

# AUSTRALIA NEW ZEALAND

2024-2025

FIRST CHOICE 3-22 day Fully Curated Experiences From page 24 BEST BUYS 5-21 day Flexible Guided Holidays From page 54 SHORT BREAKS 2-5 day Escorted Escapes From page 80



..........

WEINTER AND THE STREET PROPERTY AND ADDREED

Wild, wide and wonderful, Australia and
New Zealand continually excite and inspire.
It doesn't matter how many mountains you've
climbed or remote island shores you've visited,
there's always something new to discover with us.

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



Welcome Traveller,

This is your dream trip, your exciting journey through countries we've been exploring for over 100 years. They're truly beautiful, and I promise you that you won't find a group more passionate than us to ensure your trip is spectacular.

We've had the privilege to curate some new experiences this year, launching a new Aboriginal Culture & Australian Highlights tour, one that allows us to further showcase the rich and ancient culture that we have in Australia. Initiatives such as Koorie Heritage Trust in Melbourne, where you'll discover significant sites and gathering places of the Kulin Nation. Your walk with them helps support their Cultural Experiences Program which celebrates and continues the traditions of the First Peoples of South Eastern Australia. All that walking builds up a big appetite, so you'll join us in saying a big thank you after lunch at Big Esso by Mabu Mabu, which aims to bring Indigenous ingredients to kitchens across Australia. You'll sample their celebrated menu, discovering recipes infused with strawberry gum and pepper berries. You're also invited to visit projects we support through our MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experiences and The TreadRight Foundation, visiting Whirinaki Forest Footsteps in Rotorua New Zealand. This guided cultural walk directly contributes to sustainable tourism practices and our commitment to How We Tread Right, goals that are anchored to the United Nations Global Goals for Sustainable Development. You'll learn about Rakau Rongoa (natural medicine plants), and hear stories of myths and legends walking in the shadows of giant trees, connecting with nature in its purest form.

This is only a small taste of what awaits you. With world-class tours across Australia and New Zealand, with over 400 definite departures, turn these pages knowing at every step you're in good hands with us.

Sincerely

Ben Hall AAT Kings Group | CEO



Tour Highligh Aborigir Australia Contras Outback Perfect Untame Untame Tastes ( Contras New Ze New Zea Iconic N Jewels Souther

Tour East Co Norther South A Remark Tasmar Wester Spirit of Kia Ora New Ze Souther Southe Norther

Tour Ulu<u>r</u>u & Ulu<u>r</u>u & Red Cer Outbac Ulu<u>r</u>u & Kata Ti Kakadu Kakadı Cairns Tropica

Tour Ulu<u>r</u>u Su Ulu<u>r</u>u Sigl Red Cent Red Cent Sydney /



#### **First Choice Guided Holidays**

#### 24-53

	Days	Code	Page
hts of Australia & New Zealand	22	IMZB	26
inal Culture & Australian Highlights <b>NEW</b>	13	AMSC	28
lian Highlights	13	IMSE	30
sts of Australia	9	ACANA	32
k Adventure	15	NAAD	34
t Tasmania	13/7/7	THLH/THHL/TLHH	36
ed Pilbara & West Coast	13	WBMP	38
ed Kimberley	11	WDB/WBD	40
of Southern Australia	11/7/5	ESMA/EMKA/ESBM	42
sts of New Zealand	10	IZANB	44
ealand Panorama	7	RPACA	46
ealand Uncovered	17	ZAAC	48
North	7	ZAAW	50
of the Bay	3	UBOI	51
ern Spectacular	10	ZCQR	52

#### **Best Buys Guided Holidays**

# 54-79

	Days	Code	Page
oast Islands & Rainforest	12/9	QSC/QGC	56
rn Territory Explorer	11	NDAU	58
Australian Outback Adventure	8	SAMC	60
kable Adelaide to Kangaroo Island	7	SAKI	62
nian Wonders	10/6/5	FHLH/FHHL/FLHH	64
n Wonderland	15/11/5	WEMP/WPPP/WPMP	66
of New Zealand	21/18	LCQB/LCQA	68
a New Zealand	17	LABC/LCBA	70
ealand Marvel	14	LCCA/LAAC	72
ern Spirit	14	LCQW	74
ern Spotlight	9	LCQR/LRQC	76
rn Spotlight	8	LABW/LWBA	78

#### Short Breaks

## 80-87

	Days	Code	Page
& Kata Tju <u>t</u> a Highlights	2	U2L	82
& Kata Tju <u>t</u> a Experience	3	U3L1	82
entre Highlights	4	U4L	83
ck Highlights	5	U5L	84
& Kata Tju <u>t</u> a	2	A2L	85
ju <u>t</u> a, Ulu <u>r</u> u & Kings Canyon	4	A4A	85
u & East Alligator River	2	DK40	86
u & Nitmiluk (Katherine) Gorge	3	DG42	86
& the Great Barrier Reef	4	CC11	87
al Reef & Rainforest	4	PD11	87

### Day Tours

#### 88-93

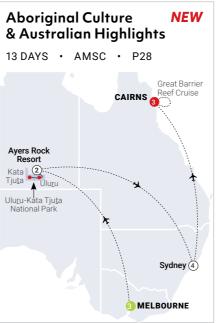
	Page
unrise & Field of Light	89
ghtseeing Passes / Tiwi Islands Aboriginal Cultural Tour	90
itre	91
ntre / Top End / Red Centre Connections	92
/ Melbourne / Cairns	93

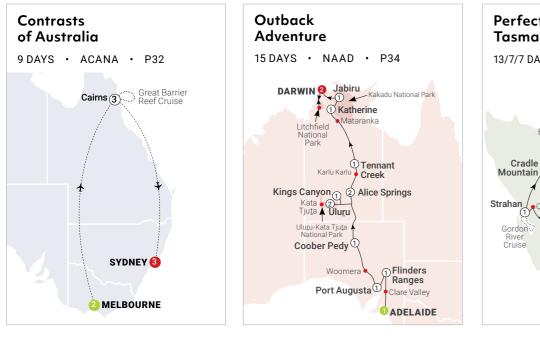
# **RESERVATIONS 020 8225 4220** res@aatkings.co.uk

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.





