you enjoy a front-row seat on a sunset cruise that takes you bast the Opera House and under the Harbour Bridge. Talk about a mesmerising way to end a day. **Hotel: Hyatt Regency, Darling Harbour View Room, 3 nights. B DW**

Sydney

Be prepared to meet the top makers, bakers and brewers in Sydney's inner-west today on a culinary tour that takes you to some of the city's most forward-thinking producers. 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 Café, where farm-to-table dining is in the spotlight thanks to owner Greg. Enjoy a Be My Guest lunch made 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

8 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 – did 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**

9 Sydney - Queenstown

It only takes three hours to travel from Sydney to New Zealand. But you'll feel like you've stepped back in time when you arrive at former gold-mining town of Arrowtown. **Hotel: Millennium, 3 nights. B**

M Oueenstown

Flying over New Zealand, the first thing you'll 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. Think sheep mustering and whip cracking as well as the chance to feed and pet the farm animals. Come dusk, cruise across Lake Wakatipu aboard the TSS Earnslaw; the only thing more inspiring than the peaks of the

Remarkables that surround is the festive atmosphere welcoming you to Walter Peak High Country Farm, where a gourmet barbecue at the Colonel's Homestead awaits. **B HD**

11 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 blissing out on an obligatory wine tour of the Otago region. It's a difficult decision. **B**

12 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**

13 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 Waitomo. From overhead attractions to those below the ground... this evening your dinner is prepared in an earthen hangi at the Te Pa Tu Maori Experience. It's an eye-opening (and tasty) introduction to Māori culture. **Hotel:**Millennium, 2 nights. B HD

14 Rotorua

Cute and cuddly, 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 Māori village, home to famous Pohutu Geyser and the bubbling beauty of mud pools. Celebrate the tour with a Farewell Dinner on the lakefront. **B FD**

15 Farewell from Rotorua and Auckland

Two countries, multiple adventures, an abundance of new friends... Just how do you say goodbye to a journey like this? **B**

From **\$7780***

per person double share land and internal-vacation airfares

14 Included Experiences

Departure Dates

2022		2023	}
Apr	14	Jan	19
May	12	Feb	02, 16
Jun	30	Mar	02, 09, 23
Sep	01, 29		
Oct	13		
Nov	10		
Dec	01, 29		

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 aatkings.com. Or contact your local travel agent.

Dining

14 Full breakfasts B 2 Highlight Dinners HD
1 Be My Guest lunch BG 4 Dinners with wine DW
1 Lunch L 1 Farewell Dinner FD

Flight Information

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Day 3 - Melbourne to Cairns

Day 6 - Cairns to Sydney

Day 9 - Sydney to Queenstown

Day 12 – Queenstown to Auckland





18 DAYS • MELBOURNE > CHRISTCHURCH QCANA • FIRST CHOICE 35

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 land over a barbecue lunch. Paddock to nlate indeed

∂ 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

Cultural Immersion

Māori culture and traditions are celebrated across New Zealand, as you'll discover at Te Pa Tu Maori Experience, your hangi dinner prepared in an underground oven.

Sustainable Footprints

MAKE TRAVEL MATTER YOUr visit to the tropics of Queensland helps protect World Heritage areas and the wildlife within then 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.

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

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

3 Melbourne - Cairns

Things start to heat up in Cairns, the heart of Tropical North Queensland. Jump aboard a cruise at Hartley'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: Hilton, 3 nights. B

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 six of the world's seven sea turtles. Strap on a snorkel and dive in or keep your hair dry and take in the drama from an underwater observatory and semi-submersible craft. B L

Today is one of decisions: explore the Cairns Esplanade, or head up into the hills on a Scenic Railway journey to Kuranda. You're surrounded by some of the world's oldest rainforest as you return to base via the Skyrail Rainforest Cableway. If that's not humbling enough, tonight's dinner at Ochre Restaurant on the waterfront uses native ingredients that the world's oldest civilisation has consumed for millennia. B DW

6 Cairns - Sydney

We hope you have a window seat for the flight into Sydney – the view over the harbour as you come in to land certainly sparkles. The only perspective more dazzling is from a catamaran. All aboard for a dinner cruise gliding past the Sydney Opera House and under the Harbour Bridge.

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

Ever wondered what it's like to be a film star? Today you'll get a taste of celebrity lifestyle when you sit down to breakfast in the village of Hobbiton,

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 café, 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

8 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 – did 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

9 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

Auckland Sightseeing

Get your Auckland bearings on a city tour, before choosing a precinct to while away the afternoon in. Ask us for dinner tips. B

Auckland - Rotorua

Cute and cuddly, 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. 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. Hotel: Millennium, 2 nights. B HD

2 Rotorua - Auckland - Queenstown

the movie set of The Lord of the Rings and The Hobbit Trilogies. Take a guided tour past Hobbit Holes and the Mill, and wave to your fans. Hotel: Millennium, 3 nights. B

13 Milford Sound Cruise

Sheer cliffs, thundering waterfalls, glaciers, and rainforest - if there's a destination more inspiring than Milford Sound in Fiordland National Park, we're yet to find it. After a cruise here (look out for dolphins and sea lions), we're sure you'll agree. B L

14 Queenstown Free Time

Sleep in, find a rooftop wine bar for lunch, take a stroll around the lake... wherever you wander, meet your fellow travellers for a highlight dinner at 1860s Postmasters Café. B HD

15 Queenstown - Lake Tekapo

Arrowtown and Cromwell are known for their natural drama; just as enticing is the tasty stone fruit. Take a bite. Arriving at Lake Tekapo, you're far from anywhere. Which practically guarantees dazzling stargazing in the UNESCO Aoraki Mackenzie International Dark Sky Reserve. Hotel: Peppers Bluewater Resort. B D

16 Lake Tekapo - Christchurch

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: Distinction, 2 nights. B BG

17 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

18 Farewell from Christchurch

It's hard to say goodbye; so, say 'see you soon' instead. B

From \$9540*

per person double share land and internal-vacation airfares

18 Included Experiences

Departure Dates

		2023	
14		Jan	05, 12, 19, 26
12		Feb	02, 09, 16, 23
02, 30		Mar	02, 09, 16, 23, 30
01, 15, 29			
13			
10, 17, 24			
01, 08, 15, 29			
	14 12 02, 30 01, 15, 29 13 10, 17, 24	14 12 02, 30 01, 15, 29 13 10, 17, 24	14 Jan 12 Feb 02,30 Mar 01,15,29 13

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 aatkings.com. Or contact your local travel agent.

Dining

17 Full breakfasts B 2 Highlight Dinners HD 1 Be My Guest lunch BG 6 Dinners with wine DW 2 Lunches L 1 Farewell Dinner FD

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

*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:

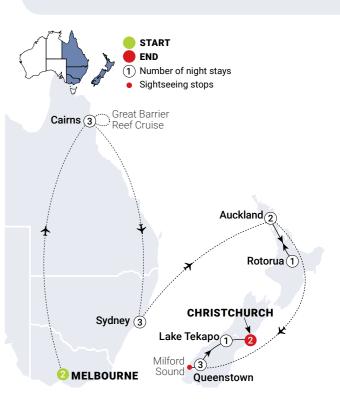
Day 3 - Melbourne to Cairns

Day 6 - Cairns to Sydney

in the price above.

Day 9 - Sydney to Auckland

Day 12 - Auckland to Queenstown Return airfares from your home port are not included



36 22 DAYS • MELBOURNE > CHRISTCHURCH

Highlights of Australia & New Zealand

Highlights

Local Connection

The night sky dazzles in Australia's Red Centre. Discover the constellations 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

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.

historic Postmasters Cottage. **B HD**

19 Queenstown – Lake Tekapo

Arrowtown and Cromwell are known for their natural drama; just as enticing is the tasty stone fruit. Take a bite. Arriving at Lake Tekapo, you're far from anywhere. Which practically guarantees dazzling stargazing in the UNESCO Aoraki Mackenzie International Dark Sky Reserve. **Hotel: Peppers**

Bluewater Resort. B DW

20 Lake Tekapo – Christchurch

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: Distinction, 2 nights. B 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. Tonight, raise a glass to your travels at a Farewell Diner. **B FD**

2 Farewell from Christchurch

How did three weeks disappear like that? Re-live all the memorable moments on your way home. **B**

Uluru

1 Welcome to Melbourne

Melbourne is known for its amazing food, as you'll discover while meeting your fellow travellers tonight. **Hotel: Crowne Plaza, 3 nights. DW**

2 Melbourne

Get your Melbourne bearings on a city tour, but make sure you're wearing comfy shoes for when you hit the streets to explore hidden alleys covered in eye-popping murals. The afternoon is yours to indulge. ${\bf B}$

3 Melbourne Free Time

There are endless reasons to linger in Melbourne. But if you feel like exploring further afield, talk to us about a road trip along the Great Ocean Road (it deserves its name) or to Phillip Island. The penguins waddling from the ocean up the sand to their burrows is the cutest thing you'll ever see. **B**

4 Melbourne – Uluru

The rusty red landscapes of Uluru beckon as you leave Melbourne for Ayers Rock Resort, your backdrop this afternoon is the world's largest rock monolith. Follow your guide to the perfect perch to capture Uluru as the last of the day disappears, glass of bubbles in hand (of course). **Hotel: Desert Gardens, Ayers Rock Resort, 2 nights. B**

5 Uluru & Kata Tjuta

The only reason to get out of bed before dawn? For a magical Uluru sunrise. It's a spiritual place, with stories of the Anangu, caretakers of this remote arid landscape revealed while you tour the base. The red desert follows you to Kata Tjuta, where nature humbles as you walk through the towering domes of this ancient rock formation. Cheers to the end of another amazing day. **B**

6 Uluru - Cairns

So the other reason to rise in the dark is to witness Bruce Munro's Field of Light, an installation of 50,000 orbs blanketing the outback. This is the countryside that First Nations artists immortalise in their paintings – try your hand at creating one during an intro to Western Desert art. Head to your next stop in sunny Cairns. **Hotel: Hilton, 3 nights. B**

7 Cairns Free Time

Cruising with crocs, a scenic railway ride into World Heritage listed rainforest, a wander along the Cairns Esplanade? Today the choice is yours. ${\bf B}$

8 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 plucked straight from the ocean, highlighting fresh, local ingredients, and prepared on their custombuilt Argentinian wood fired grill. **B L DW**

9 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 Dinner cruise around Sydney Harbour against the backdrop of the Harbour Bridge and Opera House. **Hotel: InterContinental, 4 nights. B HD**

10 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 pad along 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. B BG

Sydney Free Time

The hardest decision you have to make today: explore more of Sydney, or head to the Blue Mountains, 11,400 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? The choice is yours. **B**

12 Sydney Free Time

Now you've found your bearings in Sydney, why not linger around the

harbour – perhaps it's time to glimpse it from above on a Sydney BridgeClimb? This bird's-eye view certainly puts things in perspective. Back at ground level, you're in the heart of the Rocks, the city's original colonial settlement and a place of cobbled alleys and private galleries. Finally, a Highlight dinner back in the shadow of the Opera House at Portside Restaurant. Because you'll never tire of glimpsing this beauty. **B HD**

Sydney - Auckland

All you have to do today is sit back and enjoy the view as you cross the Tasman to embark on your next adventure. **Hotel: The Grand by SkyCity, 2 nights. B DW**

4 Auckland

We'll take you out to Mission Bay and Bastion Point – have your camera poised – and then leave you to your own devices in the afternoon. Need suggestions? How about a cruise to Waiheke Island for a wine tour? ${\bf B}$

15 Auckland - Rotorua

Cute and cuddly, 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. This evening your Highlight Dinner is prepared in an earthen hangi at the Te Pa Tu Maori Experience. It's an eye-opening (and tasty) introduction to Māori culture. **Hotel: Millennium. B HD**

16 Rotorua –Queenstown

Ever wondered what it's like to be a film star? Today you'll get a taste of celebrity lifestyle when you sit down to breakfast in the village of Hobbiton, the movie set of The Lord of the Rings and The Hobbit Trilogies. Take a guided tour past Hobbit Holes and the Mill, and wave to your fans. **Hotel: Millennium, 3 nights. B**

Milford Sound Cruise

Sheer cliffs, thundering waterfalls, glaciers and rainforest – if there's a destination more inspiring than Milford Sound in Fiordland National Park, we're yet to find it. After a cruise here (look out for dolphins and sea lions), we're sure you'll agree. **B** L

® Queenstown Free Time

Today is all yours. Love adventure? Ride the Shotover Jet. Oenophile? Arrange a tour to Otago wineries. Regroup for a Highlight Dinner at the

From \$12480*

per person twin share land and internal-vacation airfares

25 Included Experiences

Departure Dates

2022		2023	3 continued	2024	ı
Oct	09, 30	Apr	09	Jan	07, 14, 21, 28
Nov	06, 13, 20, 27	May	28	Feb	04, 11, 18, 25
Dec	11, 25	Jun	25	Mar	03, 10, 17
		Aug	27		
2023		Sep	10, 24		
Jan	01, 08, 15, 22, 29	Oct	08, 29		
Feb	05, 12, 19, 26	Nov	05, 12, 19, 26		
Mar	05, 12, 19, 26	Dec	10, 24, 31		

Child prices and 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 aatkings.com. Or contact your local travel agent.

Dining

21 Full breakfasts B 5 Dinners with wine DW
2 Lunches L 2 Highlight Dinners HD
1 Be My Guest lunch BG
1 Be My Guest dinner BG

Flight Information

Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 12 noon into Melbourne Airport Day 22 – 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 fulfil the vacation itinerary:

Day 4 - Melbourne to Alice Springs

Day 7 - Avers Rock to Cairns

Day 10 - Cairns to Sydney

Day 13 - Sydney to Auckland

Day 16 - Auckland to Queenstown



38 15/11 DAYS · ADELAIDE > DARWIN

Outback Adventure

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

Sustainable travel through off-the-grid operations. Learn how you can follow suit over a Be My Guest dinner.

Cultural Immersion

From Uluru to Kakadu, nothing puts life in perspective quite like glimpsing 40,000-year-old rock art with an Aboriginal guide.

() 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.



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 gourmand 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. DW**

2 Adelaide - Flinders Ranges

One of Australia's oldest wine regions, the Clare Valley is all rounded hills, rippling vines and native forest. It's the postcard-perfect setting for historic Knappstein Enterprise Winery, producing sweet-scented rieslings and mineral-rich reds. The route north lands you at Hawker, the gateway to the Flinders Ranges. The best is yet to come, as you arrive at Wilpena Pound Resort in the shadows of a staggering natural amphitheatre. Hotel: Wilpena Pound Resort. B DW

3 Flinders Ranges - Port Augusta

The river red gums that envelop Hills Homestead will leave you lost for words. You get here on a leisurely walk along Wilpena Creek and continue to Wangarra Hill Lookout for views over the pound's peaks and curves. The drama is echoed as you climb to Pichi Richi Pass, then ease into Port Augusta. Hotel: Majestic Oasis Apartments. B DW

4 Port Augusta – Coober Pedy

The main attraction in Woomera is a former rocket-testing site, today stocked with disused rockets and missiles. Speaking of space, you'll think you've landed on the moon as you travel through sun-baked country to Coober Pedy, known as 'the opal capital of the world'. Things get deep as you travel underground to visit the town's head-scratching subterranean facilities. **Hotel: Desert Cave. B DW**

5 Coober Pedy – Uluru

Emerge from your cave and cross the border into the Northern Territory. Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park has World Heritage status for a reason; under the gaze of the world's mightiest monolith, toast the end of the day with a glass of bubbles and a camera full of sunset photos. Guests join this afternoon in Uluru (Code: NUAD). Hotel: Desert Gardens, Ayers Rock Resort, 2 nights. B

6 Ulu<u>r</u>u Sunrise – Kata Tju<u>t</u>a

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-salving landscapes await at Kata Tjuta, cool relief provided as you walk amid its domes to Walpa Gorge. **B**

Uluru – 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 camels in Australia. All your senses will be activated at Kings Canyon, 440-million years in the making. **Hotel: Kings Canyon Resort. B DW**

8 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 toward Alice Springs. Aside from its plethora of Aboriginal galleries and art stores, 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, 2 nights. B

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. Your Be My Guest BBQ dinner here with the Falzon family is enlightening and uplifting. **B BG**

Alice Springs - Tennant Creek

1.3 million square kilometres – that's the eye-watering distance the School of Air's lessons are broadcast across daily. Watch a live session with children who would otherwise have no access to education. It doesn't matter how studious you are, you might just believe in aliens when you pass

Wycliffe Well, the self-proclaimed 'UFO capital' of Australia. It's the devil (well, his marbles) that awaits at Karlu Karlu, where precariously balanced boulders appear superglued together. **Hotel: Bluestone Motor Inn. B DW**

Tennant Creek - Katherine

Since the 1930s, the Daly Waters Historic Pub has been dishing up schnitzels, barramundi burgers and hearty steaks. The walls are lined with treasures that passers-by leave behind. 'Land of the Never Never' awaits at Mataranka. Visit a replica of the Elsey Homestead, used in 1982 Aussie drama *We of the Never Never*. Or wander palm-lined walkways to take a dip in the region's thermal springs. **Hotel: Contour. B DW**

12 Katherine – Kakadu National Park

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, when you 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. B DW

13 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 Ubirr and its ancient Aboriginal rock art. The night is yours in steamy Darwin, where the characters are as large as the shadows cast at sunset. Hotel: DoubleTree by Hilton, 2 nights. B

Litchfield National Park

Nature rules today, your explorations into Litchfield National Park revealing magnetic termite mounds standing two metres tall. And then there are the waterfalls: Florence, for its dreamy cascades, and Wangi, where you can cool off in a crystal-clear waterhole. See the NT capital in a new light when you venture out on a Darwin Harbour Cruise, your champagne glass full to toast your last evening on this epic adventure. **B FD**

15 Farewell from Darwin

Time to bid adieu and head home to sort through all those photos. Even better are the memories; two weeks of wild outback adventures. ${\bf B}$

From \$6790

23 Included Experiences

per person twin share land only

NAAD: Adelaide to Darwin (15 Days) Departure Dates

2023		
Jun	13, 20	
Jul	11, 18	
Aug	08, 15	

From **\$5455**

18 Included Experiences

per person twin share land only

NUAD: Ulu<u>r</u>u to Darwin (11 Days) Departure Dates

202	3	2023	continued
Apr	29	Jul	01, 29
May	20	Aug	26

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

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

Dining

14 Full breakfasts B 8 Dinners with wine DW 1 Be My Guest dinner BG 1 Farewell Dinner FD

Flight Information

Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 12.30pm into Adelaide Airport
Day 5 – 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





40 11 DAYS • DARWIN > BROOME WDB/WBD • FIRST CHOICE 41

Untamed Kimberley

Highlights

(1) Local Connection

The owners of Hoochery Rum Distillery in Kununurra are WA pioneers. They'll show you how they make their awardwinning spirits.

Insider Knowledge

Sunsets don't get much better than those enjoyed cruising the Ord River and Lake Argyle outside Kununurra. Your local guide knows where all the crocs hide.

Cultural Immersion

Aboriginal Songlines are strong across Western Australia. Ensure they stay that way with a visit to a Kimberley First Nations art gallery.

() Sustainable Footprints

Every footstep you take into a national park ensures your visit treads lightly. Fees go toward protecting the environment, and the animals that call it home.

Wildlife & Nature

Nature humbles at Purnululu National Park in the Kimberley, where the striated domes of the Bungle Bungles pop from the desert like Jurassic beehives.

1 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 catch one later, but first an orientation tour to meet locals, discover the city's architecture and learn about the events that have shaped life, from Cyclone Tracy to WWII when the Northern Territory capital was bombed. Now it's time to watch the day disappear and meet your fellow adventure seekers. Hotel: Vibe Darwin Waterfront. DW

2 Darwin – Katherine

As you begin your travels south, yet more reminders of the impact of WWII 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. There's no time to catch your breath – you're off to meet largerthan-life character Tom Curtain on a working station, where he entertains crowds through song and stories. Hotel: Paraway Motel. B DW

3 Katherine – Kununurra

Say goodbye to the NT and hello to WA, your introduction to the state the unexpected delights of Kununurra. It's in the middle of nowhere, and only exists because of the Ord River Irrigation Scheme. Before it was a twinkle on the map, farming pioneers came here to establish vast cattle stations. The life of one family is chronicled at the Durack Homestead Museum, which you'll visit before enjoying yet another sunset, this time cruising the Ord River and Lake Argyle. Some experiences burn into your memory. Hotel: Kununurra Country Club Resort, 2 nights. B DW

4 Kununurra

How active and adventurous do you want today to be? Rise early to enjoy a bird's-eye view of the beehive-like rock formations of the Bungle Bungles on an optional scenic flight or stay grounded on a 4WD tour through the national park. Otherwise, lace up your walking shoes and

wander with your Travel Director through Mirima National Park, known 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**

5 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 Hoochery 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 – morning tea sorted. The Gibb River Road is the stuff road trip legends are made of. You'll see why, your route to El Questro Wilderness Park covering a few kilometres of the epic expanse. Now exhale – your safari-style tents for the night are surrounded by an oasis of pandanus and palms. Hotel: Emma Gorge Resort, Tented Cabin with private facilities, El Questro, 2 nights. B DW

6 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 Pentecost River, a mecca for those who love a spot of barramundi fishing. Arriving at Chamberlain Gorge, an enormous fresh waterhole, your cruise chariot 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. **B 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. B L DW**

8 Halls Creek - Fitzroy Crossing

The remote town of Fitzroy Crossing acts as the gateway to Danggu (Geikie) Gorge. But before you cruise the waterway, continue your deep dive into First Nations culture at the Aboriginal art gallery here. Then embark your boat to discover how this remarkable part of the Kimberley was formed by the Fitzroy River carving the Napier 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

9 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 grow great oysters, 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

10 Broome Free Time

A day of decisions. Head north to feel the full force of nature on an optional scenic flight over (or heart-starting cruise through) the magical Horizontal Falls. You can also enlist to do both. Or simply enjoy Broome's tropical climes, strolling along 22-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**

1 Farewell from Broome

Eleven days, countless memories, a bunch of new friends... you'll leave Broome with your travel wanderlust ignited. **B**

From **\$7145**

22 Included Experiences

per person twin share land only

WDB: Darwin to Broome Departure Dates

2023	}	2023 continued	
May	09, 23, 30	Jul	04, 11, 18, 25
Jun	13, 20, 27	Aug	01, 08, 15, 22, 29

From **\$7145**

22 Included Experiences

per person twin share land only

WBD: Broome to Darwin Departure Dates

2023		2023 continued	
Jun	02, 09, 16, 23, 30	Aug	04, 11, 18
Jul	07, 21, 28	Sep	01, 08

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

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

Dining

10 Full breakfasts B 7 Dinners with wine DW 2 Lunches L 1 Farewell Dinner FD

Flight Information

Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 2.00pm into Darwin Airport
Day 11 – flights to depart anytime from Broome Airport
Flights are not included in the vacation price

Upgrade

Lake Argyle

End your tour in Perth. See Untamed Kimberley & West Coast at aatkings.com/WDBP.





42 11 DAYS • SYDNEY > ADELAIDE ESMA • FIRST CHOICE 43

Tastes of Southern Australia **Highlights** (1) 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 tale 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** MAKE TRAVEL MATTER | Visiting Tower Hill reconnects you with First Nations Australian culture. Your tour around this inactive Victorian volcano with a local guide reveals Aboriginal creation stories. Sustainable Footprints By visiting Kangaroo Island's Hanson Bay Wildlife Sanctuary, you not only gain insights into Australian animals, but also have the chance to support them. Wildlife & Nature Across the Great Ocean Road's 240 kilometres you'll discover

From \$4295

per person twin share land only

23 Included Experiences

Departure Dates

2022	2023	2024
Oct 18	Jan 10, 24	Jan 09, 23
Nov 01, 22	Feb 07, 21	Feb 06, 20
Dec 20	Mar 07, 21	Mar 05, 19
	Apr 11	
	May 02	
	Aug 29	
	Sep 19	
	Oct 17, 31	
	Nov 21	
	Dec. 19	

Child prices and 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 aatkings.com. Or contact your local travel agent.

Dining

10 Full breakfasts B
1 Be My Guest lunch BG
2 Lunches L

4 Dinners with wine **DW** 1 Farewell Dinner **FD**

Flight Information

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

As this vacation departs at 7.30am from the Vibe Hotel Sydney, accommodation will need to be pre-booked for the previous night.

all manner of natural drama, from limestone stacks to World

Heritage listed rainforest and untouched coastal coves.

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 Berrima awaits – fun fact: this is the oldest Georgian village in Australia. Further on, you're welcomed to Gold Creek Station by sheep farmer Craig Starr for a Be My Guest BBQ lunch and tales 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 antiques stores, galleries and museums at your leisure. There are plenty of charming places to refuel, as well, before Wangaratta's cathedrals beckon. **Hotel: Quality. B**

3 Wangaratta - Melbourne

Meandering south toward historic Glenrowan, you're well and truly in Ned Kelly country – this is where the infamous bushranger and his gang were finally captured in 1880. We'll tell you all the tales, then a few more about Melbourne, the home of Aussie rules football, some of 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, 2 nights. B**

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? Linger in the city, gaining 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. **B**

5 Melbourne – Warrnambool

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 Warrnambool - 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

Naracoorte - Kangaroo Island

The Fleurieu Peninsula is a natural adventure playground, all rolling hills, rugged clifftops and sandy beaches. Seaside Victor Harbor turns on the charms – there are steam locomotives – before your ferry blasts its horn. All aboard for Kangaroo Island. A well-deserved tasting of craft beer awaits at a boutique brewery, the only one on the island. How does a Golden Ale sound? Your destination is South Australia's oldest European settlement, Kingscote. Hotel: Aurora Ozone, 2 nights. B DW

Kangaroo Island

If you like alliterations, you'll love today's attractions: first stops are Remarkable Rocks and Admirals Arch, home to an immense colony of raucous fur seals. AAT Kings-sponsored Hanson Bay Wildlife Sanctuary was badly damaged by the 2019 bushfires; your visit reveals the part 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, where enormous sea lions barrel down the sand to the water. This is one of the most significant breeding colonies in the country. **B** L

Admirals Arch

9 Kangaroo Island - Adelaide

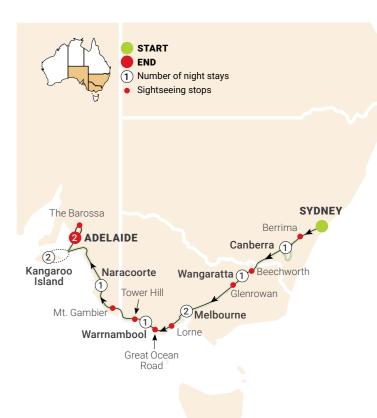
You've arrived in the South Australian capital, known for its well-preserved churches and well-admired cuisine. Did you know that Adelaide boasts more restaurants per capita than any other city in Australia? The afternoon is yours to see just how many you can sample – we have a few recommendations, including 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**

Adelaide Hills & The Barossa

Today is one of indulgences through the Adelaide Hills and atmospheric towns like Hahndorf, Australia's oldest German settlement. Wander down its tree-lined streets and take time to explore the quaint shops. This part of the state is known for its food and wine, and you'll discover local flavours for lunch at the South Australian Company Store, followed by a visit to a popular local vineyard for a wine tour and tasting in neighbouring Barossa. Return to Adelaide through landscape dotted with stone cottages and olive groves to join your Travel Director for a Farewell Dinner at Koomo, Adelaide's highest restaurant, for a Japanese inspired feast. **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**



44 7 DAYS • MELBOURNE > ADELAIDE

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 7.30am 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**

2 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 it's a good thing the Coonawarra wine region is around the corner. Fancy a world-class cab sav, shiraz or merlot? You've come to the right place. Your final adventure is deep, in every sense of the word. Naracoorte's Alexandra Cave is a maze of delicate needle-like stalactites and massive twisting columns. Hotel: William MacIntosh Motor Lodge. B DW

3 Naracoorte - Kangaroo Island

Nature rules large again today as you weave along the Fleurieu Peninsula to Victor Harbor. After rolling hills, sandy beaches and rugged cliffs, you're greeted with the charms of this seaside town – the gateway to Kangaroo Island. All aboard the ferry for your journey toward this 'mini Galapagos'. Kangaroo Island deserves its moniker, as you'll discover tomorrow. But today, all you have to do is ease into the island with a tasting of craft beers at Kangaroo Island's only brewery. How does a Limestone Road Pale Ale sound? Hotel: Aurora Ozone, 2 nights. B DW

4 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. Move aside: enormous sea lions regularly barrel down the sand toward the water. **B** L

5 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

6 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 flavours at the South Australian Company Store, followed by a visit to a popular local vineyard for a wine tour and tasting in neighbouring Barossa. Return to Adelaide through landscape dotted with stone cottages and olive groves to join your Travel Director for a Farewell Dinner at Koomo, Adelaide's highest restaurant, for a Japanese inspired feast. **B L FD**

7 Farewell from Adelaide

A week in this part of the world really isn't enough. We hope we've inspired you to come back for another taste. **B**





From **\$3120**

per person twin share land only

13 Included Experiences

Departure Dates

2022	2023	2024
Oct 22	Jan 14, 28	Jan 13, 27
Nov 05	Feb 11, 25	Feb 10, 24
Dec 26	Mar 11, 25	Mar 09, 23
	Apr 15	
	May 06	
	Sep 02, 23	
	Oct 21	
	Nov 04, 25	
	Dec 23	

Child prices and 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 aatkings.com. Or contact your local travel agent.

Dining

6 Full breakfasts B

3 Dinners with wine **DW** 1 Farewell Dinner **FD**

Flight Information

Day prior – flights to arrive anytime into Melbourne Airport
Day 7 – flights to depart anytime from Adelaide Airport
Flights are not included in the vacation price

Upgrade

Start your tour in Sydney. See Tastes of Southern Australia on page 40.





46 13 DAYS • HOBART RETURN
THLH • FIRST CHOICE 47

Perfect Tasmania

Highlights

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 remarkably 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?



From **\$6130**

per person twin share land only

16 Included Experiences

Departure Dates

2022	2023	2024	
Oct 14	Jan 20	Jan 19	
Nov 11	Feb 10	Feb 09	
Dec 09	Mar 03, 24	Mar 01, 22	
	Apr 14		
	Sep 15		
	Oct 13		
	Nov 10		
	Dec 08		

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 aatkings.com. Or contact your local travel agent.

Dining

12 Full breakfasts B
3 Lunches L
1 Be My Guest lunch BG

7 Dinners with wine **DW** 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
Flights are not included in the vacation price

1 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 applauded galleries and wine bars. Save room for dinner, enjoyed in the company of your fellow adventure-seekers. **Hotel: Grand Chancellor, 2 nights. DW**

2 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. **B**

3 Hobart – Strahan

Waterfalls, lakes and ancient moonscapes – today is a journey of contrasts. Not to mention soul revival. Exhale amid the forest enveloping Russell Falls in Mt. Field National Park. Forget your worries at Lake St. Clair, the deepest of its kind in Australia. Sigh as you skirt the World Heritage-protected Franklin-Gordon Wild Rivers National Park. Then revel in the serenity of Strahan. You're overlooking Macquarie Harbour, seven times the size of Sydney Harbour. Hotel: Strahan Village. B DW

4 Strahan - Cradle Mountain

No day that involves a cruise is a bad day. Even better if it's the deep, dark waters of the Gordon River. Soak up the silence of this untouched wilderness area en route to Sarah Island, Tassie's oldest convict settlement; today, haunting ruins have been reclaimed by nature. Your commute toward immense 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 L DW

5 Cradle Mountain

At the heart of the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area, Cradle Mountain is all moss-covered ancient rainforests and deep river gorges,

snow-tipped peaks, wild alpine moorlands 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**

6 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. Sip 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 BG

Launceston

Prepare for goosebumps – 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 L DW**

8 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 WWI soldiers. It's a poignant reminder just how lucky we are to have Tasmania's scene-stealing landscapes to gaze over. Be sure to head out tonight to catch a glimpse of the little penguins that call Bicheno home. Hotel: Diamond Island Beach Resort. B DW

9 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 L DW**

Triabunna – Hobart

Freestone Point was once home to the world's largest wood chip mill, built on the unceded lands of the Paredarerme people. It's had a 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 beehives and worm farms, and assist horticulturists in propagating seeds to regenerate the area. The GPS is now set for the historic township of Richmond; explore the convict-built gaol 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

11 Port Arthur Historic Site

While the World Heritage listed Port Arthur Historic Site has a grim convict 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 Pirate's Bay Lookout, and veer past Tasman's Arch, Devil's Kitchen and the Blowhole. Tonight is at your leisure – we can recommend any number of stellar restaurants. **B**

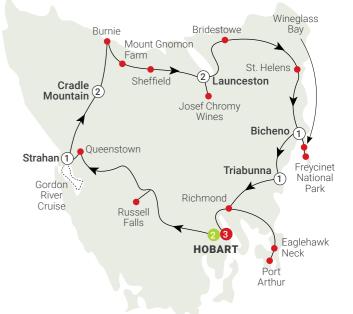
12 Hobart Free Time

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 will. Perhaps add on a Bruny Island cruise to spot playful sea lions and ogle Australia's highest sea cliffs? Or enjoy a bird's-eye view on a scenic flight down to the great Southwest? Or get your cultural fix with a visit to the Tasmanian Museum & Art Gallery. **B FD**

13 Farewell from Hobart

If you can still count all the delicious things you have eaten and drunk, and all the epic things you have seen and done, two weeks down the track, we commend you. Now's the time to re-live them with friends and family back at home. **B**





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. Sip your way through a Be My Guest lunch. Continue to quirky Sheffield, the 'Town of Murals' and continue through the Meander Valley to Launceston. Hotel: Grand Chancellor. B BG 7 Farewell from Launceston Prepare for goosebumps - Cataract Gorge is

From **\$3490** per person twin share land only

iskys you'll come across. Breakfast

orted. Continue your palate expansion at

humbling. Even more remarkable is the fact that this enormous cavern is just a few minutes' valk from the heart of Launceston. Explore your leisure. By the time you reach Josef nromy Wines, you'll have worked up a thirst.

fitting end to a week of wonderment. B L

11 Included Experiences

Departure Dates

2022	-	2024	l .
Oct	14	Jan	19
Nov	11	Feb	09
Dec	09	 Mar	01, 22

2023	
Jan	20
Feb	10
Mar	03, 24
Apr	14
Sep	15
Oct	13
Nov	10

Dining

6 Full breakfasts B

Upgrade

Cradle

Mountain

Strahan

Gordon'

Tasmania page 46.

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 aatkings.com. Or contact your local travel agent.

1 Be My Guest lunch BG 4 Dinners with wine DW

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

Day 7 - flights to depart after 5.00pm from Launceston

Start & end your tour in Hobart. See Perfect

Flight Information

Flights are not included in the vacation price

START

(1) Number of night stays

Sightseeing stops

Mount Gnomon Farm

AUNCESTON

Josef Chromy

HOBART

END

2 Lunches L

Highlights

 Local Connection Bring your elastic-waisted pants: cheese, wine, whisky and cider all await. The best bit? You

get to go behind the scenes with the makers.

Insider Knowledge

MAKE TRAVEL MATTER: SPECIENCE STREET Guy Robertson knows a thing or two about growing heritage apples. Taste the fruit of his labour in lip-smacking ciders, enjoyed over a Be My Guest lunch.

delicious homegrown produce at Tassie's iconic Salamanca Market.

Wildlife & Nature

Carved by ice during glaciations over the last two million years, Lake St Clair is the deepest of its kind in Australia. Added bonus - it's surrounded by World Heritage listed Franklin-Gordon Wild Rivers National Park.

Cultural Immersion

Listen to local street performers as you taste

Welcome to Hobart

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

2 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. B

3 Hobart - Strahan

Waterfalls, lakes and ancient moonscapes - today is a journey of contrasts. Not to mention soul revival. Exhale amid the forest enveloping Russell Falls in Mt. Field National Park. Forget your worries at Lake St. Clair, the deepest of its kind in Australia. Sigh as you skirt the World Heritage-protected Franklin-Gordon Wild Rivers National Park. Then revel in the serenity of Strahan. You're overlooking

Macquarie Harbour, seven times the size of Sydney Harbour. Hotel: Strahan Village. B DW

4 Strahan - Cradle Mountain

No day that involves a cruise is a bad day. Even better if it's the deep, dark waters of the Gordon River. Soak up the silence of this untouched wilderness area en route to Sarah Island, Tassie's oldest convict settlement; today, haunting ruins have been reclaimed by nature. Your commute toward immense 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 L DW

5 Cradle Mountain

At the heart of the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area, Cradle Mountain is all moss-covered ancient rainforests and deep river gorges, snow-tipped peaks, wild alpine moorlands and glacial lakes - case in point Dove Lake, where you'll likely spot Bennett's 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

6 Cradle Mountain - Launceston

A pioneer in delicious Aussie distillations Hellyers Road Distillery produces some of the



Jewels of the Bay Waitangi National Trust

Highlights

Local Connection

The Bay of Islands naturally attracts creatives, inspired by the bucolic surrounds. Meet them - artists, makers and producers - on an optional experience.

nsider Knowledge

The Treaty of Waitangi was signed in 1840 to acknowledge New Zealand as a member of the Commonwealth. Any visit here is humbling, particularly in the company of a signatory descendent.

Cultural Immersion

Free day in the Bay of Islands? An optional mini tour of Russell takes you to iconic locations that make it so significant in New Zealand's early history.

Wildlife & Nature

From its 20-million-year-old volcanic dome to its spectacular waterfall, Whangarei feels more like an oasis than New Zealand's most northerly city.

From **\$1150**

per person twin share land only

1 Included Experience

Departure Dates

2022		2024	
Dec	18, 25	Jan	07, 14, 21,
		Feb	04, 11, 18,
2023		Mar	03, 10, 17,
Jan	01, 08, 15, 22, 29		
Feb	05, 12, 19, 26		
Mar	05, 12, 19, 26		
Apr	02, 09, 16, 23		
Jun	04, 25		
Sep	03, 10, 17		
Oct	01, 08, 15, 22, 29		
Nov	05, 12, 19, 26		
Dec	03, 10, 17, 24, 31		

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

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

Dining

2 Full buffet breakfasts B 1 Dinner D

Flight Information

Day Prior - flights to arrive any time into Auckland Airport Day 3 – flights to depart after 7.00pm from Auckland

Flights are not included in the vacation price

As this vacation departs from the Cordis Auckland at 7.30am, accommodation will need to be pre-booked for the previous night.