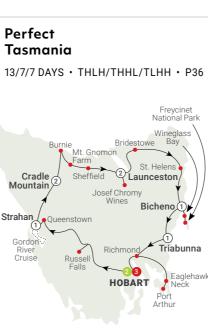




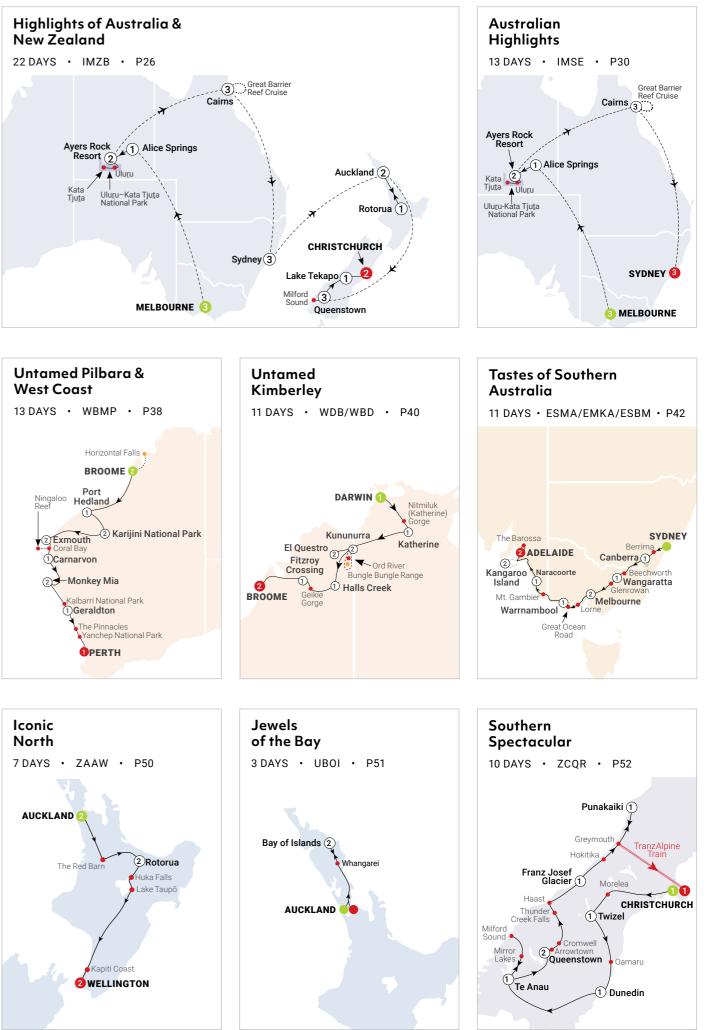


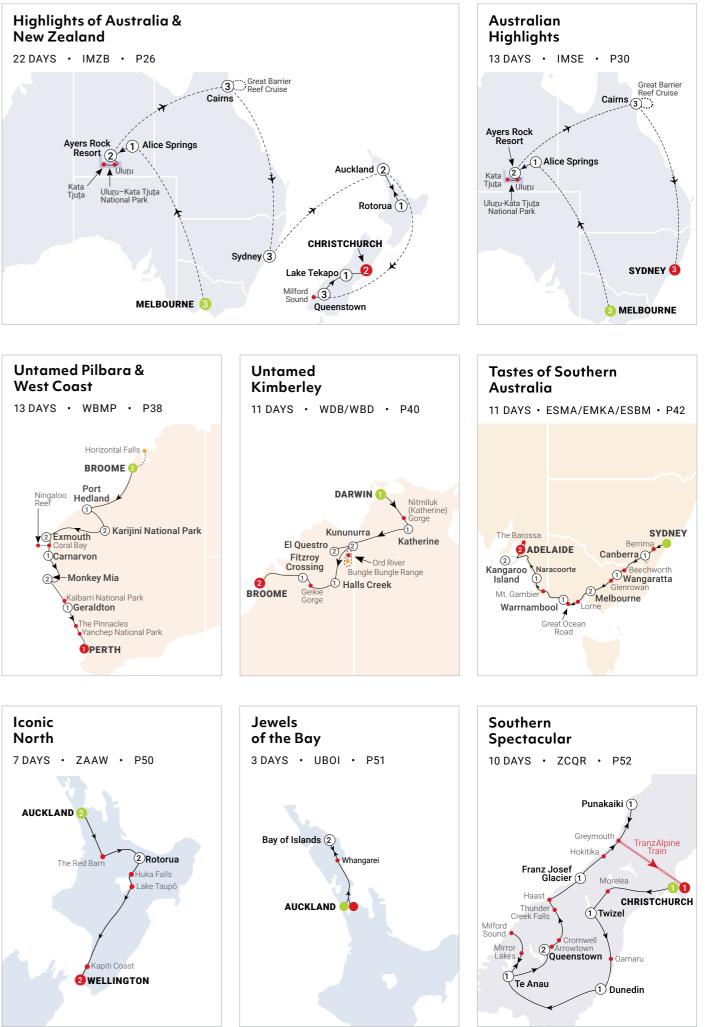


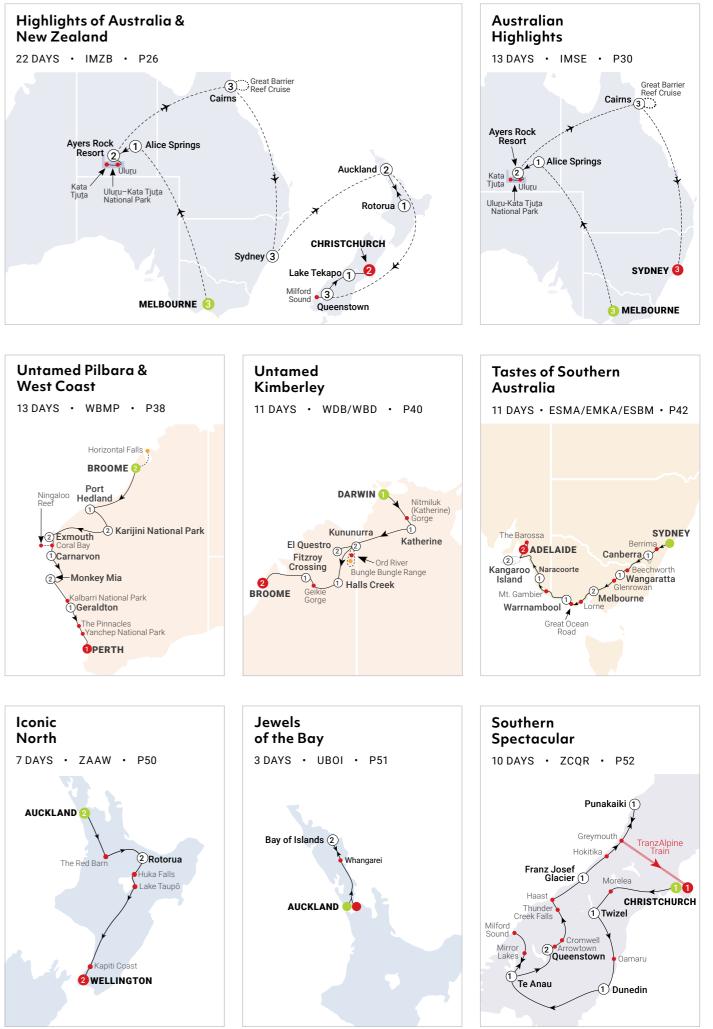
**OUEENSTOWN** 





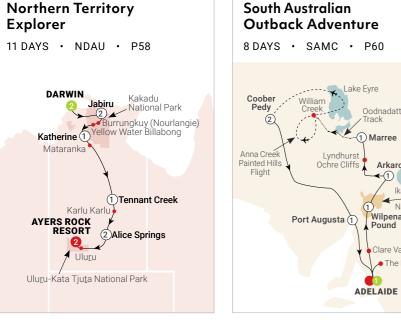


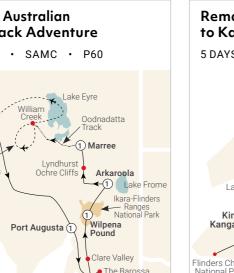


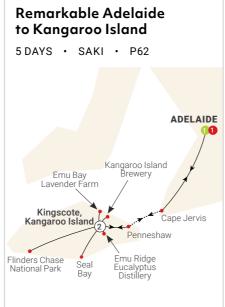


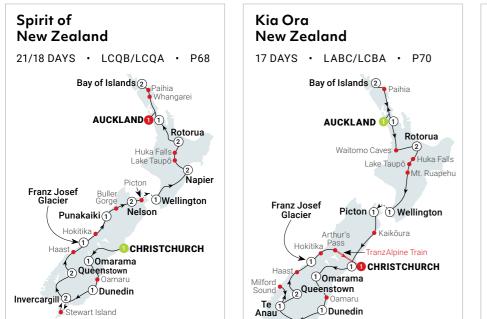
# **Best Buys**

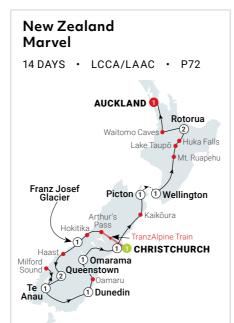
Experience the best of Australia and New Zealand, your way. With 13 flexible itineraries, you will enjoy AAT Kings' unrivalled expertise and discover must-see destinations, with plenty of free time to explore these spectacular lands and vibrant cities.

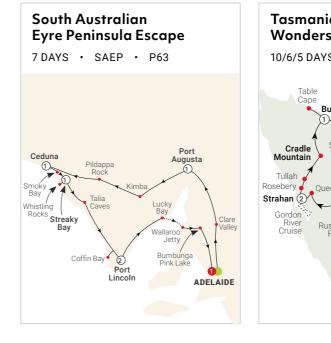


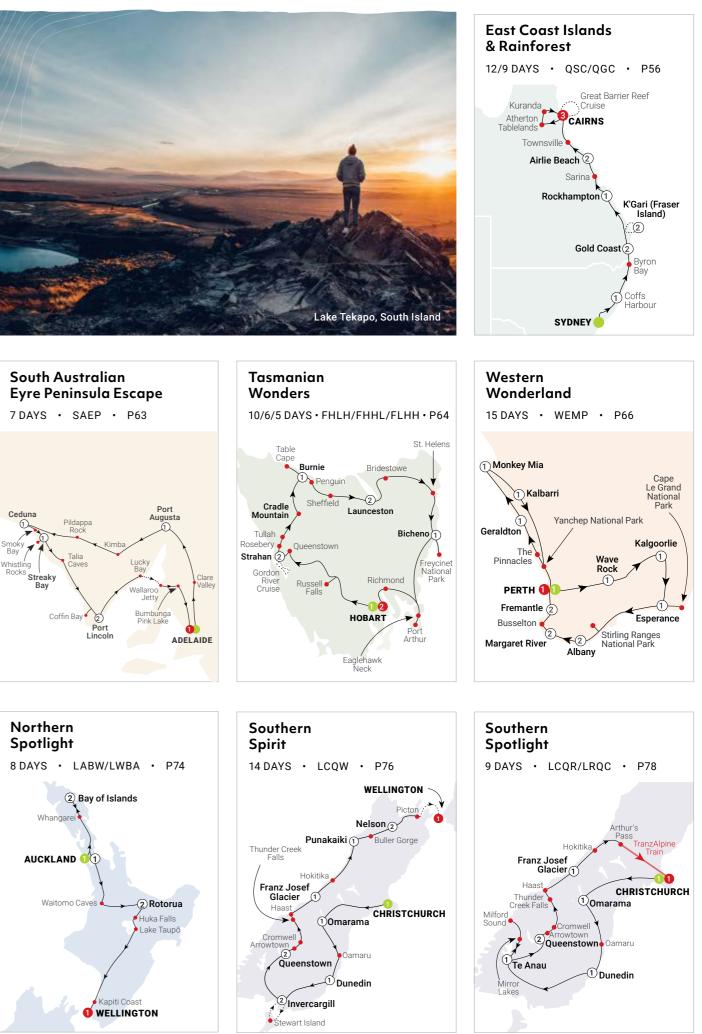












# Today, we're proud of our history and of our people.

12

Some things never change...