Auckland – Bay of Islands

We hope you slept soundly, because today is iam-packed with adventures. Hit the road in the morning for a scenic sojourn to the Bay of Islands. This pocket of the country deserves its name - there are more than 140 subtropical islets 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 carved meeting house. You wanted an introduction to New Zealand heritage on day one - you got it. Hotel: Copthorne Resort (Water View), 2 nights. D

2 Bay of Islands Free Time

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 on 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 1843. Just ask your Travel Director for touring tips – and places to wine and dine come dusk. This part of the country was made for blazing sunsets. **B**

3 Bay of Islands - Auckland

If you've never heard of Whangarei, 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, Whangarei is the country in a tantalising snapshot - a union of nature and forward-thinking culture. Explore at your leisure before sinking back into your seat for the mesmerising commute back to Auckland. B







50 7 DAYS • QUEENSTOWN > AUCKLAND

New Zealand Panorama

Highlights

Local Connection

If you've ever wanted to know 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.

O₇ Sustainable Footprints

The national symbol of New Zealand, kiwi 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.



1 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 slipped 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.**

2 Queenstown & Surrounds

Arriving in New Zealand, the first thing you probably noticed 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 dusk, cruise across Lake Wakatipu aboard the TSS Earnslaw; the only thing more inspiring than the peaks of the Remarkables that surround is the festive atmosphere welcoming you to Walter Peak High Country Farm, where a gourmet barbecue at the Colonel's Homestead awaits. B HD

3 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 yawning 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 waterway. 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. B

4 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. $\bf B$

5 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

6 Rotorua

Cute and cuddly, 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 Māori village, home to famous Pohutu Geyser (the country's largest) and the bubbling beauty of mud pools. **B FD**

7 Farewell from Rotorua and Auckland

Short, sweet, and packed with highlights – how else to describe this wonderful week? **B**



From \$3000*

per person twin share land and internal-vacation airfare

5 Included Experiences

Departure Dates

2022	2023 continued	2024
Oct 07, 21	Mar 10, 17, 31	Jan 05, 26
Nov 11, 18	Apr 07, 21	Feb 09, 23
Dec 09	May 19	Mar 08, 15
	Jul 07	
	Sep 08	
2023	Oct 06, 20	
Jan 06, 27	Nov 10, 17	
Feb 10, 24	Dec 08	

Child prices and 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 aatkings.com. Or contact your local travel agent.

Dining

6 Full breakfasts **B** 2 Highlight Dinners **HD**

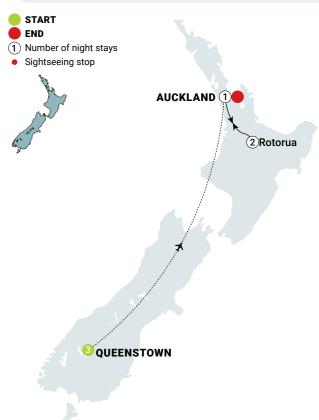
1 Farewell Dinner FD

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

*Internal-vacation flight: Please note that the price above includes land and internal-vacation airfare, which is required to be booked in order to fulfil the vacation itinerary:

Day 4 - Queenstown to Auckland



52 10 DAYS • AUCKLAND > CHRISTCHURCH IZANB • FIRST CHOICE 53

Contrasts of New Zealand

Highlights

Local Connection

Ever wondered about Southern Alps life on the land? Enjoy lunch with farmers, Angie and Stan Taylor, and go behind the scenes.

∂ Insider Knowledge

World Heritage listed Milford Sound/Piopiotahi is remarkable to look at; it's even more thrilling when its flora and fauna is decoded by your oh-so-knowledgeable cruise guide.

Cultural Immersion

Discover just how strong Māori culture is at Te Pā Tū Māori Experience, celebrating art, tradition and cuisine. Bring your appetite for a hangi meal, cooked underground.

Sustainable Footprints

WAME TRAVEL MATTER CEPERIENCE STREET CONTROL OF CONTROL but it's actually a National Kiwi Hatchery project to care for the country's kiwi population.

Wildlife & Nature

You'd be forgiven for thinking you'd be transported to Mars when you arrive at Rotorua, a place where steam and mud pop, fizz and



1 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 few local tipples at a Welcome Reception and dinner. Hotel: The Grand by SkyCity, 2 nights. DW

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 over 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? B

3 Auckland - Rotorua

You could be forgiven for thinking Rotorua's landscapes are a sci-fi movie set. Mud pops and jettisons from bubbling geysers, and steam rushes skywards from cracks in the Earth. The surrounding forest is a fertile habitat for New Zealand's national bird, being protected and bred at the National Kiwi Hatchery Aotearoa. The cotton-ball kiwi is under threat in the wild; at the hatchery, passionate conservationists reveal how they are saving the population, one incubated egg at a time. Tonight, dive deep into Māori culture and traditions at Te Pā Tū Māori Experience, where your hangi Highlight Dinner is cooked underground. Hotel: Millennium. B HD

A Rotorua – Auckland – Queenstown

Lord of the Rings fanatics, prepare for a day of goosebumps – breakfast is served in the very spot that Frodo and Bilbo once lived. The Hobbiton Movie Set is all rolling hills and emerald pastures, a storybook landscape for The Lord of the Rings and The Hobbit trilogies. The feel-good vibes will follow you all the way to Queenstown, where some of the country's most awarded restaurants await. Whether you're in the mood for bulging burgers or lakeside tapas, ask us for recommendations. Hotel: Millennium, 3 nights. B

Milford Sound/Piopiotahi

Bring your stamina and sense of adventure - things get a little wild today. Nature rules as you skirt gleaming Lake Wakatipu, over the Devil's Staircase to Te Anau, the alpine gateway to World Heritage listed Fiordland National Park. Once you've paused to admire the drama at Mirror Lakes, Knobs Flat, Hollyford Valley lookout, Cleddau Valley and the Chasm, you'll begin to understand why Rudyard Kipling called this the 'Eighth Wonder of the World'. You haven't even seen Bowen Falls or Milford Sound/Piopiotahi yet... Cruise the latter with an eagle-eyed guide, on the lookout for fur seals and dolphins. **B** L

6 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 Highlight Dinner at Postmasters Café, a historic Arrowtown cottage replete with picket fence and Instagrammable gardens. B HD

Queenstown – Lake Tekapo

Whether pinot noir grapes or cherries, things grow well in Central Otago. Get a taste for the region's stone fruit at a local orchard. Mountain drama - including views of Aoraki/Mount Cook – is your backdrop en route to Lake Tekapo, with water so turquoise it looks like a Renaissance painting. This part of the country is ravishing and remote; the lack of light pollution means dazzling Southern Hemisphere stargazing at UNESCO Aoraki Mackenzie International Dark Sky Reserve. It's handy to have an astronomer in your company to decode the constellations of the Milky Way. Life in perspective... Hotel: Pepper's Bluewater Resort. B DW

8 Lake Tekapo – Christchurch

The Canterbury region of the west coast is a bucolic union of grassy plains, mirror-like lakes and snow-capped mountains, the kind you might see on postcards. Enjoy some warm Kiwi hospitality at Morelea, the home of Angie and Stan Taylor. Indulge in a Be My Guest barbecue lunch and hear about a lifetime spent in farming in New Zealand. You'll also get to

witness Angie preparing her famous pavlova dessert. After soaking up country life, you'll arrive in Christchurch ready to explore the Garden City. Hotel: Distinction, 2 nights. B BG

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 Tūranga, 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.

Tarewell from Christchurch

You've travelled hundreds of kilometres across two islands, likely taken thousands of photos, and made countless memories and new friends. The only thing left to do is plan your next tour. **B**



From \$4840*

per person twin share land and internal-vacation airfare

10 Included Experiences

Departure Dates

2022	2023	3	2024	1
Oct 07, 21	Jan	06, 13, 20, 27	Jan	05, 12, 19, 26
Nov 18, 25	Feb	03, 10, 17, 24	Feb	02, 09, 16, 23
Dec 09, 23, 30	Mar	03, 10, 17, 24, 31	Mar	01, 08, 15, 22
	Apr	07, 21		
	May	19		
	Jun	09		
	Jul	07		
	Aug	25		
	Sep	08, 22		
	Oct	06, 13, 20		
	Nov	10, 17, 24		
	Dec	01, 08, 15, 22, 29		

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

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

Dining

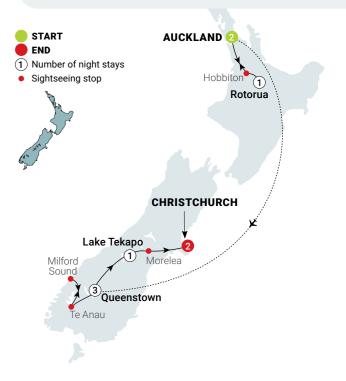
9 Full buffet breakfasts B 2 Highlight Dinners HD 1 Lunch L 1 Be My Guest Lunch BG

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



17 DAYS · AUCKLAND > CHRISTCHURCH ZAAC · FIRST CHOICE 55

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 Pā Tū 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?



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 Waiheke Island, or just steel yourself to meet fellow travellers over dinner and a few local tipples. **Hotel: Cordis, 2 nights. DW**

2 Auckland

A little bit of leisure, a little bit of culture – today is one of those days. Sleep in before a peek behind the scenes of racing history on the New Zealand Maritime Museum's America's Cup Tour. Your Travel Director then takes you around the city, pausing at Bastion Point for epic photo opportunities. **B**

3 Auckland - Tauranga

Bet you didn't know New Zealand is home to horse-racing royalty. The O'Sullivan's welcome you to their Waikato estate for lunch in the Red Barn. Expect country banter, horse-riding gossip and farm-to-table fare. Venture east to the harbourside city of Tauranga, where you have a free afternoon in the Bay of Plenty to climb extinct volcano Mount Mauao or just chill on the golden sand of the main beach. **Hotel: Trinity Wharf. B BG DW**

4 Tauranga – Rotorua

The town of Te Puke grows most of the country's kiwis, and you'll enjoy a taste before venturing toward another hot-spot – Rotorua. Visit steamy Te Puia and tour the Whakarewarewa Thermal Reserve, a staggering valley where geysers pop and thermal springs jettison skywards. The hot rocks in this part of the world are prefect for cooking your hangi (underground) feast at Te Pā Tū Māori Experience, a bastion for Māori culture. **Hotel: Millennium, 2 nights. B HD**

6 Rotorua Free Time

Today, choose your own adventure. We have plenty of ideas for the paths you might follow. Optional sightseeing experiences include a bedazzling show put on by the glowworms of Waitomo Caves. Or perhaps zipping across Rotorua's three lakes in an amphibious WWII-era Duck. **B**

6 Rotorua – Wellington

Say haere ra (goodbye) to Rotorua and hello to... an immense amount of water. First stop is the raging rapids of Huka Falls, where 220,000 litres of water barrel over an 11-metre-high waterfall every second. Your outlook then unfolds into the dreamy landscape of Lake Taupo, the largest of its kind

in the country. Traverse the volcanic Central Plateau to NZ's cool little capital of Wellington, set on a pretty harbour that beckons with too many good restaurants to choose from. **Hotel: James Cook Grand Chancellor. B**

Wellington - Blenheim

If you don't fall in love with Wellington instantly, then you will surely find a spark after visiting Te Papa, the Museum of New Zealand – the morning is yours to peruse the jaw-dropping exhibits at your leisure. Re-join your companions to cruise Cook Strait across tranquil Queen Charlotte Sound. You're on the South Island now, and a Highlight Dinner reflects the best of Marlborough food and wine. **Hotel: Chateau Marlborough. B HD**

8 Blenheim - Christchurch

Sperm whales and fur seals are a common sight in Kaikoura – get lucky and you can see them from shore, or sign up for a bird's-eye view on an optional scenic flight over dramatic black beaches framed by turquoise ocean. Follow the coast and Canterbury Plains to Christchurch, home to some of the country's most innovative restaurants. **Hotel: Distinction. B**

9 Christchurch - Twizel

From its cardboard-crafted Transitional Cathedral to its gold-clad central library, Christchurch has well and truly rebuilt itself since the 2010/11 earthquakes. But South Island locals still cherish a simple life, as you'll discover over a Be My Guest afternoon tea with retired farmers Angie and Stan Taylor among the emerald fields of their home Morelea on the edge of Lake Tekapo. Hotel: Mackenzie Country Inn. B BG DW

10 Twizel – Dunedin

We got the power – hydro, that is. The Benmore Dam holds back New Zealand's largest artificial lake, and when the Benmore Power Station was opened in 1965 it was the biggest in the country. That should fuel you through to Oamaru, with its stately tree-lined streets and glam limestone buildings, before landing in Dunedin. **Hotel: Scenic Southern Cross. B DW**

Dunedin - Te Anau

From sheep farms to rugged mountains, today is one of contrasts. Venture into Fiordland National Park toward the South Island's largest lake and the town of Te Anau, the gateway to Pomona Island where native birds are under threat – and you can help protect them. **Hotel: Distinction Te Anau. B DW**

12 Te Anau – Queenstown

Your journey toward Milford Sound/Piopiotahi traverses native rainforest, alluvial flats and meadows, with mirrored lakes, thundering waterfalls, dramatic rocky ranges and millennia-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**

13 Queenstown Free Time

Adrenaline-junkies may wish to zip about in the Shotover Jet, get some perspective on a gondola to Bob's Peak or tour the gorges of Skippers Canyon. Gourmand at heart? Perhaps a Central Otago wine tour? Your day ends on a dreamy TSS Earnslaw cruise across Lake Wakatipu, landing at Walter Peak High Country Farm for a gourmet barbecue Highlight Dinner at the Colonel's Homestead. **B HD**

4 Queenstown - Franz Josef/Waiau

From Arrowtown's tree-lined avenues to Central Otago's gleaming lakes, nature rules. Alpine scenery tiers into rainforest along the West Coast, where Thunder Creek Falls and the glacier-studded Mount Hooker steal the scene. Welcome to Franz Josef Glacier/Kā Roimata o Hine Hukatere, which is ideally explored on an optional helicopter flight – you may be able to land and walk across the ice-fall. Hotel: Scenic Franz Josef Glacier (Douglas Wing). B DW

15 Franz Josef/Waiau – Punakaiki

Swap white at Franz Josef/Kā Roimata o Hine Hukatere for greenstone (native jade) at Hokitika. Then steel yourself for the Pancake Rocks and blowholes of Punakaiki, a sliver of South Island geology that is as humbling as it is awe-inspiring. **Hotel: Ocean View Retreat. B DW**

16 Punakaiki - Christchurch

Beer for breakfast? We've got you sorted on a morning tour of legendary Monteith's Brewery. The best is yet to come – all aboard for the scenic TranzAlpine train back to Christchurch, through tunnels and over viaducts, with panoramic views of snow-capped peaks, icy rivers, beech forests, gorges and river valleys. **Hotel: Distinction. B L FD**

17 Farewell from Christchurch

How many travel highs can you pack into a vacation? Now all you have to do is go home and sort through all those photos. **B**

From \$6545

per person twin share land only

20 Included Experiences

Departure Dates

2022	2023	2023		2024	
Oct 04, 25	Jan	03, 10, 17, 24, 31	Jan	02, 09, 16, 23, 30	
Nov 15, 29	Feb	07, 14, 21, 28	Feb	06, 13, 20, 27	
Dec 20, 27	Mar	07, 14, 21, 28	Mar	05, 12, 19, 26	
	Apr	04, 11, 18, 25			
	Jun	06, 27			
	Sep	05, 12, 19			
	Oct	03, 10, 17, 24, 31			
	Nov	07, 14, 21, 28			
	Dec	05 12 19 26			

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

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

Dining

16 Full buffet breakfasts B 1 Be My Guest Lunch BG 1 Lunch L

3 Highlight Dinners HD
7 Dinners with wine DW
1 Farewell Dinner FD

1 Be My Guest Afternoon Tea BG

Flight Information

Day 1 – flights to arrive by 4.00pm into Auckland Airport
Day 17 – flights to depart any time from Christchurch Airport
Flights are not included in the vacation price



10 DAYS · CHRISTCHURCH RETURN ZCQR • FIRST CHOICE 57



1 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, so make the most of it. We recommend riding 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.

2 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 tales 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 BG DW

3 Twizel - Dunedin

More water awaits, your journey following the Waitaki River to mighty Benmore Dam; it powers 300,000 New Zealand homes. You're en 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 DW

4 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 islands. Case in point Pomona Island, where a charitable trust of

passionate volunteers works to restore flora and fauna. With your help. Your cruise across Lake Manapouri is remote and ravishing during the day - it's even prettier at night, when glowworms fill caves. Can we tempt you? Hotel: Distinction Te Anau. B DW

5 Te Anau – Oueenstown

Nature rules today, from the moment you depart Te Anau and begin your iourney deep into the heart of Fiordland National Park. Think native rainforests, beech forests, alluvial flats and meadows; Mirror Lakes perfectly reflecting mountain scenery; and precipitous lookouts holding guard over alpine rivers. And this is just the entrée. The main course is Milford Sound/Piopiotahi, where you cruise in the company of dolphins that frolic under the torrent of mighty Bowen and Stirling Falls, and gaze at misty escarpments so sheer they appear to cleave off the edge of the Earth. Life in perspective. Hotel: Millennium, 2 nights. B

6 Oueenstown Free Time

Take today at your own pace. Like things fast and furious? Feel the wind in vour hair on the high-octane Shotover Jet, perhaps. Prefer wine to get your heart started? See why Central Otago makes some of the world's most raved about cool-climate pinots on a cellar door tour. Wherever your daily wanderings take you, reunite with your companions come dusk to glide across Lake Wakatipu aboard the historic TSS Earnslaw, your barbecue Highlight Dinner served on the grounds of Walter Peak High Country Farm. **B HD**

Queenstown - Franz Josef / Waiau

In the shadow of the Remarkables, Queenstown is pretty spectacular. But it has some stiff good-looks competition from neighbouring Arrowtown, with its movie-set tree-lined avenues and 19th-century buildings that once housed gold-rush fortune-seekers. Things grow well in this verdant countryside, from cherries to pinot grapes and all manner of stone fruit. Have you ever tasted a freshly-plucked peach handed to you by a farmer? Prepare for a flavour explosion. The next explosion is a visual one as you arrive at Franz Josef Glacier/Kā Roimata o Hine Hukatere. Get some 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 Wina). B DW

Wandering Hokitika's windswept shore on the West Coast feels a bit like cracks in the Earth. Hotel: Ocean View Retreat. B DW

9 Punakaiki – Christchurch

Monteith'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 L FD

10 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

From \$4099

per person twin share land only

6 Included Experiences

Departure Dates

2022	22 2023		2024	1
Oct 11	Jan	03, 10, 17, 24, 31	Jan	02, 09, 16, 23, 30
Nov 01, 22	Feb	07, 14, 21, 28	Feb	06, 13, 20, 27
Dec 06, 27	Mar	07, 14, 21, 28	Mar	05, 12, 19, 26
	Apr	04, 11, 18, 25		
	May	02		
	Jun	13		
	Jul	04		
	Sep	12, 19, 26		
	Oct	10, 17, 24, 31		
	Nov	07, 14, 21, 28		
	Dec	05, 12, 19, 26		

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

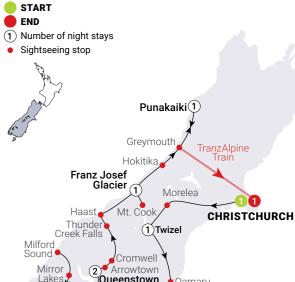
See available prices and departure dates from 01 Apr 2024 at aatkings.com. Or contact your local travel agent.

Dining

9 Full buffet breakfasts B 1 Highlight Dinner HD 1 Lunch L 5 Dinners with wine DW 1 Be My Guest Afternoon Tea BG 1 Farewell Dinner FD

Flight Information

Day 1 – flights to arrive by 4.00pm into Christchurch Airport Day 10 - flights to depart any time from Christchurch Airport Flights are not included in the vacation price



(1)Dunedin

8 Franz Josef/Waiau - Punakaiki

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

Wine may steal the scene across much of New Zealand, but at legendary



X 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're 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.

Matural 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

60 12 DAYS · SYDNEY > CAIRNS

QSC/QCS · BEST BUYS 61

East Coast Islands & Rainforest

Highlights

Choose your own adventure on the Gold Coast, where surf and sand meet rainforest hinterland. Hike, swim, refuel, repeat.

□ Iconic Sites

How many people get to say they visited three World Heritage Sites on a single vacation? You can: K'gari (Fraser Island), the Great Barrier Reef and the Wet Tropics of Queensland.

Time For You

It's easy to drift away in the Whitsundays. And you get to do just that, whether on a catamaran, with a snorkel strapped on or from the air.

🛍 Sustainable Travel

Your entry fees to the state's national parks assist with the conservation of these pristine natural environments.

Natural Wonders

Some of the world's oldest tropical rainforest envelops Cairns, this verdant tangle of ferns and palms a natural magnet for native wildlife.



As this vacation departs at 7.30am from Rydges Sydney Central, accommodation will need to be pre-booked for the previous night.

Sydney - Coffs Harbour

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. Hotel: BreakFree Aanuka Beach Resort. D

2 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 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 eat with your feet in the sand. Which you're going to see plenty of at your next destination. Hotel: Novotel Surfers Paradise, 2 nights. B

3 Gold Coast Free Time

Your base in Surfers Paradise is the heart of the Gold Coast, a city that really does sparkle. Today you might choose to explore beaches (there are too many to count), lingering in light-filled cafés and restaurants. Or enlist to see another side of the 'Goldie' in the Mt. Tamborine hinterland – a hub for creatives and foodies. The city also breaks records for its extensive network of canals, which you might opt to explore on a leisurely cruise. **B**

Ask us about starting this vacation on the Gold Coast the morning of Day 4 (Code: QGC).

4 Gold Coast – K'gari (Fraser Island)

Follow the waves north to Hervey Bay, the gateway to K'gari (Fraser Island). The ferry ride across the strait is a highlight, particularly during whale migration when these gentle giants come to the calm, protected waters to calve. Landing on K'gari, expect to see a lot of sand. This is, after all, the world's largest sand island, and the only place in the world where rainforest grows from the sand. Hotel: Kingfisher Bay Resort, 2 nights. B

5 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, calm 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 lives up to the challenge with its huge satiny, scribbly gum and kauri trees. **B** L

6 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 1873. 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. **Hotel: Quality Regent. B**

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**,

8 Airlie Beach Free Time

The Whitsunday Islands need little introduction, the 74 tropical drops of land a beguiling union of powdery 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**

9 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 steamy part of the state. Hotel: DoubleTree by Hilton, 3 nights. B

10 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 iridescent Ulysses 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**

11 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. B L FD

12 Farewell from Cairns

A ridiculous number of beaches, world-record breaking rainforest, dreamy islands and even dreamier ocean... it's going to be hard to say goodbye to this backdrop. Not to mention your fellow travellers. ${\bf B}$

From \$5305

per person twin share land only

10 Included Experiences

Departure Dates

QSC: Sydney to Cairns

2022	2023 continued	2024
Oct 10	Mar 06	Jan 08
Nov 07	Apr 03	Feb 05
Dec 05	Jun 05	Mar 04
	Jul 10	
2023	Sep 11	
Jan 09	Oct 09	
Feb 06	Nov 06	
	Doc 04	

QCS: Cairns to Sydney

2022	2023		2024		
Nov 18	Jan	20	Jan	19	
	Feb	17	Feb	16	
	Mar	17	Mar	15	
	Nov	17			

Child prices and 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 aatkings.com. Or contact your travel agent.

Dining

11 Full breakfasts B 1 Dinner D

3 Lunches L 1 Farewell Dinner FD

Flight Information

QSC: Sydney to Cairns

Day prior – flights to arrive anytime into Sydney Airport
Day 12 – flights to depart anytime from Cairns Airport
QCS: 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

Flights are not included in the vacation price



62 9 DAYS • GOLD COAST > CAIRNS

QGC/QCG • BEST BUYS 63

Tropical Islands and Rainforest

Highlights

Hard decisions await in the Whitsundays: Cruise? Snorkel? Catch a chopper over the Great Barrier Reef? You choose.

! Iconic Sites

The world's largest sand island, Fraser Island delivers adventure (beach highways) and bliss (dreamy lagoons) in equal measure.

Time For You

Two World Heritage Sites unite in Cairns, the rainforest and the reef. Explore either or both, or sit back with a sundowner.

Sustainable Travel

Your entry fees to the state's national parks assist with the conservation of these pristine natural environments.

Matural Wonders

Some of the world's oldest tropical rainforest envelops Cairns, this verdant tangle of ferns and palms a natural magnet for native wildlife.

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

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 Hervey 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¬, 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, 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 satiny, scribbly gum and kauri trees. **B** L

3 K'gari (Fraser Island) – Rockhampton

In a whiplash, you leave the coast behind and reunite with Queensland's cattle country. First stop: Langmorn Station, where the Creed family welcome you to their immense (and historic) cattle property with open arms and afternoon tea. And just a few 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. **Hotel: Quality Regent. B**

4 Rockhampton – Airlie Beach

From Australia's beef capital to its sugar capital – today you're en route to Sarina. 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 L

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. **B**

6 Airlie Beach - Cairns

Relax – 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 en 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. **B**

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. **B L FD**

9 Farewell from Cairns

From underwater love to overwater love – bid adieu to your new crew of travel buddies. ${\bf B}\,$

From \$4320

per person twin share land only

9 Included Experiences

Departure Dates

QGC: Gold Coast to Cairns

2022	2023 continued	2024
Oct 13	Mar 09	Jan 11
Nov 10	Apr 06	Feb 08
Dec 08	Jun 08	Mar 07
_	Jul 13	
2023	Sep 14	
Jan 12	Oct 12	
Feb 09	Nov 09	
	Dec 07	

OCG: Cairns to Gold Coast

2022	2023	2024	
Nov 18	Jan 20	Jan 19	
	Feb 17	Feb 16	
	Mar 17	Mar 15	
	Nov 17		

Child prices and 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 aatkings.com. Or contact your travel agent.

Dining

8 Full breakfasts B 3 Lunches L 1 Farewell Dinner FD

Flight Information

QGC: Gold Coast to Cairns

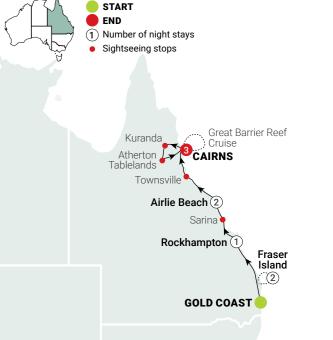
Day prior – flights to arrive anytime into Gold Coast Airport Day 9 – flights to depart anytime from Cairns Airport

QCG: Cairns to Gold Coast

Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 2.00pm into Cairns Airport

Day 9 – flights to depart after 8.30pm from Gold Coast Airport

Flights are not included in the vacation price



NEW · SAMC · BEST BUYS 65

South Australian Outback Adventure

From \$4485

per person twin share land only

10 Included Experiences

Departure Dates

202	2023		2023 continued	
Apr	08, 22	Sep	09, 23	
May	06, 20	Oct	07, 21	

Child prices and 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 aatkings.com. Or contact your local travel agent.

Dining

7 Full breakfasts B 2 Lunches L 4 Dinners D

Flight Information

Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 11.00am into Adelaide Airport Day 8 – flights to depart after 5.00pm from Adelaide Airport

Flights are not included in the vacation price

Highlights

South Australia dazzles, whether from the sky on a flight over Lake Eyre, or from below the ground ogling 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

Tick 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

When you check into Aboriginal-owned Wilpena Pound Resort, your room rate contributes to a sustainable economic future for the Adnyamathanha people.

Matural Wonders

The landscapes of the Flinders Ranges are ancient, and reveal history through endemic flora and fauna as well as some of the most dramatic geological landscapes imaginable.

Welcome to Adelaide

The South Australian capital often flies under the radar – locals like it that way, happy to keep their buzzing 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. **Hotel: Adabco Boutique Hotel**.

2 Adelaide - Ikara-Flinders 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. Knappstein Enterprise Winery'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 best way to ease into the wide-open, otherworldly spaces of the Flinders Ranges – your commute is a short journey by coach, but it transports you to seemingly Martian landscapes, some 800 million years in the making and home to the Adnyamathanha people for tens of thousands of years. The First Nations community owns and manages your base for the night, Wilpena Pound Resort, and they'll welcome you to Country with spirit and soul. Hotel: Wilpena Pound Resort. B D

3 Wilpena Pound - Arkaroola

The cliffs and craters and ravishing red rocks of the Flinders Ranges shine brightly in the morning sun, your outlook particularly pretty from Wangara Lookout. From this vantage, you'll enjoy expansive views over the natural amphitheatre that is Wilpena Pound. It's an awe-inspiring way to start the day, before your journey carves north through dramatic Bunyeroo and Brachina Gorges. Keep your eyes peeled for endangered yellow-footed rock wallabies – only 2,250 remain in Australia, and most call this part of the country home. You'll begin to understand why they favour the South Australian outback when you arrive in Arkaroola, characterised by ancient granite mountains and golden spinifex-covered hillsides and providing a

vantage over Lake Frome and the desert beyond. But the real stars here are those overhead, as you'll discover on an astronomy tour that brings the dazzling night sky into full focus. Prepare to be humbled – in the best possible way. **Hotel: Arkaroola Wilderness Sanctuary. B D**

4 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 cleave off the edge of the earth. A patina 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 1800s 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. Hotel: Marree. B L D

5 Marree – Coober Pedy

Much of the South Australian outback towns exist because of the old Ghan Railway, click-clacking from Adelaide to Darwin. Plenty of history will be revealed on your morning's journey down the line's westward bend, perhaps only outshone by the natural drama of Kati Thanda-Lake Eyre. Australia's largest inland lake is – most of the time – a shimmering saltpan covering hundreds of square kilometres, yet is occasionally transformed by desert downpours into a thriving oasis. You'll have the chance to glimpse it from the air, your bird's-eye view unfolding beneath you like a work of art. Speaking of art – your included scenic flight will also pass over the Anna Creek Painted Hills, a rocky outcrop that literally pops out of the flat desert, creating silhouettes resembling cartoon characters. Touch down to explore the otherworldly countryside before jetting on to your destination, Coober Pedy, brimming with compelling quirks. How do you fancy sleeping underground? Hotel: Desert Cave, 2 nights. B

6 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 Kanku-Breakaways Conservation Park, where you'll travel along a stretch of the ancient Dog Fence: a barrier spanning 5,300 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 club to thump balls around the oil-soaked putting green. B D

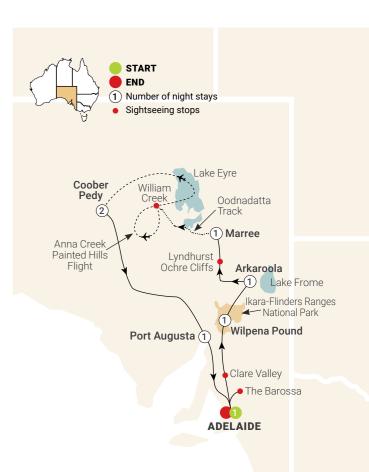
Lake Eyre Scenic Flight

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 of, but that you will leave appreciating, as you head toward your evening's repose in the natural harbour of Port Augusta. **Hotel: Majestic Oasis. B**

8 Port Augusta – The Barossa – Depart Adelaide

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. **B** L



66 11 DAYS • DARWIN > ULURU NDAU • BEST BUYS 67

Northern Territory Explorer **Highlights** Darwin life goes at a leisurely pace. Fall into step and explore the steamy NT capital in the only way the locals know how - slow. **P** Iconic Sites Have your camera poised: we're taking you from the wilds of Kakadu to the escarpments of Nitmiluk (Katherine) Gorge and epic landscapes of Uluru. Time For You World Heritage listed Kakadu National Park is wide, wild and wonderful. And packed with wildlife. Choose your own adventure. 🖺 Sustainable Travel MAKE TRAVEL MATTER Supporting Aboriginal-owned and -operated businesses helps ensure the world's oldest culture thrives into

From **\$4810**

per person twin share land only

16 Included Experiences

Departure Dates

2023		2023 continued		
	Apr	19	Jul	05, 19, 26
_	May	10, 31	Aug	02, 16
	.lun	07 21 28		

Child prices and 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 aatkings.com. Or contact your local travel agent.

Dining

10 Full breakfasts B 3 Dinners D 1 Farewell Dinner FD

Flight Information

Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 3.00pm into Darwin Airport
Day 11 – flights to depart anytime from Ayers Rock Airport
Flights are not included in the vacation price

1 Welcome to Darwin

Natural Wonders

Get to know the steamy NT capital at your own pace – you'll fast 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 tasty entrée to your 11-day odyssey. **Hotel: Vibe Darwin Waterfront, 2 nights.**

Sunrise over Uluru has this incredible ability to make you forget everything else around you and just focus on the now.

2 Darwin

Today is 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 at a loss for ideas, 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 your feet in the sand. B

3 Darwin – Kakadu

Aboriginal culture is strong in this part of Australia, and its kept alive by Traditional Landowners on this morning's tour. Dive deep into Aboriginal heritage on a family-owned experience highlighting art, music and bush tucker. Your next deep dive is into the heart of Kakadu, a World Heritage listed national park that is one of Australia's most important living ecosystems. Hotel: Mercure Kakadu Crocodile, Jabiru, 2 nights. B D

4 Kakadu National Park

Kakadu is vast, spanning almost 20,000 square kilometres. The best way to gain appreciation for just how immense it really is from the air on an optional (but highly recommended) morning flight. Now that you have your bearings, take to the land to discover ancient Aboriginal rock art and cruise the wildlife-packed Yellow Water Billabong to search for enormous saltwater crocs – your eagle-eyed guide knows where to look. End your day on a high, watching the sun set over floodplains. **B**

5 Kakadu - Katherine

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

6 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

7 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 pock the countryside. But they're not just a pretty sight – they're a sacred place for the Aboriginal community, created by the fossilised eggs of the Rainbow Serpent. Get the lay of the land atop Alice Springs' Anzac Hill. From this vantage, the East and West MacDonnell Ranges appear to stretch to the horizon. Hotel: DoubleTree by Hilton, 2 nights. B

Alice Springs Sightseeing & Free Time

Sleep in, take to the skies in a hot-air balloon as the desert awakens, explore the West Macs on a guided tour... this morning is yours to spend as you choose. Save some energy for this afternoon's visit to the historic Telegraph Station – the reason the town was formed – and School of the Air, to gain an insight into outback and remote learning. **B**

9 Alice Springs – Uluru

From the moment you wake up until the last of day disappears, spiritual Aboriginal culture is all around. Get set to be in awe over Dreamtime stories about the creation of Uluru, the world's largest monolith. It's particularly pretty at sunset when the fading rays change the desert's colour with every sip of your sparkling wine. Hotel: Outback Pioneer, Ayers Rock Resort, 2 nights. B

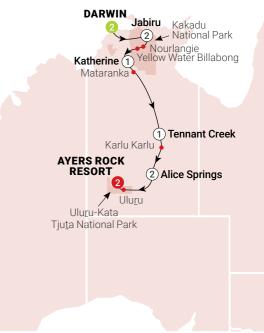
Uluru Sunrise

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 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. B FD

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. ${\bf B}$





17 DAYS • AUCKLAND > CHRISTCHURCH LABC/LCBA • BEST BUYS 69

Kia Ora New Zealand

Highlights

≍ Flexible Holidays

Explore the extremes of the North Island, where the Tasman Sea meets the Pacific Ocean. Or just relax by the pool. It's your choice.

lconic Sites

You don't need a reason to visit World Heritage listed Fiordland National Park. But if you're looking for one, make it shimmering Milford Sound/Piopiotahi. This place is nature amplified.

Time For You

Queenstown is best explored at a leisurely pace. Follow your guide (or go as you will) to appreciate this town's many allures.

Sustainable Travel

Thousands of kids across NZ go hungry every year. The 'Eat My Lunch' program that you support ensures this tide is turnina

Matural Wonders

End-of-the-Earth drama awaits in the Bay of Islands, where 140 droplets of land unite powdery beaches with dreamy pockets of forest.

1 Welcome to Auckland

Explore waterfront precincts filled with yachts, take a cruise out to the wineries of Waiheke Island, or just meet fellow travel companions over a few local tipples tonight. Hotel: Holiday Inn Express.

2 Auckland - Bay of Islands

Say goodbye to the 'City of Sails' as you journey north to the Bay of Islands - 140 droplets of land ringed by turquoise sea. It's undeniably 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 ceremonial canoe and a carved meeting house. Hotel: Copthorne Hotel & Resort (Garden View), 2 nights. B D

3 Bay of Islands Free Time

Today, trip 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 idyllic Ninety 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

4 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 into your seat for the mesmerising commute back to Auckland. Hotel: Holiday Inn Express. B

5 Auckland - Rotorua

After a morning of sightseeing, set your GPS for the Waitomo Caves. Cruising cavernous waterways, your route is cast in a magical light by thousands of glowworms. It's a landscape almost as otherworldly as Rotorua, where mud pops and jettisons from bubbling geysers. Tonight, delve deep into Māori culture and traditions at Te Puia. Your dinner, a hangi 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 Aronui a Rua. Hotel: Ibis, 2 nights. B HD

6 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 unfolds in a broad panorama of mint-blue Lake Taupo. Traverse the Kapiti Coast to New Zealand's cool little capital, Wellington, where there are so many restaurants and bars to choose from, you'll need 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 session at Te Papa, the Museum of New Zealand. Onwards to the Interislander for a cruise across Cook Strait, from the North Island to the South, through a maze of arms and inlets. Hotel: Beachcomber Inn. B L D

Picton - Christchurch

There aren't many beaches more dramatic than the black sands of Kaikoura. Bonus points if you spot a sea lion or sperm whale frolicking offshore. Your Travel Director has tips on where to dine tonight. Hotel: Ibis. B

10 Christchurch - Omarama

Christchurch is not only rebuilding itself after the 2010/11 earthquakes, but is changing the way architects think about design. From here, your outlook 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

1 Omarama – Dunedin Free Time

Oamaru, with its stately tree-lined streets and limestone buildings, stands proud before you journey further south toward the 'Edinburgh of the South': Dunedin. While away the afternoon in the city's art-lined 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

13 Te Anau - Queenstown

Your route through Fiordland National Park is an intoxicating union of beech forests, alluvial flats, meadows and mirror-like 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

14 Queenstown Free Time

Take Queenstown at your own pace today. Feel the wind in your hair on a high octane Shotover Jet, perhaps. Wherever 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

15 Queenstown - Franz Josef/Waiau

Leaving Lake Wakatipu behind, Arrowtown and Lake Dunstan appear on the horizon. 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. Hotel: Scenic Franz Josef Glacier (Graham Wing). B D

16 Franz Josef/Waiau - 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

From **\$5695**

16 Included **Experiences**

per person twin share land only

LABC: Auckland to Christchurch Departure Dates

2023		2024	1
Apr	15, 22	Jan	06, 13, 20
May	27	Feb	03, 10, 17
Jun	24	Mar	02, 09, 16
Jul	22		
Aug	05		
Sep	02, 09, 23, 30		
Oct	07, 14 21, 28		
Nov	04, 11, 25		
Dec	02, 09, 16, 23		
	Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov	May 27 Jun 24 Jul 22 Aug 05 Sep 02,09,23,30 Oct 07,1421,28 Nov 04,11,25	Apr 15,22 Jan May 27 Feb Jun 24 Mar Jul 22 Aug 05 Sep 02,09,23,30 Oct 07,1421,28 Nov 04,11,25

From **\$5695**

16 Included **Experiences**

per person twin share land only

LCBA: Christchurch to Auckland Departure Dates

202	2	2023 continued		2024	
Oct	03, 17, 24, 31	Mar	06, 13, 20, 27	Jan	0
Nov	07, 24, 28	Apr	03, 10	Feb	0
Dec	05, 12, 19, 26	May	01	Mar	0
		Sep	04		
202	3	Oct	02, 16, 23, 30		
Jan	02, 09, 16, 23, 30	Nov	06, 20, 27		
Feb	06, 13, 20, 27	Dec	04, 11, 18, 25		

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

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

Dining

16 Full buffet breakfasts B 1 Lunch L 2 Highlight Dinners HD

5 Dinners D 1 Farewell Dinner FD

Flight Information

Day 1 - flights to arrive prior to 4.00pm into Auckland Airport Day 17 - flights to depart any time from Christchurch Airport Flights are not included in the vacation price



70 14 DAYS · CHRISTCHURCH > AUCKLAND

New Zealand Marvel

Highlights

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 we give you downtime in Rotorua and Queenstown – there are enough attractions to fill every traveller's wish list.