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, goosebumpinducing 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, 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

AAT Kings 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.

# **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.

# **Travel Your Way**

What you want from your holiday 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**<sup>®</sup> Experiences – to ensure travel has a positive impact on our planet, the communities we visit and the wildlife we encounter.

# Worry-free Travel

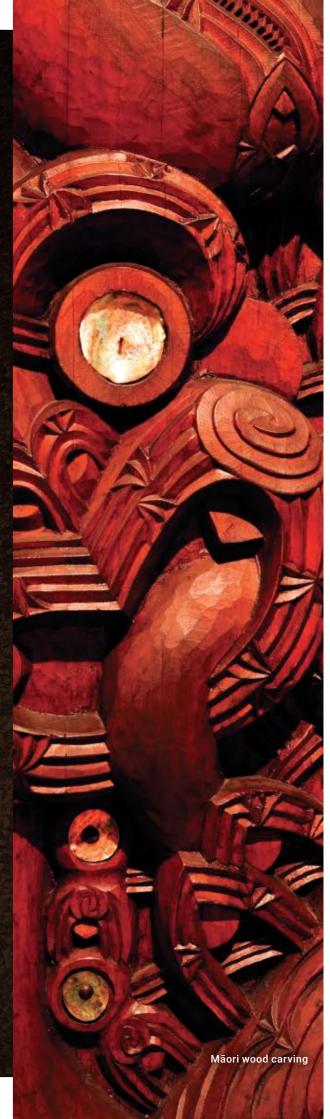
Your wellbeing is our primary concern. In addition to elevated hygiene protocols, AAT Kings tours guarantee upgraded coach air-conditioning filtration systems. We only work with partners we know and trust, and our Travel Directors ensure everything runs smoothly, with a support team on call.

# **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 familyowned parent company has welcomed millions of people around the world across its brands.

# 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

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 on our Guided Holidays. The kind that now give us - and you, as our guests - unrestricted and unrivalled access to parts of the country that other travellers just can't go, and to exclusive experiences most will probably never know existed. We'll take you places, and our passionate people will reveal their true beauty.

# A Field of Light in Uluru? NT

Internationally acclaimed artist Bruce Munro is noted for his immersive sitespecific installations that employ light to evoke emotional response, often in an outdoor context and on a monumental scale. The Field of Light was inspired by a trip to Ulu<u>r</u>u over 30 years ago. It is installed in a remote desert area within sight of majestic Ulu<u>r</u>u and is made up of more than 50,000 slender solar powered stems crowned with radiant frosted glass spheres.

# **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.

# A Cornucopia of Colour, SA

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.





# Prepare to see stars, Tekapo, NZ

Free from artificial light pollution, the UNESCO Aoraki Mackenzie International Dark Sky Reserve really knows how to dazzle. Visit this spectacular spot, over the Lindis Pass and backdropped by Aoraki/Mt. Cook, at night to gaze at the Southern Cross, Magellanic Clouds and wonders hidden along the Milky Way through an optical telescope, the mysteries and magic of the starry sky above decoded by a specialist astronomy guide.

# Connect your soul and spirit, WA

Just north of Perth, Yanchep National Park is a lush bush reserve and wetland known for its resident population of western grey kangaroos and rich birdlife. You'll discover this and more, from the perspective of an Noongar Aboriginal local, on a Cultural Tour – a rare chance to meet with Derek Nannup and see, in a new light, the land his elders have called home for tens of thousands of years. Wild, wide and wonderful, this is Australia in a gripping snapshot.



**4.5**/5

feefoee independent & transparent satisfaction rating

# We would definitely recommend them.

The whole experience arranged by our travel agent for the tours with AAT was very good we have given them 5 stars purely and simply because we couldn't fault any of the trips. The coaches were clean and very comfortable, the tour guides were very knowledgeable about the areas we visited, courteous and at times humorous, always very polite and extremely punctual.

Carol C  $\star \star \star \star \star \star$  $\boldsymbol{J}$ 



**11** The coordinator and the manner of the driver were excellent.

Barry N ★★★★

]]]

# "Brilliant trip with excellent service.

The tour guide was so helpful and went out of his way to make sure we had everything we needed.

Simon M  $\star \star \star \star \star$ 



# Manel Your Way

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

# First Choice Guided Holidays

For explorers who want:

- Exclusive experiences and adventures around Australia and New Zealand
- More inclusions and meals
- 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 Holidays**

For explorers who want:

- A flexible holiday with some inclusions, and some independent travel
- All the essentials managed by in-the-know Travel Directors

Take a fully curated holiday, 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 Ulu<u>r</u>u, 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?



# 

The TreadRight Foundation was established more than 15 years ago and since then has supported over 60 sustainable tourism projects worldwide. Their mission is clear; to have a positive impact on:



Through our not-for-profit TreadRight Foundation, of which AAT Kings is a founding member, and our sustainability strategy, How We Tread Right, we're committed to reaching net zero GHG emissions across our value chain by 2050 from a 2019 baseline year, with a primary focus to decarbonize. To do this, we have launched a four-point Carbon Action Plan as well as a Carbon Fund dedicated to financing initiatives to reduce the carbon emissions of our business. You can read more about our plans to Measure, Reduce, Restore and Evolve at **impact.ttc.com**.

### Save the Tasmanian Devil, Tasmania

AAT Kings supports the work done at the University of Tasmania to develop a vaccine to ensure these creatures can thrive disease-free in the wild. See Tasmanian Devils at Devils @ Cradle on Tasmanian Wonders (page 64).



#### Save the kiwi bird, Rotorua

The flightless kiwi bird is under threat, with populations of the beloved national species in decline. 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 44)**.

# AAT Kings Cares

Enrich your travels while supporting the people and places you visit. Our MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experiences are carefully developed for the mutual benefit they hold for the communities we explore as well as our travellers.

When you travel on an AAT Kings tour that includes a **MAKE TRAVEL MATTER®** Experience, you'll be assured that your experience is having a positive impact. Look for the symbol below to see how you can MAKE TRAVEL MATTER®.





#### Nitmiluk (Katherine) Gorge Cruise, Northern Territory

Learn about local culture through the expertise of an Aboriginal guide as you cruise Nitmiluk (Katherine) Gorge. Hear stories about how the gorge was formed from one of the traditional Jawoyn landowners as you watch for freshwater crocodile and walk the nearby trails to view spectacular rock art that dates back thousands of years. Experience this on **Outback Adventure (page 34)**.

Norry-free Travel

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

# **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 well being 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.

# **Trusted partners**

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 well being.

### Always in the know

We have worked closely with the World Travel & Tourism Council (WTTC) to guide and co-create their "New Normal Safe and Seamless Traveller Journey" global protocols. Find out more at: aatkings.com/ about-us/wellbeing

## Our coaches

AAT Kings provides Australia and New Zealand's finest fleet of luxury coaches. Each coach is superbly engineered and equipped with the latest technology and features to ensure you travel safely and in comfort, including top of the range air filtration systems. Our coaches are maintained in peak condition by expert engineers.

## **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 booking-conditions



be found at aatkings.com/



# **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**

### More than a century of experience

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 holiday 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.



The loyalty of our past quests means everything to us. That's why everyone who travels with us is automatically enrolled in our Global Rewards program, with access to exclusive past guest savings and offers on all AAT Kings and Inspiring Journey tours, and The Travel Corporation sister brands. Use your benefits on more than 1000 tours around the globe designed for every taste, place and pace.





Visit aatkings.com/rewards for more.





costsaver.

SIGHT VACATIONS













SEIT (SEIT





# **First Choice**

# **Captivating Holidays, Premium Inclusions**

For explorers who want to visit wild places with creature comforts, a First Choice Guided Holiday delivers exclusive experiences and quality accommodation around Australia and New Zealand, with everything taken care of by your Travel Director so you can relax and enjoy the adventure.

ter Peak High Cou



# Local Connection

The best way to get the most authentic experience is through locals. Our Travel directors will take you places you never knew existed, while our Be My Guest experiences led by local artisans will connect you to the heartbeat of Australia and New Zealand.

# Cultural Immersion

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

# **b** 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 Holiday?

- 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
- The services of a highly experienced Travel Director
- Transfers and taxes

# Highlights of Australia & New Zealand

# **Highlights**

#### ① Local Connection

Australia dazzles, whether you're gazing at the night sky in the Red Centre with the Falzon family, or exploring colourful alleys in Melbourne.

#### Scultural Immersion

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

#### 🕼 Sustainable Footprints

EXERTING OF A kiwi hatchery helps ensure the future of this adorable (yet endangered) bird for future generations of visitors.

#### Wildlife & Nature

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

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

#### Cairns Free Time

Today is all yours. Celebrate the end of an incredible day at dinner on Cairns' waterfront at Salt House for regional seafood plucked straight from the ocean. **B DW** 

#### 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. Strap on a snorkel or visit an underwater observatory and semi-submersible craft to take in the menagerie without getting your hair wet. BL

#### Cairns – Sydney

Touch down in Australia's largest city, with a harbour you could gaze at all day long. And all night. Hotel: InterContinental, 3 nights. B

#### 1 Svdnev

Bring your stamina: today is one of innumerable highlights. Go behind the scenes at the Sydney Opera House. Then see the city from the water on a Sydney Harbour Highlight Lunch Cruise. One icon to another: Bondi, the world's most famous beach, beckons this afternoon. B HL

#### 2 Sydney Free Time

Now you've found your bearings in Sydney, choose from one of many optional experiences or explore on your own around the harbour. Tonight a Highlight Dinner back in the shadow of the Opera House at Midden restaurant. B HD

#### B 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 – Rotorua

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. B

#### 15 Auckland – Rotorua

Get up close with NZ's national bird, the endangered kiwi, at a working nursery and hatchery. See how breeding programs help sustain the

population. Then, immerse yourself in the Te Pa Tu Maori Experience, celebrating Maori history, traditions and future aspirations celebrated over forest kai horotai (seasonal canapes) with chef choice aperitif, and a delicious three-course meal. Hotel: Millennium. B HD

#### Rotorua – Auckland – Queenstown

Lance O'Sullivan, a retired champion jockey, and his wife Bridgette invite you to an exclusive Be My Guest morning tea at the Red Barn, at their working dairy farm in the Waikato district. Hotel: Millennium, 3 nights. B BG

#### **1** Milford Sound Cruise

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

#### Oueenstown Free Time

Today is all yours. Regroup for a Highlight Dinner at the historic Postmasters Cottage. B HD

#### 19 Queenstown – Lake Tekapo

Arrowtown, known for its charm, and Cromwell, for its stone fruit. 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

Head north to Christchurch. Hotel: Distinction, 2 nights. B

#### 21 Christchurch

Travel to Hurunui Hills, a hill-country farm in North Canterbury. Enjoy warm Kiwi hospitality with the Bamford Family. Enjoy morning tea, meet the farm animals, and discover what it is like to live off the land on this unique By My Guest experience. Then visit Waipara Springs Winery and relax over a platter-style lunch among the vines. Join your Travel Director for a celebratory Farewell Dinner. **B BG L FD** 

#### 22 Farewell from Christchurch

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

#### 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. 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 to see the Penguin Parade. B

#### Melbourne – Alice Springs

Some parts of Australia are so remote that the only way kids can get an education is remotely via the School of the Air. Your next stop is the historic Telegraph Station. Being this far flung also means there's no light pollution from cars or skyscrapers. The result? Unrivalled stargazing (and a BBQ feast) with the Falzon family at their eco-oriented Earth Sanctuary World Nature Centre. Hotel: Mercure Alice Springs Resort. B BG

#### 5 Alice Springs – Uluru

The rusty red landscapes of Uluru beckon as you leave Alice Springs 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. Hotel: Desert Gardens, Ayers Rock Resort, 2 nights. B

#### **6** Uluru & Kata Tiuta

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. B

#### **7** Ulu<u>r</u>u – 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

# **22 DAYS 16 Included Experiences**

#### **Departure Dates**

2023 Oct 08 Nov 26

2024 Jan 14, 28 **Feb** 04 Mar 03.24 Apr 07 Mav 26 Jun 23 Aug 25 Sep 08, 22 **Oct 06**, 27 Nov 03, 10, 17, 24

2025	5
Jan	05, <b>12</b> , 19, <b>26</b>
Feb	02, <b>09</b> , 16, 23
Mar	<b>02</b> , 09, <b>16</b>

#### Definite Departures highlighted in red.

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and additional definite departure dates visit aatkings.com/imzb or contact your local travel agent.

A limited number of single rooms are also available.

Dec 08

# Dining

- 21 Full breakfasts B
- 3 Lunches L
- 1 Highlight lunch HL
- 1 Be My Guest dinner BG
- 4 Dinners with wine DW
- 2 Be My Guest Morning Teas BG 3 Highlight Dinners HD
  - 1 Farewell Dinner FD

# **Flight Information**

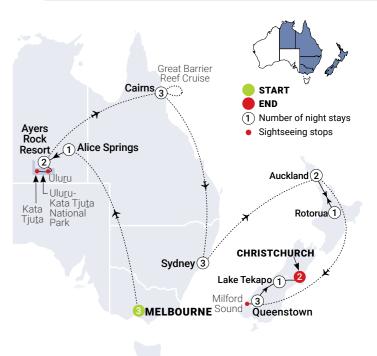
Day 1 - flights to arrive prior to 12 noon into Melbourne Airport Day 22 - flights to depart anytime from Christchurch Airport Return airport to hotel transfers are included in the holiday price.

Internal-holiday flights: Please note the flights below are required to be purchased in order to fulfil the holiday itinerary: Day 4 - Melbourne to Alice Springs Day 7 – Ayers Rock to Cairns Day 10 - Cairns to Sydney

Day 13 - Sydney to Auckland

Day 16 - Auckland to Oueenstown

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



# Aboriginal Culture & Australian Highlights

# **Highlights**

#### On Local Connection

Aunty Margret is a Sydney legend, pioneering First Nations tourism around the city. Discover Aboriginal sites and stories on one of her Dreamtime Southern X tours.

#### Secultural Immersion

Whether at sunrise or sunset, the beauty of Ulu<u>r</u>u is mesmerising. Aboriginal creatives at Maruku Arts capture it in their paintings and will show you how to do the same.

#### **b** Sustainable Footprints

Big Esso not only crafts menus using sustainably grown native produce, but also supports Aboriginal growers, makers, bakers, and brewers.

#### Wildlife & Nature

Take a deep dive (literally) into the First Nations stories behind the creation of the Great Barrier Reef with Dreamtime Dive & Snorkel from Cairns.

#### Welcome to Melbourne

Arrive early in Australia's cultural capital to explore art-filled laneways, galleries and boutiques at your own pace. Melbourne is also Australia's food capital – we have something special planned for your Welcome Dinner. **Hotel: InterContinental, 3 nights. DW** 

#### 2 Melbourne Sightseeing

Australia's Aboriginal culture spans oceans, rivers, rainforest, outback and cities, as you'll discover with Koorie Heritage Trust. From the organisation's base at Federation Square, explore Melbourne with an First Nations guide along the banks of the Yarra River. It's only a few steps to Big Esso by Mabu Mabu, a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience, celebrating contemporary Torres Strait Islander culture through cuisine. The menu is an explosion of native Australian bush flavours, from finger lime to quandong, with a drinks list that heroes Indigenous-owned businesses – their art also decorates the walls. More awaits at the National Gallery of Victoria, which hosts one of Australia's most significant collections of art from First Nations creatives. **B L** 

#### **3** Melbourne Free Time

Take the pulse of Melbourne in your own time. Need touring suggestions? Your Travel Director can assist. You might choose to stay in the heart of the city exploring the Royal Botanic Gardens with an Aboriginal guide. Or for a bird's-eye view, zip to the Melbourne Eureka Skydeck – it's the highest of its kind in the Southern Hemisphere. While it's tempting to linger, a bevy of attractions await on the outskirts of the city, including the Great Ocean Road. Spending a day driving this World Heritage-listed route is a rite of passage, uniting surf, seaside towns and wilderness walks. You might choose to head to the other side of the bay – Phillip Island is a mecca for wildlife, including penguins that waddle from the ocean to their sandy burrows every evening. **B** 

#### 4 Melbourne – Ulu<u>r</u>u

Uluru-Kata Tjuta is World Heritage-listed for a reason. Explore spiritual landscapes that are sacred to the Anangu people; your guide on the Kuniya walk to Mutitjulu Waterhole will point out rock art and bush foods. The ultimate way to end the day is watching

the sinking sun paint the outback all manner of fiery hues – flute of bubbles in hand. This is your backdrop for an exclusive barbecue dinner. **Hotel: Desert Gardens, Ayers Rock Resort, 2 nights. B DW** 

#### 5 Ulu<u>r</u>u

The outback inspires creativity, as you'll discover meeting First Nation artists at Maruku Arts. Their works capture the drama of Australia, and they'll show you how to do the same during an art class. Spend the afternoon visiting the Gallery of Central Australia (GOCA), spotlighting ethically sourced Aboriginal art. Or take to the skies on an optional scenic flight. Back at ground level, wander into Walpa Gorge, then say cheers to Kata Tjuta sunset with a glass of bubbles. **B** 

#### 6 Ulu<u>r</u>u – Sydney

50,000 - that's the number of lights that artist Bruce Munro used to create his alfresco artwork, Field of Light. This blanket of bulbs casts a surreal glow over the Ulu<u>r</u>u countryside, and is particularly beguiling on a sunrise visit. Tonight, is yours to explore Sydney. We have a little black book of hot restaurants to try if you need tips. **Hotel: Sofitel Sydney Wentworth, 4 nights. B** 

#### Sydney Sightseeing

Bring your stamina for an action-packed day exploring the Harbour City, including a behind-the-scenes tour of the Opera House. It sits on land belonging to the Eora Nation, as you'll discover when you meet Aunty Margret of Dreamtime Southern X on a walking tour around the Rocks district. Swap the shore for the water on an expedition to harbour islands with Tribal Warrior Cruises and Tours, showing how Sydney's Aboriginal culture and colonial history unite. **B** 