Sustainable Travel

Thousands of kids across NZ go hungry every year. The 'Eat My Lunch' program that you support ensures this tide is turning.

Matural 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.



1 Welcome to Christchurch

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

2 Christchurch - Franz Josef/Waiau

Jump aboard the TranzAlpine train bound for 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 one you love. Around the corner is Franz Josef Glacier/Kā Roimata o Hine Hukatere. Get some perspective on an optional flight. Hotel: Scenic Franz Josef Glacier (Graham Wing). B D

3 Franz Josef/Waiau - Queenstown

Over the Haast Pass, alpine scenery of the Southern Lakes spreads before you. First up there's lovely Lake Wanaka, with its Instagrammable shoreline of poplars and willows. Then Lake Hawea – the colour of an Ice Mint – and Lake Dunstan, where you'll pause to refuel on flavour-packed stone fruits. As tempting as it is to linger in Arrowtown's movie-set-like streets, Lake Wakatipu and the Remarkables await in Queenstown. **Hotel:** Copthorne Hotel & Resort, 2 nights. B

4 Queenstown Free Time

Today, choose your own adventure – there are plenty to be had. Feel the wind in your hair on the high-octane Shotover Jet, perhaps. Or discover some of New Zealand's feathered friends at a wildlife centre. Wine aficionado? Sip your way through surrounding vineyards. Wherever 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 and a little late-night dancing. B HD

5 Queenstown - Te Anau

Your route from the Mirror Lakes through the Cleddau Valley is the entrée to Milford Sound/Piopiotahi, a cavernous wonderland where waterfalls thunder from ancient escarpments into inky water where dolphins play. It's all part of

World Heritage listed Fiordland National Park, an intoxicating union of beech forests, alluvial flats, meadows and gin-clear rivers, carving up the countryside. This is your backdrop all the way to Te Anau. **Hotel: Luxmore. B D**

6 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

7 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 main 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 Oamaru, known for its stately tree-lined streets and limestone buildings. **Hotel: Heritage Gateway. B D**

8 Omarama – Christchurch

Your outlook this morning is the Canterbury Plains. Take it in on an optional scenic flight for added perspective of the Southern Alps and on to Franz Josef Glacier/Kā Roimata o Hine Hukatere. 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**

Ohristchurch – Picton

Forget powdery white sand – once you've seen the dramatic black Kaikoura cove, you'll be spoilt for all future beach-bashing. 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-tinged crystallisation ponds of the Lake Grassmere Salt Works, before arriving in the pretty seaside fishing village of Picton. **Hotel: Beachcomber. B D**

10 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 cafés, restaurants and bars. **Hotel: Travelodge. B**

1 Wellington - Rotorua

The road ahead unfolds 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 mud pops and jettisons 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 hangi 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 Aronui a Rua. **Hotel: Ibis, 2 nights. B L HD**

12 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 steamy thermal springs. Or discovering endangered birds on a working kiwi 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. **B**

13 Rotorua – Auckland

Before you reach your final destination, get set to glow 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

14 Farewell from Auckland

The 'City of Sails' flutters a wave goodbye as you make your way home. B

From \$4790

14 Included Experiences

per person twin share land only

LCCA: Christchurch to Auckland Departure Dates

2022	2023 continued	2024		
Oct 24, 31	Mar 06, 13, 20, 27	Jan 01, 08, 15, 22, 29		
Nov 21, 28	Apr 03, 10	Feb 05, 12, 19, 26		
Dec 26	May 01	Mar 04, 11, 18, 25		
	Sep 04			
2023	Oct 02, 16, 23, 30			
Jan 02, 09, 16, 23, 30	Nov 06, 20, 27			
Feb 06, 13, 20, 27	Dec 04, 11, 18, 25			

From **\$4790**

14 Included Experiences

per person twin share land only

LAAC: Auckland to Christchurch Departure Dates

2022	2023 continued		2024		
Oct 04, 11, 18, 25	May	30	Jan	09, 16, 23,	
Nov 01, 08, 15, 29	Jun	27	Feb	06, 13, 20,	
Dec 06, 13, 20, 27	Jul	25	Mar	05, 12, 19,	
	Aug	08			
2023	Sep	05, 12, 26			
Jan 10, 17, 24, 31	Oct	03, 10, 17, 24, 31			
Feb 07, 14, 21, 28	Nov	07, 14, 28			
Apr 18, 25	Dec	05, 12, 19, 26			

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

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

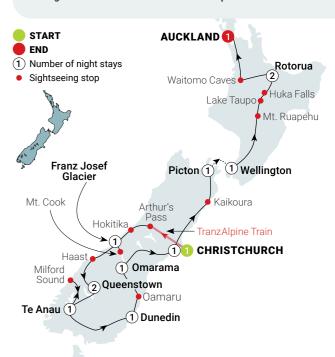
Dining

13 Full buffet breakfasts B
1 Lunch L
2 Highlight Dinners HD

5 Dinners **D** 1 Farewell Dinner **FD**

Flight Information

Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 4.00pm into Christchurch Airport
Day 14 – flights to depart any time from Auckland Airport
Flights are not included in the vacation price



72 9 DAYS • CHRISTCHURCH RETURN LCQR/LRQC • BEST BUYS 73

Southern Spotlight

Highlights

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

lconic 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...

Time For You

Sometimes, the best travel experiences are those you have on a whim. Enjoy downtime to go at your own pace.

Sustainable Travel

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

Natural Wonders

Franz Josef Glacier/Kā Roimata o Hine Hukatere is quite possibly the South Island's coolest attraction. Literally. This gem sparkles from its perch in Westland Tai Poutini National Park.



1 Christchurch

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. Expect quite the commentary – your conductors are a hoot. **Hotel: Ibis.**

2 Christchurch - Omarama

Christchurch 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 Tūranga, the gold-clad central library. From here, your outlook is the Canterbury Plains: the turquoise waters of Lake Tekapo, the quaint Church of the Good Shepherd, snow-capped mountains and atmospheric towns. If you wish (and you should wish) take it in on a scenic flight for added perspective of the Southern Alps and on to Franz Josef Glacier/Kā Roimata o Hine Hukatere. **Hotel: Heritage Gateway. B D**

3 Omarama – Dunedin

If you've ever wanted to see New Zealand's oldest public gardens, today you're in luck. Oamaru, with its stately tree-lined streets and limestone buildings, stands proud before you journey further south toward the Edinburgh of the South: Dunedin. It's easy to while away the afternoon in the city's atmospheric art-lined alleys. Or venture further afield to discover the wildlife that thrives in this pretty pocket of the country – fur seals and penguins among them. Thirsty? Visit Speight's Brewery, a New Zealand institution. **Hotel: Scenic Dunedin City. B**

4 Dunedin – Te Anau

There are some days when you're travelling, that all you want to do is sleep in. Go for it. Or channel your inner royalty on a visit to Dunedin's grand Larnach Castle – the only one of its kind in the country. Dunedin's Scottish ancestry is everywhere you look, from the manicured grounds of Otago University to the city's main George Street. Rolling green hills dotted with doe-eyed sheep are replaced by soaring mountains as you weave your way into Fiordland National Park and the South Island's biggest lake and the town of Te Anau. Soak up the serenity – it doesn't get any better than this. **Hotel: Luxmore. B D**

5 Te Anau – Queenstown

From the moment you step outside today, nature rules. Your route through Fiordland National Park is an intoxicating union of beech forests, alluvial flats, meadows and mirror-like lakes. Gin-clear 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. B

6 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 feathered friends at a wildlife centre. Wherever 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 Highlight Dinner. **B HD**

Queenstown – Franz Josef/Waiau

Try and keep count of today's lakes. Leaving Lake Wakatipu behind, Arrowtown appears on the horizon. We 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 Wing). B D

8 Franz Josef/Waiau - 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 of snow-capped peaks, icy rivers, beech forests, gorges and river valleys. **Hotel: Ibis. B FD**

Farewell from Christchurch

New Zealand's South Island never fails to wow. We hope you find the words to describe this epic adventure to your family back home. **B**



From \$3145

7 Included Experiences

per person twin share land only

LCQR: Christchurch return Departure Dates

2022	2023	3	2024	ļ.
Oct 02, 16, 23	Apr	23, 30	Jan	14, 21, 28
Nov 13, 20	Jun	04	Feb	04, 11, 18, 25
Dec 04, 11, 18, 25	Jul	02, 30	Mar	03, 10, 17, 24, 31
	Aug	13		_
2023	Sep	10, 17		
Jan 01, 15, 22, 29	Oct	01, 08, 15, 22, 29		
Feb 05, 12, 19, 26	Nov	05, 12, 19		
Mar 05, 12, 19, 26	Dec	03, 10, 17, 24, 31		

From **\$3145**

7 Included Experiences

per person twin share land only

LRQC: Christchurch return Departure Dates

2022	2023	3	2024	ļ
Oct 03, 17, 24, 31	Mar	06, 13, 20, 27	Jan	01, 08, 15, 22, 29
Nov 07, 24, 28	Apr	03, 10	Feb	05, 12, 19, 26
Dec 05, 12, 19, 26	May	01	Mar	04, 11, 18, 25
	Sep	04		
2023	Oct	02, 16, 23, 30		
Jan 02, 09, 16, 23, 30	Nov	06, 20, 27		
Feb 06, 13, 20, 27	Dec	04, 11, 18, 25		

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

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

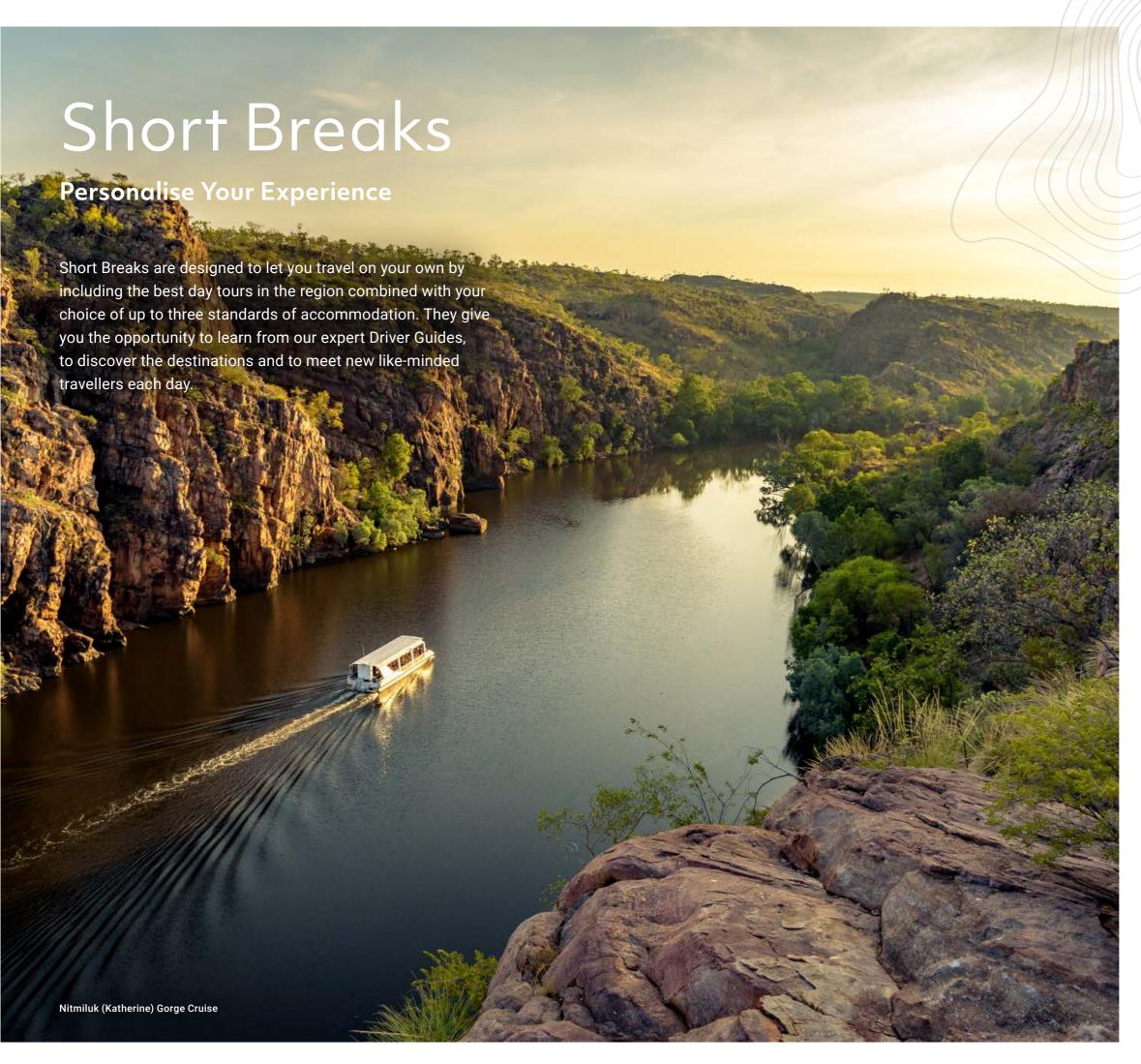
Dining

8 Full buffet breakfasts B 3 Dinners D
1 Highlight Dinner HD 1 Farewell Dinner FD

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





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



From \$505 adult \$385 child

DEPARTS

2.30pm (Apr-Oct) and 3.00pm (Nov-Mar)

per person twin share

(U2L)

2 DAYS

10.30am (Oct-Mar) and 11.00am (Apr-Sep)

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

ULURU RETURN: Uluru Sunset • Uluru Sunrise · Uluru Base Tour · Mutitiulu Waterhole · Aboriginal Rock Art · Kata Tjuta Walpa Gorge

1 Arrive Uluru - Sacred Sites & Sunset On arrival at Ayers Rock Airport you'll be transferred to the resort (flights to arrive prior to 1.30pm). This afternoon, visit the Üluru-Kata Tjura 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 sites. Continue by coach to the Kuniya Walk where your Driver Guide will escort you to the beautiful Mutitjulu Waterhole. In the late afternoon witness the

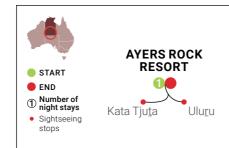
striking colour changes of Uluru at sunset while enjoying sparkling wine. Hotel: Outback Pioneer (B), Desert Gardens (R) or Sails in the Desert (S), Ayers Rock Resort.

+ Uluru BBO Dinner +BBQA

After sunset, why not add on our exclusive Aussie Barbecue Dinner from \$119

2 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 Avers Rock Airport. Flights to depart after 12.45pm (Oct-Mar) and 1.15pm (Apr-Sep).





From \$899 adult \$675 child

per person twin share

DK50

2 DAYS

DK40

2 DAYS

DEPARTS 6.30am (Mav-Nov)

CONCLUDES

7.30nm approximately

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

DARWIN RETURN: Kakadu National Park Yellow Water Billabong Cruise
 Aboriginal Rock Art & Culture • Warradjan Cultural Centre • Cultural Cruise with Aboriginal Guide

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 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

DARWIN RETURN: Kakadu National Park

Rock Art & Culture • Warradjan Cultural

As this Short Break departs at 6.30am,

Darwin - Kakadu National Park

Depart Darwin and travel through pristine

The national park covers 20,000 square

wetland regions into Kakadu National Park

kilometres, from rocky escarpments home to

historic Aboriginal rock art dating thousands

of years, to floodplains abundant with wildlife

informative displays depicting the traditions

your local guide on a cruise on Yellow Water

Billabong. Search for saltwater crocodiles

of the Aboriginal people in Kakadu. Join

Visit the Warradian Cultural Centre to view the

for the previous night.

• Yellow Water Billabong Cruise • Aboriginal

Centre · Cultural Cruise with Aboriginal Guide

accommodation will need to be pre-booked

2 Guluyambi Cultural Cruise - Depart Darwin This morning, head off with your Driver Guide to explore the World Heritage area of Ubirr, where you'll explore extensive Aboriginal rock art galleries believed to be 20,000 years old. Climb to the lookout for stunning views over the floodplains, woodlands and dark 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 Arnhem Land. Return to Darwin, where your Short Break concludes. L

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



From \$959 adult \$719 child



U3L1

3 DAYS

From \$875 adult \$689 child

per person twin share **DEPARTS**

90 minutes prior to sunset

CONCLUDES

30 minutes after sunrise

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

ULURU RETURN : Kata Tjuta sunset • Walpa Gorge • Uluru Sunrise • Uluru Sunset • Uluru
Base Tour • Aboriginal Rock Art • Field of Light

1 Arrive Uluru – Kata Tjuta Sunset On arrival at Ayers Rock Airport you'll be transferred to the resort (flights to arrive prior to 3.00pm). This afternoon, enjoy a leisurely drive out to Kata Tjuta. Witness a magnificent outback sunset there while enjoying sparkling wine. Hotel: Outback Pioneer (B), Desert Gardens (R) or Sails in the Desert (S), Ayers Rock Resort, 2 nights.

2 Uluru Sunrise - Sacred Sites & Sunset Rise early to witness a magical Uluru sunrise, then travel to the stunning red-rock domes of Kata Tjuta and spend time exploring Walpa Gorge. This afternoon, visit the Uluru-Kata Tjuta Cultural Centre to learn more about the Western Desert region, then tour the

sacred sites around the base of Uluru with a local Driver Guide, learning about the customs of the traditional owners. Walk the sacred Mutitjulu Waterhole, and view ancient Aboriginal rock art. Later, watch as the sun sets over Uluru, bringing out the myriad shades of colour for which the world's largest monolith is renowned.

+ Uluru BBQ Dinner +BBQA After sunset, why not add on our exclusive

Aussie Barbecue Dinner from \$119.