#### 8 Sydney Free Time

Go your own way or ask your Travel Director to assist booking tours like the Burrawa Indigenous Climb, which sees you scale the Sydney Harbour Bridge accompanied by an Aboriginal guide. Or spend the day with an AAT Kings guide in the Blue Mountains. You don't need to go far to have an adventure, as you'll discover on Dave's Rocks Pub Tour, taking you to some of the city's most historic drinking establishments. Or take in the harbour in a heli, swooping over beaches and bushland. It's an outlook that inspires creativity, as you might choose to discover on a guided tour of the Art Gallery of NSW.  ${\bf B}$ 

#### Sydney Free Time

If you're looking to continue your First Nations immersion, your Travel Director can organise optional tours including a bush-tucker experience in the Royal Botanic Garden, or an Aboriginal Cultural Tour at Barangaroo. A First Nations guide will also lead you around the Australian Museum's two Aboriginal exhibitions on a Waranara Tour. **B DW** 

**Dreamtime Dive & Snorkel** 

#### 10 Sydney – Cairns

After your morning flight from Sydney, spend your free afternoon soaking up the steamy climes of Cairns. Explore the vibrant esplanade or opt for an Indigenous-owned cruise by Mandingalbay Tours. **Hotel: Crystalbrook Flynn, 3 nights. B** 

#### 11 Great Barrier Reef

Dreamtime Dive & Snorkel's catamaran tours tell the story of the Great Barrier Reef through Aboriginal eyes. The company's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander sea rangers regale you with 65,000-year-old Dreamtime creation stories while you cruise to Moore Reef; here, slip into warm water to flipper among some of the 1,500 species of fish. **B L** 

#### 12 Cairns Free Time

Spend your free day soaking up the sights of Tropical North Queensland, perhaps joining a tour to catch the Skyrail Rainforest Cableway and Kuranda Scenic Railway deep into the rainforest. Or maybe on an Outback Tasting Adventure, uniting distillers, brewers, cheesemongers and farmers. You may opt to discover native bush tucker on a Cape Tribulation, Mossman & Daintree tour, taking you through one of the world's oldest rainforests. End your wild adventure with a Farewell Dinner at Ochre Restaurant on the Cairns waterfront. **B FD** 

#### **13** Farewell from Cairns

You'll not only depart Cairns a more seasoned traveller, but also a more thoughtful one. And don't be surprised if you leave with a posse of new friends – Australia's Aboriginal guides are as generous with their stories as they are with their time. **B** 

# 13 DAYS 16 Included Experiences

#### **Departure Dates**

2024	2025
Oct 10	<b>Feb</b> 20
	Mar 06.20

#### Definite Departures highlighted in red.

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and additional definite departure dates visit **aatkings.com/amsc** or contact your local travel agent.

A limited number of single rooms are also available.

# Dining

12 Full breakfasts B 2 Lunches L 3 Dinners with wine DW 1 Farewell Dinner FD

# **Flight Information**

Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 1.00pm into Melbourne Airport Day 13 – flights to depart anytime from Cairns Airport Return airport to hotel transfers are included in the holiday price.

Internal-holiday flights: Please note the flights below are required to be purchased in order to fulfil the holiday itinerary: Day 4 – Melbourne to Ayers Rock Day 6 – Ayers Rock to Sydney Day 10 – Sydney to Cairns Return airfares from your home port are not included in the holiday price.



# Australian Highlights

# Highlights

.

#### Local Connection

Whether you're exploring vibrant city streets (think, Melbourne's art-filled alleys) or remote reaches of the Northern Territory under a blaze of stars, you'll be wowed by local knowledge.

#### Scultural 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.

#### **b** Sustainable Footprints

Uluru, Kakadu and Litchfield – are its most fragile. Your National Parks fees preserve them for posterity.

#### Wildlife & Nature

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



#### **1** Welcome to Melbourne

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

#### 2 Melbourne Sightseeing and Free Time

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 Phillip Island to see penguins waddle from the ocean to the sand? We wouldn't blame you for lingering and taking a deep dive into Melbourne's culinary offerings. Ask us for tips on the hottest spots to drink and dine. **B** 

#### **3** Melbourne Free Time

If you're still getting your Melbourne bearings, linger in town to explore boutiques, galleries, and eclectic suburbs. But if it's time to venture further afield, you might want to sign up to discover the Great Ocean Road, a stretch of coastline that deserves its reputation as one of the most scenic touring routes in the world. Wherever you wander, be sure to take in a show at one of the city's glorious theatres. **B** 

#### Melbourne – Alice Springs

Some parts of Australia are so remote that the only way kids can get an education is remotely via the School of the Air. Your next stop is the birthplace of the Alice Springs township, the historic Telegraph Station. Being this far flung also means there's no light pollution from cars or skyscrapers. The result? Unrivalled stargazing (and a BBQ feast) with the Falzon family at their eco-oriented Earth Sanctuary World Nature Centre. **Hotel: Mercure Alice Springs Resort. B BG** 

#### **5** Alice Springs – Ulu<u>r</u>u

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

#### 6 Uluru and Kata Tjuta

If there's one thing worth getting out of bed early for, it's sunrise over Ulu<u>r</u>u. 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 ochres and silvery greens of the NT outback follow you to Kata Tju<u>t</u>a, where Walpa Gorge humbles with its soaring cliffs. Wander through the tallest domes before yet another sparkling sunset (and sparkling wine). **B** 

#### Ulu<u>r</u>u – Cairns

Ok, so the other reason to get up early is to view artist Bruce Munro's 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. Head to your next stop in sunny Cairns. **Hotel: Hilton, 3 nights. B** 

#### **8** Cairns Free Time

If you're in the habit of getting up early now, you may wish to begin your 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 wetlands cruise? Tonight, celebrate the end of an incredible day at dinner on Cairns' waterfront at Salt House, highlighting fresh, local ingredients, and prepared on their custom-built Argentinian wood fired grill. **B DW** 

#### 9 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. **B** L

#### Cairns – Sydney

Touch down in Australia's largest city, and spend time at leisure in the buzzing metropolis of Sydney. Take a stroll along the iconic harbour, visit one of the city's many bars, pubs, or restaurants, or simply while away the day at the beach. You decide how best to enjoy this bustling city of delights. Hotel: InterContinental, 3 nights. B

#### 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. Then see the city from the water on a Sydney Harbour Highlight Lunch Cruise enjoying a menu focusing on local food and wine. One icon to another: The world's most famous beach beckons this afternoon, with your chance to pad along the sand at Bondi with Sydney's beautiful people. **B HL** 

#### 2 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 ferry ride to Manly for fish-n-chips on the beach? And ideally a stroll through the Royal Botanic Garden, which offers so many lookouts for sparkling harbour views. This evening, celebrate your holiday at a Farewell Dinner at Midden 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...  ${\bf B}$ 

# 13 DAYS 16 Included Experiences

2024

#### Departure Dates

2023			
Oct	08		
Nov	26		

202-	r
Jan	14, 28
Feb	04
Mar	03, 17, 24
Apr	07
May	26
Jun	23
Aug	25
Sep	08, <b>22</b>
Oct	<b>06</b> , 27
Nov	<b>03</b> , 10, 17, 24
Dec	08

2025	5
Jan	05, <b>12</b> , 19, <b>26</b>
Feb	02, <b>09</b> , 16, 23
Mar	<b>02</b> , 09, <b>16</b> , 23

#### Definite Departures highlighted in red.

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and additional definite departure dates visit **aatkings.com/imse** or contact your local travel agent.

A limited number of single rooms are also available.

# Dining

12 Full breakfasts B

1 Highlight lunch HL 1 Lunch L

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 12 noon into Melbourne Airport Day 13 – flights to depart anytime from Sydney Airport

Return airport to hotel transfers are included in the holiday price.

Internal-holiday flights: Please note the flights below are required to be purchased in order to fulfil the holiday 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 holiday price.



# Contrasts of Australia

# **Highlights**

#### **(2)** Local Connection

Discover what lies within the Opera House on an insiders tour. Fall in love with Sydneys Wendys Secret Garden; a volunteer horticulturalist revealing secret nooks in this floral wonderland.

#### 🖀 Cultural Immersion

Melbourne's laneways are a work of art, with street murals, hidden bars, boutiques, and cafés. We'll show you where to look.

#### **D** Sustainable Footprints

Cairns is the gateway to World Heritage listed rainforest. Ensure its protection by helping plant trees with our Rainforest Restoration project.

#### Wildlife & Nature

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



#### Welcome to Melbourne

Settle into your hotel on the banks of the Yarra River and meet your Travel Director for a welcome reception and dinner at the South Wharf riverside pub, The General Assembly. It's a great opportunity to get to know everyone in a unique setting. **Hotel: Crowne Plaza, 2 nights. DW** 

#### 2 Melbourne

Join your Travel Director for a city sights tour that includes a private walk through Melbourne's famous hidden laneways. You'll discover the city's eclectic little lanes, arcades, café society and fascinating street art. There's time afterwards to explore the city on your own, enjoy an optional experience or simply relax and watch the world go by. **B** 

#### **3** Melbourne – Cairns

Go from city to tropics today as you fly north to Cairns, Queensland. On arrival join a private wildlife boat cruise at Hartley's Crocodile Adventures, encountering koalas, wallabies, birds, crocodiles and more! There will be time to help regenerate the rainforest particular to the Wangetti Valley in which Hartley's is located. Feel free to join in as much or as little as you wish with this tree planting project and be a part of keeping the World Heritage listed Wet Tropics alive. After a day in the wild, arrive in Cairns for a free evening. **Hotel: Hilton, 3 nights.B** 

#### **4** Great Barrier Reef

Get ready for an experience of a lifetime - board a high-speed catamaran and cruise out to the Great Barrier Reef. You can snorkel and view this natural living wonder up close (equipment provided) or stay dry and explore the stunning reef from the comfort of a semi-submersible craft, just one metre underwater. On board you'll be treated to lunch before you cruise back to Cairns. **B** L

#### **5** Cairns Free Time

Today is a free day to do as you choose. A great option is the Skyrail Rainforest Cableway to Kuranda. Be amazed as you travel over and through World Heritage rainforest, explore quaint Kuranda village and later board the historic Kuranda Scenic Railway for the return journey. If you'd prefer to spend the day relaxing by your hotel pool or sitting back at a local café you can do that too! In the evening meet up with your travelling companions for a dining experience at Ochre Restaurant. **B DW** 

#### 6 Cairns – Sydney

Following a leisurely start to the morning it's time to switch the tropical vibes back to city highlights as you fly to Sydney. Check into your centrally located hotel and spend the rest of the day and evening exploring as you wish. Ask your Travel Director for sightseeing and dinner suggestions. Hotel: Sofitel Sydney Wentworth, 3 nights. B

#### 7 Sydney

Discover one of the great highlights of Sydney, the beautiful Sydney Opera House, on a guided tour inside this iconic building before experiencing the beauty of the city aboard a sightseeing harbour cruise sailing past Circular Quay, Shark Island, magnificent homes, beaches and parkland, and the iconic Harbour Bridge. If there ever was a place that slipped from the pages of a fairy-tale, 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? Take a walk around the grounds among the shrubs, herbs, and towering trees lining meandering paths, eyes peeled for the resident parrots, gulls, kookaburras and wagtails. Your visit provides a contribution to the ongoing maintenance of the enchanting garden. **B** 

#### 8 Sydney

The day is yours to explore at your leisure or book one of our hand crafted selection of optional activities. There are so many sights and experiences to be had in this city and further afield. This evening you can share your stories of your day with your fellow travellers at your Farewell Dinner. **B FD** 

#### 9 Farewell from Sydney

All good things must come to an end. Fill up on your last breakfast before bidding farewell to your fellow travel companions.  ${\bf B}$ 





# 9 DAYS 8 Included Experiences

#### **Departure Dates**

2023 Nov 09, 30 Dec 28 
 2024

 Jan
 18

 Feb
 01, 15

 Mar
 07, 21

 Apr
 11

 May
 09

 Jun
 27

 Aug
 29

 Sep
 26

 Oct
 10

 Nov
 07, 21, 28

 Dec
 05, 12

2025	5
Jan	09, <b>16</b> , 23, <b>30</b>
Feb	06, 13, 20
Mar	<b>06</b> , 13, <b>20</b> , 27

#### Definite Departures highlighted in red.

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and additional definite departure dates visit **aatkings.com/acana** or contact your local travel agent. A limited number of single rooms are also available.

Dining

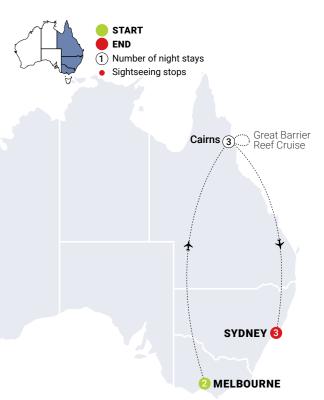
8 Full breakfasts B 1 Lunch L 2 Dinners with wine DW 1 Farewell Dinner FD

### **Flight Information**

Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 12 noon into Melbourne Airport Day 9 – flights to depart anytime from Sydney Airport Return airport to hotel transfers are included in the holiday price.

Internal-holiday flights: Please note the flights below are required to be purchased in order to fulfil the holiday itinerary: Day 3 – Melbourne to Cairns Day 6 – Cairns to Sydney

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



# Outback Adventure

# **Highlights**

#### **Q** Local Connection

Discover the beauty of the Australian outback over a Be My Guest dinner at Earth Sanctuary, plus tours with the Royal Flying Doctor Service and School of the Air.

#### Secultural Immersion

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

#### **D** Sustainable Footprints

your stay contributes directly to the local Adnyamathanha people and regional conservation projects.

#### Wildlife & Nature

Welcome to Adelaide

2 Adelaide – Flinders Ranges

3 Flinders Ranges – Port Augusta

Port Augusta – Coober Pedy

**5** Coober Pedy – Uluru

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

At once cultured yet cool, Adelaide attracts foodies, historians and art

aficionados in equal measure. Explore at your leisure, before meeting a

your Travel Director for a Welcome Dinner. Hotel: Crowne Plaza. DW

The Clare Valley is the postcard-perfect setting for historic Knappstein

of a staggering natural amphitheatre. Your stay at this resort, a MAKE

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

the historic town of Quorn, where with a Local Guide, you'll hear the

importance of this town in the ANZAC's Gallipoli Campaign, before

easing into Port Augusta. Hotel: Majestic Oasis Apartments. B DW

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

Things get deep as you travel underground to visit the town's head-

country to Coober Pedy, known as 'the opal capital of the world'.

scratching subterranean facilities. Hotel: Desert Cave. B DW

Emerge from your cave and cross the border into the Northern

photos. Hotel: Desert Gardens, Ayers Rock Resort, 2 nights. B

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

and curves. The drama is echoed as you climb to Pichi Richi Pass and

TRAVEL MATTER® Experience, contributes to the sustainable economic

future of the local Aboriginal people. Hotel: Wilpena Pound Resort. B DW

Enterprise Winery, producing sweet-scented rieslings and mineral-rich reds.

best is yet to come, as you arrive at Wilpena Pound Resort in the shadows

The route north lands you at Hawker, the gateway to the Flinders Ranges. The

local gourmand to tour the city's legendary Central Market, before joining

#### 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 an optional tour to Bruce Munro's *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 caterpillar's 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 find on your tour of the Alice Springs Desert Park. 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's the devil

(well, his marbles) that awaits at Karlu Karlu, where precariously balanced boulders appear superglued together. Hotel: Bluestone Motor Inn. B  $\rm DW$ 

Mataranka Thermal Pool

#### 11 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: Hilton Garden Inn, 2 nights. B** 

#### **14** 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 (swimming is seasonal). See the NT capital in a new light when you venture out on a Darwin Harbour Cruise, your sparkling wine 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. **B** 

# 15 DAYS 23 Included Experiences

#### Departure Dates

2024		2024 continued	
Jun	<b>11</b> , 18	Aug	<b>06</b> , 13
Jul	<b>09</b> , 16	Sep	03

Definite Departures highlighted in red.

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and additional definite departure dates visit **aatkings.com/naad** or contact your local travel agent.

A limited number of single rooms are also available.

# Dining

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

## **Flight Information**

Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 12.30pm into Adelaide Airport Day 15 – flights to depart anytime from Darwin Airport Flights are not included in the holiday price. Return airport to hotel transfers are included in the holiday price.



# Perfect Tasmania

## **Highlights**

#### ( Local Connection

Whether you're cruising the Gordon River and Wineglass Bay or going behind the scenes on a Be My Guest lunch at Mt. Gnomon Farm, in-the-know locals will keep you company.

#### Cultural Immersion

You're treated to a Welcome to Country by the Paredarerme people, the Traditional Owners of Oyster Bay, at Spring Bay Mill.

#### **D** Sustainable Footprints

horticulturists to propagate seeds, which will be planted to regenerate the site at a former wood chip mill.