3 Field of Light - Depart Uluru Experience acclaimed artist Bruce Munro's Field of Light, a once-in-a-lifetime event in Uluru. Under cover of darkness, wander

glass spheres of light, in colours of ochre,

through 50,000 magical hand-crafted frosted

deep violet, blue and gentle white. Then make your way to the dune top, where you'll be served tea, coffee or hot chocolate. Watch in awe as the sun pops up in the distance behind Uluru, flooding the landscape, including Kata Tjuta behind you, with light. Transfer to Ayers Rock Airport for your onward flight (flights to depart after 9.30am).





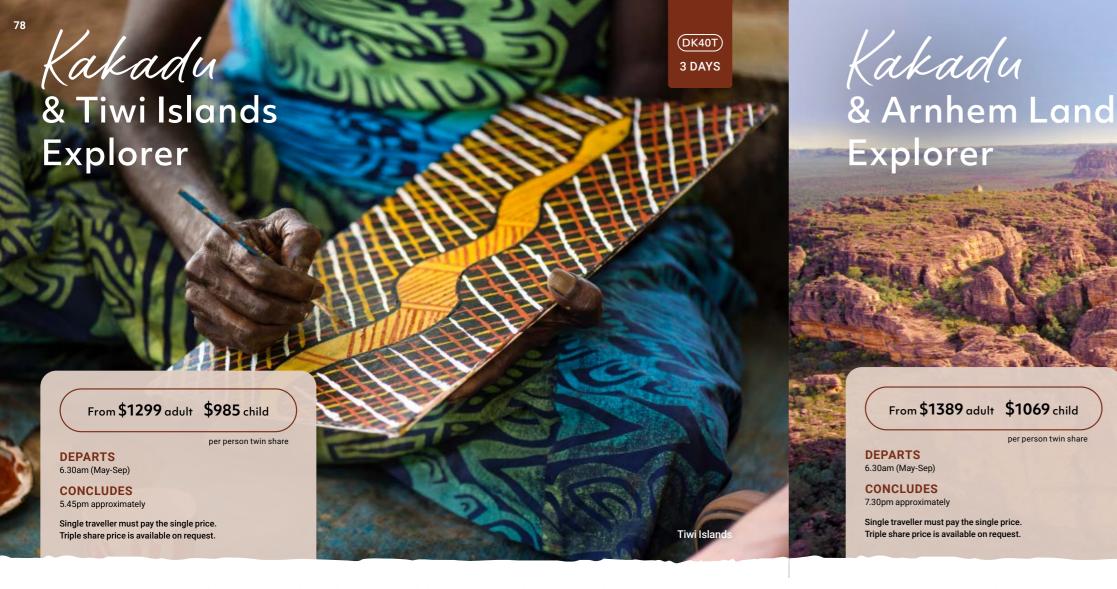
and the colourful range of birdlife for which this region is renowned. After lunch, stop at Nourlangie, where your Driver Guide will lead you on a walk to view the ancient rock art galleries. Hotel: Mercure Kakadu Crocodile.

Kakadu. L

2 Arnhem Land by 4WD - Depart Darwin This morning travel by 4WD vehicle into Arnhem Land and the Mikini Valley. The spectacular scenery includes sandstone outcrops, escarpments, forests and floodplains. Learn about traditional land ownership, bush skills and bush tucker and view Aboriginal rock art. Most tours are accompanied by an Aboriginal Guide. Return to Darwin, where your Short Break concludes. L

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





DARWIN RETURN: Kakadu National Park • Yellow Water Billabong Cruise • Aboriginal Rock Art & Culture • Warradjan Cultural Centre · Cultural Cruise with Aboriginal Guide · Tiwi Islands Experience

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. L

2 Kakadu -

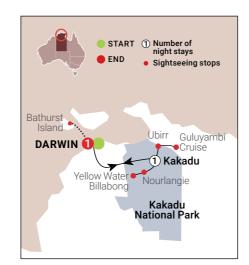
Guluyambi Cultural Cruise - Darwin

Join your Driver Guide to explore the World Heritage area of Ubirr, where you'll climb up through the ancient Aboriginal rock art galleries to the lookout for the view over the wetlands. Later, board the Guluyambi Cultural Cruise along the East Alligator River. An Aboriginal guide will provide an insight into their culture and the river's abundant food

chain. 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. L

3 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. L

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.



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.

From \$1389 adult \$1069 child

per person twin share

Explorer

DEPARTS

6.30am (May-Sep)

CONCLUDES

7.30pm approximately

Single traveller must pay the single price.

Triple share price is available on request.

 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 nights. L

2 Arnhem Land 4WD Adventure

This morning travel by 4WD vehicle into Western Arnhem Land and the Mikinj Valley. The scenery includes forests, sandstone outcrops, escarpments, floodplains and billabongs. You'll visit places inaccessible to most, including ancient rock art sites. Learn about traditional land ownership, bush skills, hunting, food gathering and bush tucker preparation. Most tours are accompanied by an Aboriginal guide. L

3 Kakadu - Guluyambi Cultural Cruise -Depart Darwin

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. where your Short Break concludes. L

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



Visit our website or call your Travel Agent for latest pricing and days of departure.



DARWIN RETURN: Jumping Crocodile Cruise • Kakadu National Park • Aboriginal Rock Art • 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.

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 Marrawuddi Art Gallery, and then continue to Ubirr. 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 Bininj 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 Leliyn (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

Kakadu Scenic Flight [+SKF30]

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

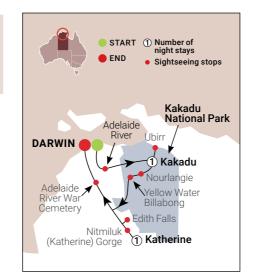
Please enquire for details.

3 Katherine - Depart Darwin

Enjoy a morning cruise through Nitmiluk (Katherine) Gorge, a stunning network of thirteen gorges carved from billion-year-old sandstone. You'll be at its heart among freshwater crocodiles, wonderful birdlife and amazing scenery. Later, view the displays at the Nitmiluk Visitor Centre, where you may purchase artefacts handmade by the Jawoyn people. Return to Darwin, stopping at historic gold mining town of Pine Creek and the poignant Adelaide River War Cemetery. Your Short Break concludes this evening.

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.



DARWIN RETURN: Crocodile spotting • Ubirr & Nourlangie Rock Art • Yellow Water Billabong cruise • Nitmiluk (Katherine) Gorge cruise • Swim at Litchfield waterfalls

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 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 Ubirr 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

★ Kakadu Scenic Flight +SKF30

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

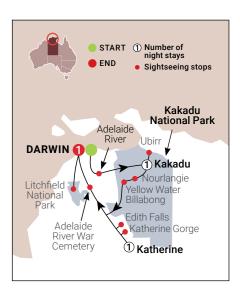
3 Nitmiluk (Katherine) Gorge – Darwin Cruise through Nitmiluk (Katherine) Gorge, watching for crocodiles basking in the sun. It is a stunning network of thirteen gorges carved from billion year old sandstone that are home to rapids and fall flowing from the Nitmiluk River. Gain cultural insights at Nitmiluk 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.

• Darwin – Litchfield – Depart Darwin In 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

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

Darwin, where your Short Break concludes. L

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



ADELAIDE → ALICE SPRINGS: Journey on The Ghan • Marla • Uluru Sunset • Uluru Barbecue Dinner • Uluru Sunrise • Kata Tjuta • Walpa Gorge • Uluru Base Tour • Aboriginal Rock Art • Kings Canyon • Flinders & MacDonnell Ranges

1 Adelaide - 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 travellers 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. L D

2 The Ghan - Alice Springs

Wake up and witness an unforgettable outback sunrise at your morning stop in Marla in the remote reaches of South Australia. Back on board, it's time for brunch or even a full breakfast. After a few more coffees, fresh juices and more incredible outback scenery, you'll be arriving in iconic Alice Springs and transferred to your hotel. This afternoon is at leisure, so why not visit the Alice Springs Desert Park, home to plants and wildlife native to the area. The Arrernte people, traditional owners of the park, are also on hand to share their local knowledge (own expense). Hotel: Crowne Plaza Alice Springs Lasseters. B

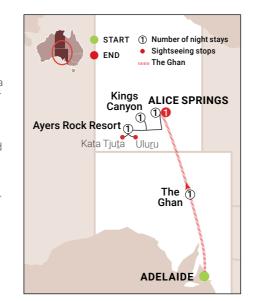
3 Alice Springs – Ulu<u>r</u>u

Depart Alice Springs through the rugged desert landscape, passing the beautiful MacDonnell Ranges. View flat-topped Atila (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 (Mai Uluru La Ila) under the stars. See page 24 for more details.

Hotel: Desert Gardens, Ayers Rock Resort. D

Q Uluru – Kata Tjuta – Kings Canyon Rise early to travel to the Uluru sunrise viewing area watch 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 Walpa 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.

5 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.

6 Depart Alice Springs

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



CAIRNS RETURN: Great Barrier Reef • Skyrail Rainforest Cableway • Kuranda Scenic Rail • Kuranda Heritage Markets • World Heritage Rainforest

1 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.**

2 Great Barrier Reef

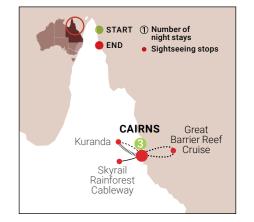
Join us for a unique outer Great Barrier Reef cruise, where the Sunlover catamaran docks alongside a floating pontoon, stationed in a natural lagoon fringed with beautiful coral at Moore Reef. Snorkel (equipment provided) in the natural lagoon or stay dry with semi-submersible and glass bottom boat tours. 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. ${\bf B} \; {\bf L}$

3 Scenic Rail – Kuranda – Skyrail
Board the Kuranda Scenic Railway at
Feshwater Station for a historic journey. Wind
through hand-hewn tunnels, across bridges
and curves. On arrival in Kuranda there's free
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

4 Depart Cairns

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



83



CAIRNS RETURN: Aboriginal Cultural
Experience • Painting Class • Traditional
Smoking Ceremony • Art Gallery • Mossman
Gorge • Walk in Daintree Rainforest • Great
Barrier Reef Cruise

1 Cairns - Port Douglas

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

2 Aboriginal Art and Culture

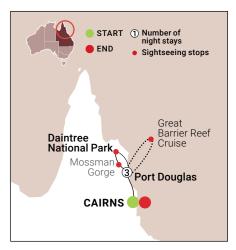
Visit the Janbal Gallery for an art class with Aboriginal artist Brian 'Binna' Swindley. Learn ancient Dreamtime stories, local history and how these are shared through their art. Create your own unique artwork to take home with you. Travel to Mossman Gorge Cultural Centre where you will be welcomed to the land with a traditional Aboriginal smoking ceremony,

journey with your Aboriginal guide for an interpretive walk. Learn about the local Kuku Yalanji people's special relationship with the land here. **B** L

3 Great Barrier Reef

Quicksilver's Silversonic catamaran will take you to Agincourt Reef. The ribbon reef systems provide unsurpassed coral formations, colourful marine life and spectacular underwater visibility. Explore the reef from the comfort of a semi-submersible, discover in the underwater observatory, watch the fascinating fish feeding presentation or snorkel in the beautiful coral gardens. A tropical buffet lunch is served before you return to Port Douglas. **B** L

4 Port Douglas – Depart Cairns Your Short Break concludes this morning after breakfast. Make your own way to Cairns Airport (flights anytime). B



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.



3 Day Pass Includes:

Kata Tjuta Sunset (Y8) + Kata Tjuta Sunrise & Valley of the Winds (Y50) + Uluru Sunset (Y11) + Uluru Morning Guided Base Walk (Y40)

Add on Uluru BBQ from \$155 Add on Kings Canyon from \$235

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.



2 Day Pass Includes:

Uluru Sacred Sites & Sunset (Y17) + Uluru Sunrise & Field of Light (FOL)

Add on Uluru BBQ from \$155



2 Day Pass Includes:

Uluru Sacred Sites & Sunset (Y17) + Uluru Sunrise & Kata Tjuta (Y14)

Add on Uluru BBQ from \$155 Add on Kings Canyon from \$235



3 Day Pass Includes:

Uluru Sacred Sites & Sunset (Y17) + Kata Tjuta Sunset (Y8) + Uluru Sunrise & Field of Light (FOL)

Add on Uluru BBQ from \$155



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



Tiwi Islands Aboriginal Cultural Tour

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

DEPARTS

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

From \$309 adult \$215 child

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

^Price does not include Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park entry fee. *From 01 Nov 2023 price will not include Northern Territory Parks Pass. See page 87 for details.

Mai Uluru La Ila

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



From \$189° adult \$95 child

From \$149° adult \$105 child

From \$239° adult \$169 child

45 minutes prior to sunset from Ayers Rock Resort

RETURNS

2½ hrs approximately after sunset

Uluru Sunrise & Kata Tjuta

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 Talinguru Nyakunytjaku, the Uluru sunrise viewing area. Afterwards, on the 45 kms 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 Walpa Gorge won't disappoint as you're led into a world of rare plant species and lush evergreen scrubs. Fitness level is Grade 3, moderate.



90 minutes prior to sunrise from Ayers Rock Resort

RETURNS

4 hrs approximately after sunrise

Ulu<u>r</u>u Aboriginal Art & Cultural Experience

Experience the oldest culture on earth with an Ananqu (Aboriginal) guide and interpreter. Learn how the Ananqu 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.



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

RETURNS

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

Uluru Sunset + BBQ Dinner

Travel to the Uluru sunset viewing area. Enjoy sparkling wine as the sun sets over the western horizon and the evening sky brings out the many shades of colour for which Uluru is famous. Add on our exclusive BBQ Dinner Y11B. Explore native apple, bush tomato, and quandong flavours, savour renowned Australian barbecued steak, kangaroo and seafood, fresh salads and a classic dessert with a twist. See page 90 for more details.

DEPARTS

60 minutes prior to sunset from Avers Rock Resort

RETURNS

Y11 30 minutes or Y11B 2% hours approximately after sunset

Y11 From \$69^adult \$49 child

Y11B From \$209 adult \$149 child

From \$165*adult \$115* child

From \$119*adult \$79* child

From \$299 adult \$209 child

Ayers Rock to Alice Springs

Travel through spectacular desert scenery from Ayers Rock Resort. Pass through Curtin Springs Station and see Atila (Mt. Conner). Call in at Erldunda, 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) 1.00pm (Apr-Sep)

7.00pm approximately (Oct-Mar)

7.30pm approximately (Apr-Sep)

A Town like Alice

Tour the sights of 'The Alice' including the School of the Air and the historic Telegraph Station, which marks theoriginal site of the first European settlement in Alice Springs. Visit the Royal Flying Doctor Service, where you'll see how medical aid reaches those who live in the remote outback. Call in at the Alice Springs Reptile Centre and end the day with a panoramic view of Alice Springs and the MacDonnell Ranges from the top of Anzac Hill. Add on a visit to Alice Springs Desert Park A3D.

1.45pm from Alice Springs (earlier from your hotel)

RETURNS

6.00pm approximately

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. L

DEPARTS

6.30am from Darwin

RETURNS

7.30pm approximately



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.

8.00am from Sydney

5.30pm approximately



From \$249 adult \$175 child

For latest pricing, days of departure and itinerary details,

Great Ocean Road & the Twelve Apostles

Travel along the Great Ocean Road and witness unrestricted views of Australia's most spectacular coastline, without the crowds. The rugged splendour of the Twelve Apostles is breathtaking. These incredible limestone rock formations are a result of erosion that began up to 20 million years ago. Hear the amazing shipwreck story of survival of the Loch Ard and visit its famous gorge. Stop in seaside Port Campbell for lunch (own expense). On the return trip, travel through Otway National Park and see fern filled gullies, river inlets and lush rainforest that are home to several native animals.

DEPARTS

7.30am from Melbourne

RETURNS

6.00pm approximately

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

1.00pm from Melbourne

RETURNS

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



From \$165 adult \$115 child

Cape Tribulation, Daintree & Mossman Gorge

Visit Mossman Gorge Centre and enjoy morning tea. In Mossman Gorge, learn about the secrets of one of the world's oldest rainforests. Cruise on the Daintree River. Stroll on Cape Tribulation Beach. Wind through the rainforest to the Alexandra Range lookout and enjoy views over the Daintree River estuary and beyond to the Coral Sea

DEPARTS

6.45am from Cairns

RETURNS

6.30pm approximately



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

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 Markets are 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.



8.15am from Cairns

RETURNS

4.00pm approximately

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

Booking

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

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 2023, the NEW Parks Pass must be added to the Day Tour prices in this brochure, where indicated. The NT Parks Pass is \$8 per adult/\$4 per child for each park for each day.

These are an additional compulsory government charge and is 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

info@aatkings.com







AAT Kings Tours (USA) Inc

California 90630

5551 Katella Avenue, Cypress,

Conditions

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

TRADE 1-866-240-1659

reservations@aatkings.com

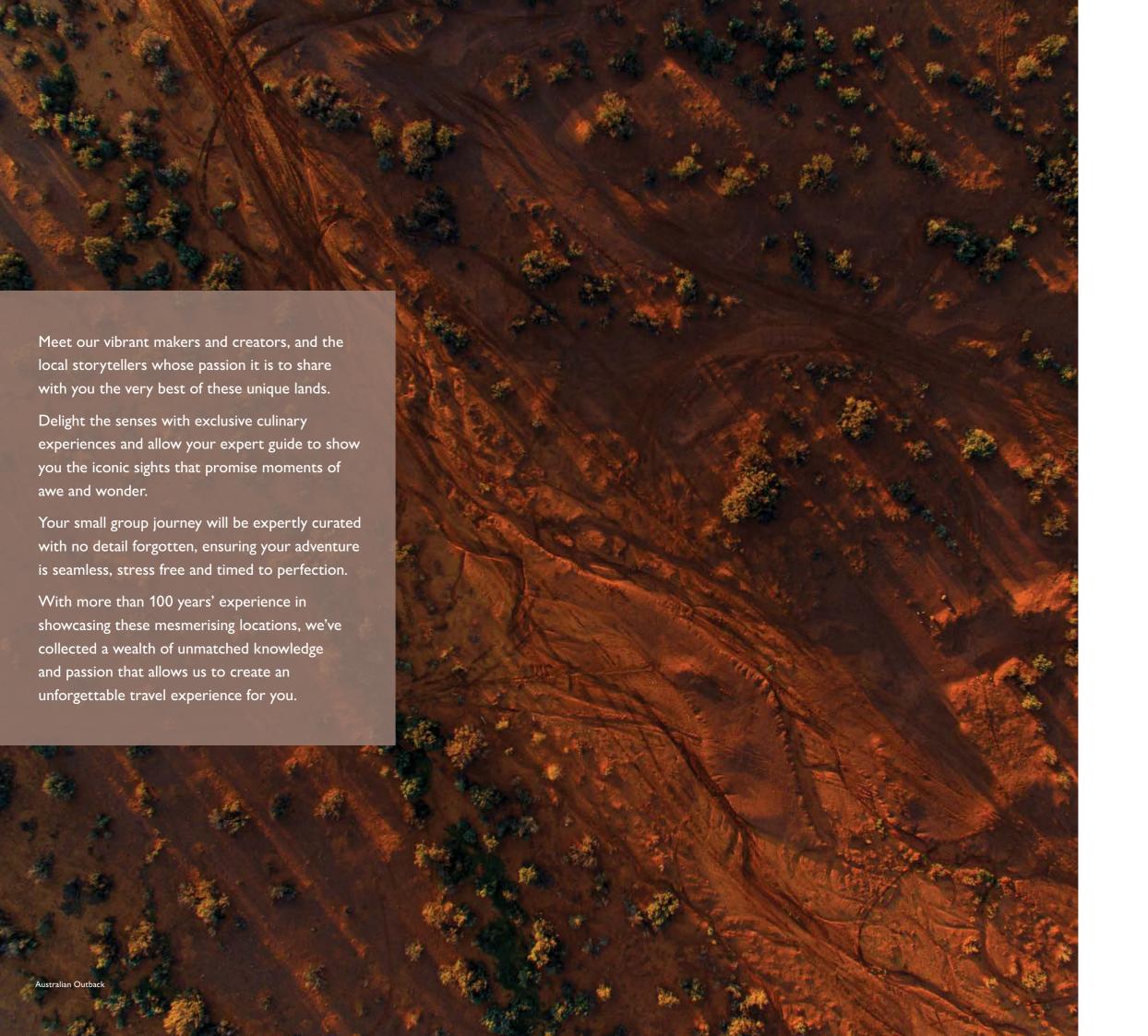
ONLINE aatkings.com

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AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND





Inspiring Journeys



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.







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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 Māori 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.

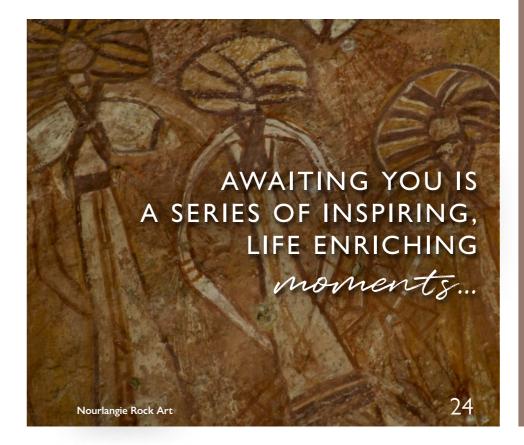
10 Australia & New Zealand Expedition 22 days • ANFLY

12 Northern Territory Dreaming 11 days • MNCR

> The wild majesty of the Top End and the dramatic landscapes of Australia's Red Centre combine on this unforgettable journey.

14 **Outback Contrasts** 6 days • CRAA

> Witness the rugged landscape of the Red Centre and the ancient cultures that have cared for this land for generations.



22

24

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Look for these icons to learn about your small group experience:



IMMERSE yourself in new experiences



() INDULGE



EXPLORE boundless landscapes



RELAX and recharge

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.

4.5/5 feefo •••

Independent reviews from our guests

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

 \star \star \star \star 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!"

 \star \star \star \star 5.0/5 Linda L

LIFE ENRICHING

MOMENTS







Cover Story: A multi award-winning cultural attraction in Rotorua, the Te Pā Tū Māori Experience 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.

YOURSELF IN NEW EXPERIENCES

O Look for this icon to find Immerse highlights

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.

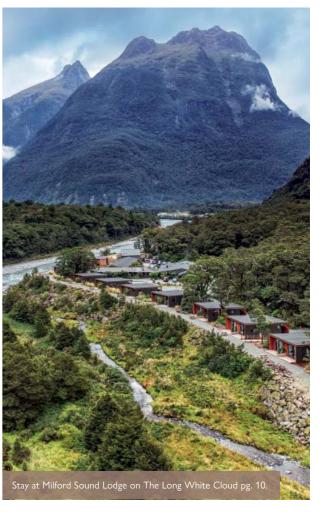
Cook for this icon to find Indulge highlights





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.

Look for this icon to find Explore 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.

Look for this icon to find Relax highlights

THE INSPIRING **JOURNEYS EXPERIENCE**





MEET MANA WAHINE,

MEET JOURNEY DIRECTOR,

'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."

Courtney

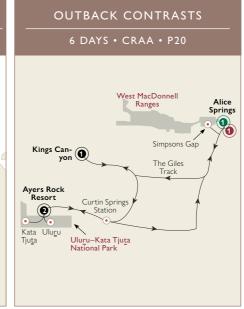
In the geothermal wonderland of Rotorua, cultural performer Rosie, a woman of spiritual power and strength invites you to discover the true heart and soul of Māori culture. At Te Pā Tū Māori Experience, the descendants of Māori warriors welcome you to sacred grounds, introducing you to the wisdom of 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.

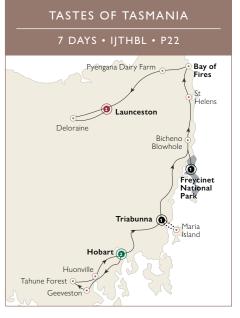




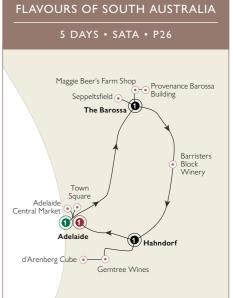


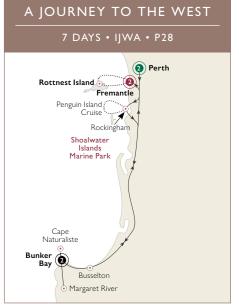






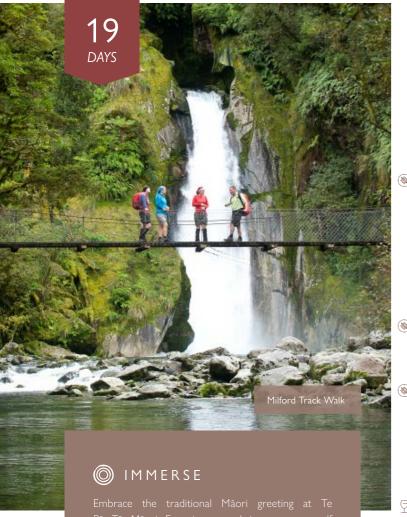






THE LONG WHITE CLOUD

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



♥ INDULGE

(EXPLORE

₩ RELAX

Enjoy an unforgettable dining experience at Craggy

Wake up to the wonder of fiordland at Milford Sound

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 Arthur's 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. **MEALS** Breakfast

Day 4: Franz Josef/Waiau - Arrowtown - Queenstown

Discover the Haast River this morning as you journey its length in a fully enclosed river jet boat. Stop at Makarora, then explore the heritage goldsettlement 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 even an adrenaline-filled activity. On your second night, your Local Dining Experience is in one of Queenstown's exclusive restaurants.

MEALS Breakfast, Local Dining Experience

Day 7: Queenstown - Te Anau - Milford Sound/Piopiotahi

Travel 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 magical 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's/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.

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 5000L craft brewery, Emerson's, before joining your hosts for an exclusive tasting. This afternoon is at leisure, so perhaps consider an optional experience.

MFALS Breakfast

Day 11: Dunedin - Omarau - Timaru - Christchurch

Travel up the east coast through Omarau 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: NZSI). Travel along the Pacific coast to Kaikoura. Continue to the seaside village of Picton and later, cross the Cook Strait to Wellington. Guests join this afternoon in Wellington (Code: NZNI).

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 - Hawke's Bay

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

HOTEL Porters Boutique Hotel, 2 nights MEALS Breakfast, Local Dining Experience

Day 15: Napier (Relaxed Start)

on 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: Hawke'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 birdlife.

HOTEL Pullman Rotorua, 2 nights

MEALS Breakfast

Day 17: Rotorua

Ascend the breathtaking Redwoods Treewalk for an elevated bird's eye view of the 120-year old redwood giants. At the National Kiwi Hatchery Aotearoa, passionate conservationists reveal how they are saving the

kiwi population, one incubated egg at a time. Your Local Dining Experience is a Māori hangi and cultural performance at the Te Pā Tū Māori

MEALS Breakfast, Local Dining Experience

Day 18: Rotorua - Auckland

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

HOTEL OT Auckland

MEALS Breakfast, Celebration Dinner

Day 19: Farewell from Auckland

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

MEALS Breakfast

FROM \$11,170 P.P. TWIN SHARE LAND

NZIJ: Christchurch to Auckland (19 Days)

DEPARTURES

2022	2	2023		2024	
Oct	10	Jan	02, 09, 30	Jan	01, 08, 29
Nov	07	Feb	06	Feb	05
		Mar	06	Mar	04
		Oct	09		
		Nov	06		

FROM \$7.225 P.P. TWIN SHARE LAND ONLY

NZSI: Christchurch Return (12 Days)

DEPARTURES

2022	2023		2024	
Oct 10	Jan	02, 09, 30	Jan	01, 08, 29
Nov 07	Feb	06	Feb	05
	Mar	06	Mar	04
	Oct	09		
	Nov	06		

FROM \$4,295 P.P. TWIN SHARE LAND ONLY

NZNI: Wellington to Auckland (8 Days)

DEPARTURES

2022	2023		2024	1	
Oct 21	Jan	13, 20	Jan	12, 19	
Nov 18	Feb	10, 17	Feb	09, 16	
	Mar	17	Mar	15	
	Oct	20			
	Nov	17			

See available prices or additional departure dates including those from 01 Oct 2024 at inspiringjourneys.com/nzij or contact your local agent. Single traveller must pay the single price.



INSPIRING NEW ZEALAND

AUCKLAND | WAIHEKE ISLAND | ROTORUA | WELLINGTON | QUEENSTOWN | DOUBTFUL SOUND/PATEA



(IMMERSE

♥ INDULGE

(EXPLORE

₩ RELAX

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 Reception and dinner.

HOTEL Sofitel Auckland Viaduct Harbour, 2 nights MEALS Dinner with wine

Day 2: Auckland Sights - Waiheke Island

A city sights 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.

Day 3: Auckland - Rotorua

MEALS Breakfast, lunch

Your leisurely discovery of New Zealand's North Island continues as you follow the meandering trail of the Waikato River to the famous Caveworld Waitomo 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 volatile 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 lands, thermal marvels and Māori traditions of Rotorua. You could 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 bohemian area – the heritage Cuba Street precinct. Once dimly-lit back alleys, these newly rejuvenated laneways are now home to some of the country's funkiest bars, boutiques and breweries. You'll see for yourself why Wellington is the coffee and craft beer capital of New Zealand. This
- afternoon, we continue to the urban eco-sanctuary of Zealandia, admiring the extraordinary efforts of conservationists who have reintroduced 18 species of native wildlife that were absent from mainland New Zealand for over a century.

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 day 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: Oueenstown at Leisure

Explore exciting Queenstown, your way. You could embark on a minibus $\overline{\ \ }$ 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

FROM \$6,914* P.P.

TWIN SHARE LAND AND INTERNAL-VACATION AIRFARES

DEPARTURES

2022	2023		2024	
Nov 20	Feb 12	!	Feb	11
	Mar 12	!	Mar	10
	Oct 1	;		
	Nov 19)		

See available prices or additional departure dates including those from Single traveller must pay the single price.

INCLUSIONS

- Small group (22 guests max)
- 9+ Unforgettable experiences
- 15 included meals
- 9 Nights premium accommodation

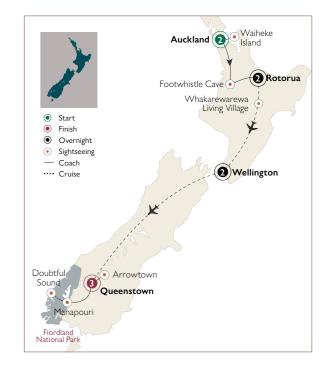
NOTES

NZFLY: AUCKLAND TO QUEENSTOWN

- Flight Information: Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 4.00pm into Auckland Airport Day 10 – flights to depart anytime from Queenstown 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. Day 5 – Rotorua to Wellington Day 7 – Wellington to Queenstown
- Return airfares from your home port are not included in the price above.

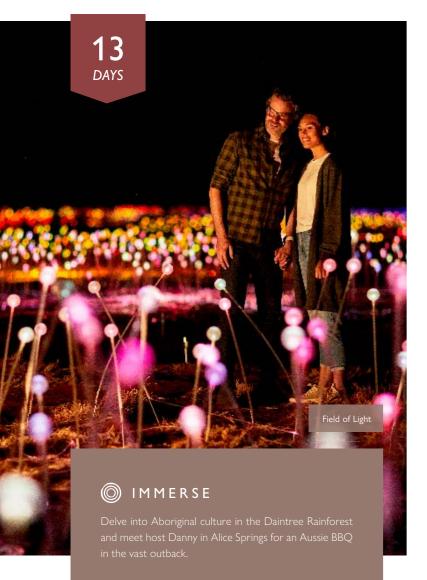
UPGRADE

Combine Inspiring New Zealand with Inspiring Australia for the ultimate two-country vacation experience. See page 8 for details.



INSPIRING AUSTRALIA

CAIRNS | PALM COVE | DAINTREE RAINFOREST | GREAT BARRIER REEF | ULURU | KATA TJUIA | KINGS CANYON | ALICE SPRINGS | SYDNEY | HUNTER VALLEY



♥ INDULGE

(EXPLORE

W RELAX

Dine at the Sounds of Silence in Uluru and devour

Great Barrier Reef and cruise on Sydney Harbou

Venture on a journey through Australia's most iconic sights. Experience the ancient Gondwana 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 lourney Director and fellow travellers 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

O Join your Aboriginal guide on an exclusive experience to discover the ancient Daintree Rainforest 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 medicine 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. The professional crew will take you to an underwater world that is a dazzling kaleidoscope of colour and brilliance. Or if breathtaking rainforest speaks to you, your day begins on the Scenic Railway. Winding your way up to the quaint village of Kuranda. There's time to explore the 'village in the Rainforest', including the Heritage Markets, before returning on the Skyrail Rainforest Cableway. **MEALS** Breakfast, (lunch Great Barrier Reef cruise only)

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 nibbles and sparkling wine while you watch Uluru change colour as the sun

HOTEL Sails in the Desert Hotel, Ayers Rock Resort, 2 nights **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 gentle 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, see rock art, and visit Mutitjulu Waterhole. This evening enjoy a Local $\begin{picture}(20,0)\put(0,0){\line(1,0){10}}\put(0,0){\line(1,0){10}$

MEALS Breakfast, Local Dining Experience

Day 6: Uluru - Kings Canyon

Sounds of Silence Dinner.

Experience the magic of the sunrise over Uluru. Later, travel towards Kings Canyon. Your first stop is Curtin Springs, home to the Severin family since 1956. Enjoy a barbecue lunch, where you will meet one of the locals and gain insight into the cattle rearing heritage.

HOTEL Kings Canvon Resort MEALS Breakfast, lunch, dinner with wine

Day 7: Kings Canyon - Alice Springs

Today you're off on a sunrise six-kilometre Rim Walk exploration of the spectacular Kings Canyon. This evening, join your hosts at an outback bush barbecue Local Dining Experience under the stars.

HOTEL Crowne Plaza Alice Springs Lasseters

MEALS Breakfast, lunch, Local Dining Experience

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 gives way to cosmopolitan

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. Midmorning offers you an Included Choice activity so you can see more of the Harbour City. Escape to a world long ago, before colonial settlement 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 some of Sydney's oldest pubs. Tread in the footsteps of the convicts, larrikin gangs & locals of the past as you share a drink in four of Sydney's oldest pubs. Between watering holes, your guide will take you through the alleys & cobbled streets of the Rocks as they share the gossip, shouts, and stories of Australia's first European settlement. This afternoon, depart Sydney for the Hunter Valley wine region.

HOTEL voco Kirkton Park, 2 nights MEALS Breakfast, dinner with wine

Day 10: Hunter Valley

Spend the day exploring the amazing Hunter Valley Wine Region. It includes $\begin{picture}(20,0) \put(0,0){\line(0,0){100}} \put(0,0){\line(0,0){100$ wine tastings at boutique vineyards and sit down to an exceptional tasting lunch. There will be time to explore cellar doors, a cheese shop, chocolatier, 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 dining options.

MEALS Breakfast, lunch with wine

Day 11: Hunter Valley - Sydney

Return to Sydney in time to cruise magical Sydney Harbour. Cruise around the glistening 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 small secluded coves surrounded by multi-million-dollar waterfront homes. This evening is free for you to explore and discover one of Sydney's local

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. 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 Gilmore'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

FROM \$11.005* P.P.

TWIN SHARE LAND & INTERNAL-VACATION AIRFARES

DEPARTURES

2022	2023		2024	
Oct 04	Jan	10, 31	Jan	09, 30
Nov 08	Feb Apr	28 04	Feb	27
	Jul	04		
	Aug	29		
	Oct	03		
	Nov	07		

See available prices or additional departure dates including those from 01 Apr 2024 at inspiringjourneys.com/ijfly or contact your local agent. Single traveller must pay the single price.

INCLUSIONS

- Small group (22 guests max)
- 17+ Unforgettable experiences
- 23 included meals
- 12 Nights premium accommodation

NOTES

IJFLY: CAIRNS TO SYDNEY

· Flight Information:

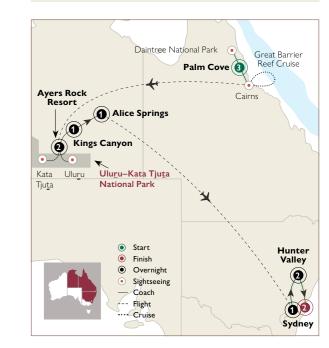
Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 2.00pm into Cairns Airport Day 13 – flights to depart anytime from Sydney Airport *Internal-vacation flights: Please note that the price above includes land and internal-vacation airfares, which are required to be booked in order to fulfil the vacation

Day 4 – Cairns to Ayers Rock Day 8 – Alice Springs to Sydney

• Return airfares from your home port are not included in the

UPGRADE

Combine Inspiring Australia with Inspiring New Zealand for the ultimate two-country vacation experience. See page 22 for details.



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 Gondwana 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

O 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 medicine 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. Either board a Quicksilver wave piercing catamaran and cruise to the outer edge of the Great Barrier Reef. Or if breathtaking rainforest speaks to you, your day begins on the Kuranda Scenic Railway and finishes on the Skyrail Rainforest Cableway.

MEALS Breakfast, (lunch Great Barrier Reef cruise only)

(C) IMMERSE

♥ INDULGE



₩ RELAX

Day 4: Cairns - Uluru & Kata Tjuta

Today we 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 as 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 ochre, 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 Mutitjulu Waterhole. 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 at an outback bush barbecue under the stars near Alice Springs. HOTEL Crowne Plaza Alice Springs

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.
- Midmorning 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 'cheers' to a local guide from Dave's Tours on a walking tour of some of Sydney's oldest pubs. This afternoon, depart Sydney for the Hunter Valley wine region.

HOTEL voco Kirkton Park, 2 nights MEALS Breakfast, dinner with wine

Day 10: Hunter Valley

Spend the day exploring the Hunter Valley wine region. **Indulge in exclusive** private wine tastings at boutique vineyards and sit down to an exceptional tasting lunch.

MEALS Breakfast, lunch with wine

Day 11: Hunter Valley - Sydney

Return to Sydney and board your lunch cruise around Sydney Harbour Relax on the deck as you sail past the iconic Opera House and Harbour Bridge.

> **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 Bennelong 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

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 wines, including beautiful Mudbrick Vineyard, followed by a light lunch, before you cruise back

MEALS Breakfast, Light lunch

Day 15: 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 Caveworld Waitomo for an exclusive 5-star Eco Glowworm experience. |ourney to the volatile 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. 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 16: Rotorua

First up, visit Whakarewarewa Living Village where you'll be accompanied by a Local Guide to view New Zealand's biggest geyser. Later, the day is all yours to explore the sacred lands, thermal marvels, and Māori 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 Wellington, 2 nights **MEALS** Breakfast



Day 18: Wellington & Zealandia

This is your chance to get to know Welly like a local, on a guided walking tour. This afternoon, we continue to the urban eco-sanctuary of Zealandia, admiring the extraordinary efforts of conservationists who have reintroduced 18 species of native wildlife that were absent from mainland New Zealand for over a century.