#### Wildlife & Nature

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



#### Welcome to Hobart

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

#### **2** City Sights and Salamanca Market

Your morning excursions delve deep into many of the things that make Hobart great: the Botanical Gardens, historic Battery Point and the Cascade Brewery. End on a literal high at Mt. Nelson Lookout, offering dizzying views over the city. From alpaca throws to woodwork, Salamanca Market unites Tassie talent. Grab a coffee and navigate stalls, wedged alongside the precinct's historic sandstone warehouses. **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 towards immense Cradle Mountain Lake St. Clair National Park takes you through 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

Tasmania has its fair share of award-winning gin and whisky distilleries, as well as small boutique breweries. Among them is a seaside tap house found in the petite town of Penguin. If there's a place with a cuter name, we're yet to locate it on a map. Sit back and enjoy a tasting paddle of local brew whilst taking in the views overlooking glorious Bass Strait. Continue your palate expansion at Mount Gnomon Farm. 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** 

#### 2 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. **Guests depart this afternoon in Launceston (Code: THHL). Guests join this afternoon in Launceston (Code: TLHH). B L** 

#### B 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. Soak in the beauty of the breath-taking Freycinet Peninsula on a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience that contributes to the preservation of its wildlife. You'll cruise past granite coastline, towering pink cliffs of the Hazards range, beaches fringed by dense bush, and the gentle shores of Coles Bay. **Hotel: Eastcoaster Tasmania. B L DW** 

#### 10 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. On this MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience, 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. **Hotel: Grand Chancellor (Harbour View Room), 3 nights. B** 

#### **1** Port Arthur Historic Site

While 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. **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** 

#### 13 DAYS • 16 Included Experiences THLH: Hobart Return

Departure Dates

2023	2024	4	202	5
Oct 13	Jan	19	Jan	17
Nov 10	Feb	09	Feb	07, <b>28</b>
Dec 08	Mar	01, 22	Mar	21
	Apr	19		
	Sep	13		
	Oct	11		
	Nov	08		
	Dec	06, 27		

#### 7 DAYS • 11 Included Experiences

**THHL: Hobart to Launceston** 

#### Departure Dates

2023	2024	2025
Oct 13	Jan 19	Jan 17
Nov 10	Feb 09	Feb 07, 28
Dec 08	Mar 01, 22	Mar 21
	<b>Apr</b> 19	
	Sep 13	
	Oct 11	
	Nov 08	
	<b>Dec</b> 06.27	

#### 7 DAYS • 12 Included Experiences

## TLHH: Launceston to Hobart

#### Departure Dates

2023	2024	2025
Oct 19	Jan 25	Jan 02, 23
Nov 16	Feb 15	<b>Feb</b> 13
Dec 14	Mar 07, 28	Mar 06, 27
	<b>Apr</b> 25	
	Sep 19	
	Oct 17	
	Nov 14	
	<b>Dec</b> 12	

#### Definite Departures highlighted in red.

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and additional definite departure dates visit **aatkings.com/thlh or thhl or tlhh** or contact your local travel agent. A limited number of single rooms are also available.

# Dining

12 Full breakfasts B 3 Lunches L 1 Be My Guest lunch BG 6 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 holiday price. Return airport to hotel transfers are included in the holiday price.

# Untamed Pilbara & West Coast

# **Highlights**

#### Local Connection

Launch into the sky at the Carnarvon Space Museum, then take a deep dive below the surface while cruising World Heritage-listed Ningaloo Reef.

#### Cultural Immersion

on an adventure through Yanchep National Park with charismatic Derek Nannup.

#### **b** Sustainable Footprints

Your national park fees protect the places you visit, ensuring this fragile part of the world will be around for future generations to enjoy.

#### Wildlife & Nature

**1** Welcome to Broome

**2** Broome Free Time

Broome – Port Hedland

Hotel: Hospitality B DW

boutiques. **B DW** 

We'll forgive you for not wanting to leave Karijini National Park, a magical place where waterfalls drop into turquoise rock pools. A salve for the soul.

Multicultural Broome delivers many surprises, from its eclectic

restaurants to its long pearling history - the pristine waters produce

some of the most prized pearl oysters in the world. Discover Broome's

Beach and salute the end of your first spectacular day in WA, glass of

bubbles in hand. Hotel: Cable Beach Club Resort & Spa, 2 nights.

other standout attraction: its sunsets. Follow locals to the sand on Cable

Which direction should you choose to venture today? Perhaps veer off to a

pearl farm, to witness the precision that goes into growing and harvesting

these gems. Or simply enjoy Broome's tropical climes, strolling along

22-kilometre Cable Beach, hunting for dinosaur footprints and browsing

At first glimpse of the Pilbara, you may well think you've been transported

mineral deposits. People are few and far between until you reach the town

of Port Hedland. There are plenty of local characters to meet over dinner

to Mars. The soil couldn't get any redder, the skies any wider, the rock

formations any more dramatic, much of the countryside streaked with

Love at first sight? It's likely to happen at Karijini National Park. This is

nature amplified, a place of immense gorges and deep, dark chasms;

waterfalls and gem-like rock pools. This red slice of the Hamersley Range

is a magnet for nature lovers, not only for the earthly delights but also the

creatures that call the cliffs home. You're hundreds of kilometres from the

nearest town, so expect dazzling stargazing from your safari tent. Hotel:

at your hotel, which gets busy when musicians begin to play.

Port Hedland – Karijini National Park

Karijini Eco Retreat, 2 nights. B DW

**5** Karijini National Park

nooks and waterholes just begging you to swim in them. Things get hot here – why not dive in? **B DW** 

#### 6 Karijini National Park – Exmouth

It's an epic commute across the Pilbara from inland Karijini to Exmouth on the World Heritage listed Ningaloo Coast. While you're driving, dream about all the marine creatures that await in Ningaloo Reef. Many fish and cetaceans live here year-round, but some largerthan-life visitors only drop in at certain times, on their migratory path. **Hotel: Mantarays Ningaloo Reef Resort, 2 nights. B DW** 

#### Exmouth Free Time

Steel yourself for a few 'pinch-me' moments today. You could choose to snorkel (with an ethical operator) over Ningaloo Reef. Time of year pending, you may have whale sharks and possibly humpback whales in your company. Nothing quite prepares you for the initial moment you glimpse these gentle giants up close. Or, spend your day strolling the sand and cruising with dolphins at sunset. The choice is yours. **B DW** 

#### Exmouth – Carnarvon

You don't need to get your hair wet to experience the sheer wonderment of Ningaloo Reef. A Coral Bay glass-bottom boat cruise gets you within a whisker of turtles, colourful coral and an embarrassment of fish. You won't know where to look, although your on-board naturalist will help guide your gaze. From staring at the sea to staring at the stars: your next port of call is the Carnarvon Space and Technology Museum. Did you know it played a role in the 1969 moon landing? Just one fascinating fact you'll learn from your passionate guide. **Hotel: Best Western Hospitality. B DW** 

#### Oarnarvon – Monkey Mia

While stromatolites might sound like something belonging in a cave, these 'living fossils' grow in the water at Hamelin Pool. Rock-like in appearance, they're actually alive, and reveal what life might have been like 3.5-billion years ago. Remarkably, this is the world's most abundant colony of them. It's just one of the natural allures of the state's World Heritage listed Shark Bay, which is also characterised by Shell Beach, formed from billions of coquina bivalve shells. **Hotel: Monkey Mia Dolphin Resort, 2 nights. B DW** 

#### 10 Monkey Mia Free Time

Sparkling turquoise water, powdery white sand, ochre dunes – Monkey Mia knows how to dial up the drama. And then there are the wild resident dolphins, which famously swim to shore every morning to splash about in the shallows and interact with humans. It's a hard act to follow. Perhaps choose an optional afternoon sunset cruise, or get some perspective of the bay on an optional scenic flight? **B** 

The Pinnacle

#### 1 Monkey Mia – Geraldton

Kalbarri National Park is known for many things: its gorges, towering coastal cliffs and rare wildlife among them. And then there are the wildflowers, which bloom and blanket much of the countryside in spring, transforming it into a floral wonderland. Arriving in Geraldton, pay homage to sailors lost off the WA coast during WWII at the HMAS Sydney Memorial. **Hotel: Mantra. B** 

#### 12 Geraldton – Perth

Two final wilderness highs provide a fitting end to this journey of contrasts. Within Nambung National Park, the Pinnacles create a moonscape that appears plucked from a science fiction film, its staggering collection of natural limestone structures jutting into the sky. It's a spiritual place, as is nearby Yanchep National Park. Here, on a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience, Noongar man Derek Nannup's Dreamtime stories tell the tale of how the land was created. His tours are hands-on, so expect to taste bush tucker and try the didgeridoo. Arriving in Perth you have a Farewell Dinner to swap contact details with your new friends and reminisce about your western adventure. **Hotel: Crowne Plaza. B FD** 

#### 13 Farewell from Perth

How do you pick a favourite adventure from the last 12 days? You don't have to – let them all shine in equal measure in your memory.  ${\bf B}$ 

# It took billions of years to create the geological wonders of Karijini: the striking red escarpments and the quiet gorges all enveloped by tall gums. You have a single day to explore, so bring your stamina and sense of adventure. You're heading deep into the national park, discovering hidden

# 13 DAYS 15 Included Experiences

#### **Departure Dates**

2024	
May	15
Jul	10
Aug	<b>07</b> , 21

Definite Departures highlighted in red.

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and additional definite departure dates visit **aatkings.com/wbmp** or contact your local travel agent. A limited number of single rooms are also available.

# Dining

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

# **Flight Information**

Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 3.00pm into Broome Airport Day 13 – flights to depart anytime from Perth Airport Flights are not included in the holiday price. Return airport to hotel transfers are included in the holiday price.



# Untamed Kimberley

# **Highlights**

#### ( Local Connection

After catching an epic sunset cruising the Ord River and Lake Argyle outside Kununurra, enjoy the flavours of Hoochery Rum Distillery – the owners are legends.