MEALS Breakfast

FROM \$18,450* P.P.

TWIN SHARE LAND & INTERNAL-VACATION AIRFARES

DEPARTURES

2022	2023		2024		
Oct 04	Jan	31	Jan	30	
Nov 08	Feb	28	Feb	27	
	Oct	03			
	Nov	07			

See available prices or additional departure dates including those from 01 Apr 2024 at inspiringjourneys.com/anfly or contact your local agent. Single traveller must pay the single price.

INCLUSIONS

- Small group (22 guests max)
- 26+ Unforgettable experiences
- 38 included meals
- 21 Nights premium accommodation

NOTES

ANFLY: CAIRNS TO OUEENSTOWN

Flight Information

Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 2.00pm into Cairns Airport Day 22 – flights to depart anytime from Queenstown 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:

Day 4 – Cairns to Ayers Rock

Day 8 – Alice Springs to Sydney

Day 13 – Sydney to Auckland

Day 17 – Rotorua to Wellington Day 19 – Wellington to Queenstown

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

Day 19: Wellington - Queenstown

Explore Te Papa Museum of New Zealand. Now it's time to prime yourselves for a few days of adventure, flying to Queenstown. On arrival, journey to the goldrush village of Arrowtown.

HOTEL Hotel St. Moritz, 3 nights 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/Patea on a Wilderness Cruise. Keep a look out for wildlife including dolphins, fur seals and even occasionally penguins.

MEALS Breakfast, lunch, dinner with wine

Day 21: Queenstown at Leisure

A full day to explore exciting Queenstown, your way. 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 22: 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

NORTHERN TERRITORY DREAMING

DARWIN | KAKADU NATIONAL PARK | NITMILUK (KATHERINE) GORGE | LITCHFIELD NATIONAL PARK | ALICE SPRINGS | WEST MACDONNELL RANGES | KINGS CANYON | KATA TJUTA | ULURU



Be immersed into the very heartland of Australia and experience its most sacred landscapes, bountiful National Parks and thundering waterfalls. Discover the Top End's striking landscape then journey to the magical Red Centre, seeing iconic Uluru, the mystical domes of Kata Tjuta, and windswept Walpa Gorge.

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

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



♥ INDULGE





and enjoy a swim to cool off at Wangi Falls, surrounded by tropical monsoon rainforest, and hear about its importance in Aboriginal custom before stopping for lunch. This afternoon return to Darwin, where you'll get to know your fellow travellers over dinner with wine.

HOTEL Hilton, Darwin **MEALS** 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 Brolgas, Magpie Geese and labiru 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 $\begin{picture}(20,20) \put(0,0){\line(1,0){100}} \put(0,0){\line(1,0){1$ 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

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 (crosshatch) painting. Later, board a special dinner cruise on Nitmiluk (Katherine) Gorge and learn about the history and culture of the local Jawoyn people.

MEALS Breakfast, lunch, Local Dining Experience

Day 5: Katherine - Darwin

Emerge 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.

HOTEL Hilton Darwin MEALS Breakfast, lunch

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.

HOTEL Crowne Plaza Alice Springs Lasseters

MEALS Breakfast, dinner with wine

Day 7: Alice Springs - Kings Canyon

Now we're off the beaten track exploring the 4WD Giles 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.

HOTEL Kings Canyon Resort, Deluxe Spa Room MEALS Breakfast, lunch, Local Dining Experience

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 luscious 'Garden of Eden'. If you'd prefer a more relaxed walk you can stroll along the boulderstrewn canyon creek bed. Immerse yourself in First Nations' culture on a visit to the Wanmarra Aboriginal Community and learn about the Luritja and Pertame 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.

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

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 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. This evening enjoy dinner at Ilkari Restaurant.

MEALS Breakfast, dinner with wine

Day 10: 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 cafés and Aboriginal 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

HOTEL Crowne Plaza Alice Springs Lasseters MEALS Breakfast, Celebration Dinner

Day 11: Farewell from Alice Springs

This morning after breakfast your Inspiring Journey comes to an end and you'll be transferred to Alice Springs Airport for your onward flight.

MEALS Breakfast

FROM \$8.060* PP

TWIN SHARE LAND & INTERNAL-VACATION AIRFARES

DEPARTURES

1				
	May	11, 25	Aug	03, 17, 31
	Jun	08, 22	Sep	14, 28
	Int	06.20		

See available prices or additional departure dates including those from 01 May 2024 at <u>inspiringjourneys.com/mncr</u> or contact your local agent. Single traveller must pay the single price.

INCLUSIONS

- Small group (22 guests max)
- 21+ Unforgettable experiences
- 23 included meals
- 10 Nights premium accommodation

NOTES

MNCR: DARWIN TO ALICE SPRINGS

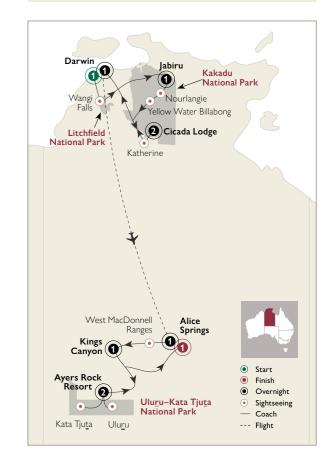
Flight Information:

Day prior – flights to arrive anytime into Darwin Airport Day 11 – flights to depart anytime from Alice Springs 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.

Day 6 - Darwin to Alice Springs

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



OUTBACK CONTRASTS

ALICE SPRINGS | WEST MACDONNELL RANGES | KINGS CANYON | KATA TJU<u>T</u>A | ULU<u>R</u>U



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

♥ INDULGE

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



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

☼ RELAX

Nestled in the rugged bush, unwind in your Deluxe Spa Room at Kings Canyon Resort, with a private balcony overlooking a beautiful rock escarpment. 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 view rock art dating back thousands of years, witness striking landscapes and be immersed in the stories of the Dreamtime.

Day 1: Welcome to Alice Springs

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 though Simpsons 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 Tali Restaurant.

HOTEL Crowne Plaza Alice Springs Lasseters **MEALS** Welcome Dinner

Day 2: Alice Springs – Kings Canyon

- We head off along the 4WD Giles Track, crossing dry riverbeds and outback landscapes, to Kings Canyon Resort. The flickering glow of this evening's fire, dancing under the canopy of a starry Southern Hemisphere
- sky, is the perfect accompaniment to your **Local Dining Experience**'Under a Desert Moon'. This degustation menu with matching wines is the perfect end to the day. Sit back and listen to the sounds of the outback come alive at night in the company of new friends.

HOTEL Kings Canyon Resort, Deluxe Spa Room MEALS Breakfast, lunch, Local Dining Experience

Day 3: Kings Canyon – Uluru

- Gaze across 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, treading in the footsteps of the Luritja people who once found sanctuary amidst the Itara trees at the canyon's base. Then we head off towards Uluru, visiting the local
- Wanmarra Community to learn about the Luritja and Pertame people's spiritual connection to the land. Discover bush food and bush medicine used for spirituality and healing. Now you'll wander across desert landscapes arriving at Curtin Springs Station, a vast farming property, for lunch. Feel the stirring 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 bids a fiery farewell. Uluru towers over the Northern Territory's remote landscape, the perfect back drop for this evening's sparkling sundowners.

HOTEL Sails 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. Skirt 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. This evening enjoy dinner at Ilkari Restaurant.

MEALS Breakfast, Dinner with wine

Day 5: Field of Light - Uluru - Alice Springs

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 cafés 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

Observe the shifting lights of Bruce Munro's impressive Field of

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

FROM \$3,970 P.P.

TWIN SHARE LAND ONLY

DEPARTURES

022		2023	
ct	04, 11	Apr	04, 11, 18, 25
		May	02, 09, 16, 30
		Jun	06, 13, 20, 27
		Jul	04, 11, 18, 25
		Aug	01, 08, 15, 22, 29
		Sep	05, 12, 19, 26
		0	03 10

See available prices or additional departure dates including those from 01 Apr 2024 at inspiringjourneys.com/craa or contact your local agent. Single traveller must pay the single price.

INCLUSIONS

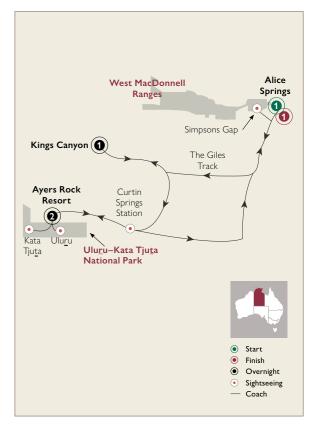
- Small group (22 guests max)
- 10+ Unforgettable experiences
- 11 included meals
- 5 Nights premium accommodation

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



TASTES OF TASMANIA

HOBART | TRIABUNNA | MARIA ISLAND | FREYCINET NATIONAL PARK | ST HELENS | BAY OF FIRES | LAUNCESTON



Meet the producers of some of Australia's best food and wine and 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.



D INDULGE





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 Eatery, 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 weird 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: Huon Valley & Tahune Airwalk

Explore the Huon Valley, a region renowned for its fresh produce, wine, seafood and other gourmet delicacies, as well as its natural beauty with pristine rivers meandering through valleys bordered 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. Stop by the side 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 Huon 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 Mt. 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 convict-built Darlington township, take a walk to the Fossil or Painted Cliffs, or simply relax and recharge by the waterside 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

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 sitting 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 Tassie'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 with wine, dinner with wine

Day 5: Freycinet – Bay of Fires – Launceston

- This morning after a light breakfast, journey north travelling through the quaint 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 Gulch 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 shucked oysters that Tassie 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 Legerwood 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 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 Company in historic Evandale. It's then onto 41 Degrees South Salmon Farm where you'll taste what is arguably the best hot smoked salmon in Tasmania before stopping at Deloraine for a wander and a bite to eat. This afternoon you'll take a tour of the Western Tiers Distillery and learn how the pristine water sourced from the Highland Lakes and botanicals found from the majestic mountain ranges close by, makes this the perfect spot to produce spirits. Relax and taste some of their fine poitin (Irish spirit), vodkas and gins. Heading back to your hotel, you'll enjoy a special 'Feed Me' 3 course Celebration Dinner with your Journey Director and fellow travellers.

MEALS Breakfast, lunch, Celebration Dinner

Day 7: Farewell from Launceston

This morning your Tasmanian journey concludes, and you are transferred to Launceston Airport for your onward flight.

MEALS Breakfast

FROM \$4,470 P.P.

TWIN SHARE LAND ONLY

DEPARTURES

2022		202	23	20	24	
Oct	15	Jan	14	Jan	13	
Nov	12	Feb	04	Feb	03	
Dec	10	Mar	11	Mai	- 09	
		Oct	14			
		Nov	11			
		Dec	09			

See available prices or additional departure dates including those from 01 Oct 2024 at inspiringjourneys.com/ijthbl or contact your local agent. Single traveller must pay the single price.

INCLUSIONS

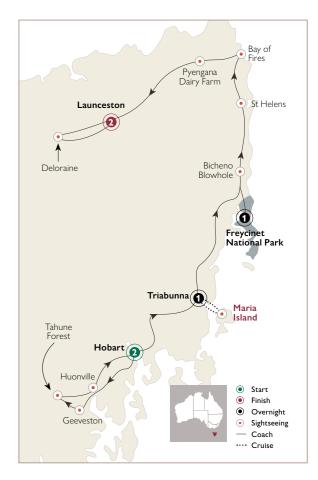
- Small group (22 guests max)
- 8+ Unforgettable experiences
- 15 included meals
- 6 Nights premium accommodation

NOTES

IJTHBL: HOBART TO LAUNCESTON

- Flights are not included in vacation price.
- Flight Information:

Day prior – flights to arrive anytime into Hobart Airport Day 7 – flights to depart anytime from Launceston Airport



KAKADU'S ANCIENT SECRETS

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



♥ INDULGE

EXPLORE

W RELAX

Explore Kakadu, an ancient landscape of billabongs, gorges and hidden canyons teeming with spectacular wildlife. Admire rock art and hear stories of the Dreamtime. Embark on a journey to the haunt 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.

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 tropical monsoon rainforest, and hear about its importance in Aboriginal custom before stopping for lunch. This afternoon return to Darwin, where you'll get to know your fellow travellers over dinner with wine.

HOTEL Hilton, Darwin

MEALS 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 Brolgas, Magpie Geese and Jabiru 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

HOTEL Cicada Lodge, Nitmiluk National Park, 2 nights

MEALS Breakfast, dinner with wine

Day 4: Nitmiluk (Katherine) Gorge

Today meet Manuel Pamkal 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. Marvel 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 ambiance during the candle-lit three course dinner onboard your

MEALS Breakfast, lunch, Local Dining Experience



Day 5: Katherine - Farewell from Darwin

Enjoy a leisurely start to your day or 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

FROM \$3,615 P.P. TWIN SHARE LAND ONLY

DEPARTURES

2022

May 04, 11, 18, 25 01, 08, 15, 22, 29 06, 13, 20, 27 Aug 03, 10, 17, 24, 31

07, 14, 21, 28 05

See available prices or additional departure dates including those from 01 May 2024 at inspiringjourneys.com/mndd or contact your local agent. Single traveller must pay the single price.

INCLUSIONS

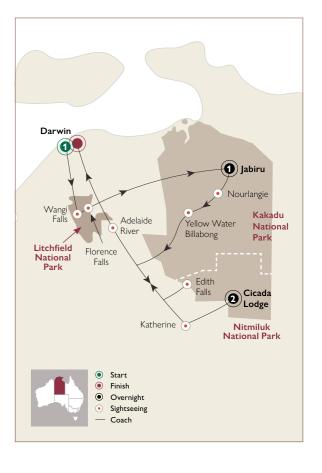
- Small group (22 guests max)
- 11+ Unforgettable experiences
- 11 included meals
- 4 Nights premium accommodation

NOTES

MNDD: DARWIN RETURN

- Flights are not included in vacation price.
- · Flight Information:

Day prior – flights to arrive anytime into Darwin Airport Day 5 – flights to depart after 8.00pm from Darwin Airport



FLAVOURS OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

ADELAIDE | THE BAROSSA | ADELAIDE HILLS | HAHNDORF | MCLAREN VALE



♥ INDULGE

Salvador Dali exhibition.

(S) EXPLORE

W RELAX

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 1: Welcome to Adelaide

Be welcomed into your modern, boutique style Hotel Indigo Adelaide Markets. It's time to unwind and meet your fellow travellers with a glass of local sparkling wine in hand. You'll then effortlessly explore the city in the back of a zero-emission trike, ending at Adelaide Central Market. Meet your expert hosts Cheryl and her team, who'll introduce you to the passionate market stall owners. You will taste signature dishes throughout the market, enjoying a four-course roaming dinner. It is serious fun for those with a passion for great food, and the people who grow and supply $\begin{picture}(20,0)\put(0,0){\line(0,0){100}}\put(0,0)$ enjoying a four-course roaming Local Dining Experience.

HOTEL Hotel Indigo Adelaide Markets **MEALS** Local Dining Experience

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 to name but a few. Here you'll have time to wander and to taste the local fare. Next stop is the quaint township of Tanunda. Enjoy a walk and a bite to eat before checking into your accommodation this afternoon. Later, head off to Seppeltsfield Winery for a walk around the Jam Factory followed

by a behind the scenes look through the estate's treasure trove of historical buildings including the underground blending cellar. Finish up the tour with a delicious tasting of 5 of their famous \bigcirc wines. Tonight, enjoy a dinner amongst the vines where you will connect to the region through seasonal plates showcasing local, sustainable produce.

HOTEL Novotel

MEALS Breakfast, Local Dining Experience

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 Barristers 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 artisanal 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 Australian 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?

HOTEL The Manna by Haus MEALS Breakfast, lunch

Day 4: Adelaide Hills - McLaren Vale - Adelaide

After breakfast, our journey takes us to the rich landscape of McLaren Vale. 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 trying 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. There will also be an opportunity for those interested to see the Salvador Dali exhibition. This is our last stop for the day before heading back to Adelaide this afternoon for an evening that's all yours to explore or relax at leisure.

HOTEL Hotel Indigo Adelaide Markets MEALS Breakfast, Local Dining Experience



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.

MEALS Breakfast, lunch

FROM \$3,220 P.P.

TWIN SHARE LAND ONLY

DEPARTURES

2022	2023	2024
Oct 28	Mar 03 Oct 27	Mar 01

See available prices or additional departure dates including those from 01 Oct 2024 at inspiringjourneys.com/sata or contact your local agent. Single traveller must pay the single price.

INCLUSIONS

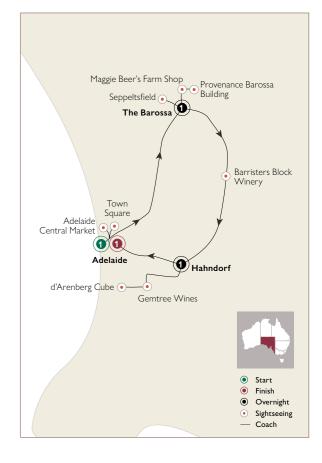
- Small group (22 guests max)
- 14+ Unforgettable experiences
- 9 included meals
- 4 Nights premium accommodation

NOTES

SATA: ADELAIDE RETURN

- Flights are not included in vacation price.
- · Flight Information:

Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 2.00pm into Adelaide Airport Day 5 – flights to depart after 5.00pm (Domestic) or after 6.00pm (International) from Adelaide Airport



A JOURNEY TO THE WEST

PERTH | PENGUIN ISLAND | BUNKER BAY | BUSSELTON | CAPE NATURALISTE | MARGARET RIVER | ROTTNEST ISLAND | FREMANTLE



♥ INDULGE

(S) EXPLORE

W RELAX

Bunker Bay and unwind in the 1850s landmark Esplanade

Relax as you enjoy VIP tastings at the Margaret River region's most picturesque vineyards and indulge in exclusive dining experiences celebrating local produce. Hear stories of Aboriginal culture at stunning Cape Naturaliste before discovering marine and bird life at Shoalwater Bay and the idyllic Rottnest Island.

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 wine and beers along with local produce canapés.

HOTEL DoubleTree Perth Waterfront, 2 nights **MEALS** Dinner with wine

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 with wine

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 Spinebills

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. Nestled 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.

HOTEL Pullman Bunker Bay Resort, 2 nights 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.

HOTEL Esplanade Hotel Fremantle, 2 nights

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-worshipping 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 covering the island's most spectacular locations. Delve into the island's history and culture, its marine and land environments and the diverse flora and fauna. Enjoy lunch before exploring more of the beaches. This afternoon, you'll leave the pristine shoreline and cruise back to seaside Fremantle, where tonight you'll join your fellow travellers for a Celebration Dinner. What better way to toast to a mesmerising journey with Local Western Australian wines matched with the seasonal farm to table menu.

MEALS Breakfast, Junch, Celebration Dinner



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

FROM \$4,515 P.P.

TWIN SHARE LAND ONLY

DEPARTURES

2023
Feb 04
Mar 04
May 14
Oct 01, 29
Nov 12

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

Single traveller must pay the single price.

INCLUSIONS

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

NOTES

IIWA: PERTH TO FREMANTLE

- Flights are not included in vacation price.
- Flight Information:

Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 4.30pm into Perth Airport Day 7 – flights to depart after 1.00pm (Domestic) or after 3.00pm (International) from Perth Airport