#### Scultural Immersion

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

#### **b** 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

Welcome to Darwin

**2** Darwin – Katherine

3 Katherine – Kununurra

4 Kununurra

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

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 for a Welcome Dinner. Hotel: Vibe Darwin Waterfront. DW

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

larger-than-life character Tom Curtain on a cattle station, where he

entertains crowds through song and stories. Hotel: Contour. B DW

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

your memory. Hotel: Kununurra Country Club Resort, 2 nights. B DW

enjoy a bird's-eye view of the beehive-like rock formations of the Bungle

cruising the Ord River and Lake Argyle. Some experiences burn into

How active and adventurous do you want today to be? Rise early to

Bungles on an optional scenic flight or stay grounded on a 4WD tour through the national park. Otherwise, lace up your walking shoes and



#### **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** 

#### 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** 

#### 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** 

#### D Broome Free Time

A day of decisions. 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.  ${f B}$ 

### **11 DAYS** • **22 Included Experiences**

#### WDB: Darwin to Broome

Departure Dates

2024	2024 continued
May 07, <b>28</b>	Jul 02, 23, 30
<b>Jun</b> 25	Aug 06, 13, 20

#### 11 DAYS • 22 Included Experiences

WBD: Broome to Darwin

Departure Dates

2024

07, 14	
05, <b>26</b>	
02	
	05, <b>26</b>

Definite Departures highlighted in red.

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and additional definite departure dates visit **aatkings.com/wdb or wbd** or contact your local travel agent. A limited number of single rooms are also available.

# Dining

10 Full breakfasts B 2 Lunches L 7 Dinners with wine **DW** 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 holiday price. Return airport to hotel transfers are included in the holiday price.







# Tastes of Southern Australia

# **Highlights**

#### Decal Connection

Meet Craig Starr on his 400-hectare sheep farm Gold Creek Station for a tale or two, and a BBQ. The stories continue at Australian Parliament House.

#### Scultural Immersion

Botanic Garden, as you learn some of its history from a First Nation's perspective.

#### **D** Sustainable Footprints

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 all manner of natural drama, from limestone stacks to World Heritage listed rainforest and untouched coastal coves.

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

#### 1 Sydney – Canberra

As hard as it is to say goodbye to Sydney, it's just as easy to say hello to the Southern Highlands. South of the 'Harbour City', the bucolic countryside of 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. Tonight, join your Travel Director for a Welcome Dinner. **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'seye views from the Melbourne Skydeck at the Eureka Tower. 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

Guests depart this morning in Melbourne (Code: ESBM). Guests joining this morning in Melbourne will need to pre-book accommodation for the previous night (Code: EMKA). 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: Lady Bay Resort. B DW

#### 6 Warrnambool – Naracoorte

Emus, kangaroos, koalas, echidnas... These are just some of the animals you'll possibly spot as you drive through Tower Hill Wildlife Reserve – housed in a dormant volcanic crater. 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** 

#### 8 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. Hanson Bay Wildlife Sanctuary was badly damaged by the 2019 bushfires. Through this MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience, you'll assist with their bushfire recovery plan and wildlife rehabilitation program. Learn from one of their experienced guides about the delicate ecosystem and Australian native animals. 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

Great Ocea

#### Sangaroo 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? After a cultural walking tour in the Botanic Garden with an Aboriginal Guide, and an Adelaide city tour, 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

#### 1 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 over lunch at Lambert Estate, nestled in the rolling hills of the Barossa, enveloped by vines. 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** 

#### **1** Farewell from Adelaide

By day 11, you will have a suitcase full of wine and cheese; a camera full of dreamy images; and more memories than you can count.  ${\bf B}$ 

#### **11 DAYS** • **23 Included Experiences**

ESMA: Sydney to Adelaide

Departure	Dates
-----------	-------

2023	2024		2025	
Oct 17, 31	Jan	09	Feb	<b>06</b> , 20
Nov 21	Feb	06	Mar	20
	Mar	05		
	Apr	11		
	May	02		
	Aug	29		
	Sep	19		
	Oct	<b>17</b> , 31		
	Nov	21		

#### 7 DAYS • 13 Included Experiences

EMKA: Melbourne to Adelaide

#### **Departure Dates**

2023	2024	2025
Oct 21	Jan 13	Feb 10, 24
Nov 4, 25	Feb 10	Mar 24
	Mar 09	
	Apr 15	
	<b>May</b> 06	
	Sep 02, 23	
	Oct 21	
	Nov 04, 25	

#### **5 DAYS** • 4 Included Experiences

**ESBM: Sydney to Melbourne** 

**Departure Dates** 

2023	2024	2025	
Oct 17, 31	Jan <mark>09</mark>	Feb 06, 20	
Nov 21	Feb 06	Mar 20	
	Mar 05		
	Apr 11		
	May 02		
	Aug 29		
	Sep 19		
	Oct 17, 31		
	Nov 21		

#### Definite Departures highlighted in red.

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and additional definite departure dates visit **aatkings.com/esma or emka or esbm** or contact your local travel agent. A limited number of single rooms are also available.

# 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 holiday price. Return airport to hotel transfers are included in the holiday price.



# Contrasts of New Zealand

# **Highlights**

#### Output Description

South Island countryside never fails to impress, as you'll discover cruising World Heritage-listed Milford Sound/Piopiotahi and enjoying morning tea on a farm in the Hurunuri Hills.

#### Scultural Immersion

Discover just how strong Māori culture is at Te Pā Tū Māori Experience, celebrating art, tradition and cuisine. Bring your appetite for nurturing Māori cuisine.

#### **b** Sustainable Footprints

MAKE TRAVEL MATTER OPeration Nest Egg may sound James Bond-esque, 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 swoosh at every turn.

#### 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 at a Welcome Reception and dinner. Start your Auckland tour on a high, we say. Hotel: The Grand by SkyCity, 2 nights. DW

#### 2 Auckland

If you didn't get your city bearings yesterday, you will on an Auckland tour today. Have your camera poised as you reach Mission Bay, a dreamy waterside suburb where the blues patchwork to the horizon. Click! Then get snap happy once again at Bastion Point and the Michael Joseph Savage Memorial, offering epic vistas over Auckland and its harbours. Click, click, click! Want some tips on how to spend your free afternoon in New Zealand's largest city? How about going behind the scenes of the All Blacks, arguably the world's most legendary rugby team? Or cruising to Waiheke Island to sip more wine at forward-thinking cellar doors? 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 cute-as-a-button, 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 Indigenous culture and traditions on a Rotorua tour at Te Pā Tū Māori Experience. Enjoy a forest kai horotai (seasonal canapés) and chef choice aperitif, followed by a seasonal three-course Highlight Dinner. Hotel: Millennium. B HD

#### A Rotorua – Auckland – Queenstown

Lance O'Sullivan, a retired champion jockey, and his wife Bridgette invite you to an exclusive Be My Guest morning tea at the Red Barn, at their working dairy farm in the Waikato district. Expect country banter and have a go at the forgotten art of butter churning. The feel-good vibes that endure

will follow you all the way to Queenstown, the self-proclaimed adventure capital of New Zealand. It makes perfect sense - there are ski fields, white-water river and bridges strapped with bungy cords wherever you turn. And then there's the dining scene; Queenstown is home to some of the country's most awarded restaurants. Whether you're in the mood for bulging burgers or lakeside tapas, ask us for recommendations on this leg of your Queenstown New Zealand tour. Hotel: Millennium, 3 nights. B BG

#### 5 Milford Sound/Piopiotahi Cruise

Bring your stamina and sense of adventure - things get a little wild today. Nature rules as you skirt Queenstown's gleaming Lake Wakatipu, and traverse 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... The best Milford Sound/Piopiotahi cruise sees you in the company of an eagle-eyed guide, who not only knows the immense geological history of the region, but can also point out sunbaking fur seals and playful dolphins. B L

#### 6 Queenstown Free Time

Take today's Queenstown New Zealand tour at your own pace. Like things fast and furious? Feel the wind in your hair on a high-octane jet boat ride. Blast across Lake Wakatipu and down the world-famous Kawarau and Shotover Rivers in one of the world's most stunning locations. Prefer to be able to talk (and drink wine) while you cruise? Glide across Lake Wakatipu aboard the historic TSS Earnslaw to Walter Peak High Country Farm for a gourmet barbecue lunch in a dreamy alpine setting. 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 the fertile Central Otago region of the South Island. Get a taste for the area's plump stone fruit at the stall of a local orchard. Mountain drama - including

views of Aoraki/Mt. 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 World Heritage listed Aoraki Mackenzie International Dark Sky Reserve. It's handy to have an astronomer in your company to decode the constellations of the Milky Way. If there was ever a NZ experience that put life in perspective, this is it. Hotel: Pepper's Bluewater Resort. B DW

Postmasters Café

#### B Lake Tekapo – Christchurch

The Canterbury region of the west coast is a rustic union of grassy plains, mirror-like lakes and snow-capped mountains, the kind of landscape that you might see on postcards. Arrive into the beautiful English city of Christchurch for a guided visit. The city 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 Turanga, the gold-clad central library. Hotel: Distinction, 2 nights. B

#### **9** Christchurch

Travel north through rolling countryside to Hurunui Hills, a hill country farm in North Canterbury. Enjoy warm Kiwi hospitality with the Bamford Family, who have been farming at Hurunui since 1884 with six generations focused on producing premium Merino sheep, wool and Angus cattle. Soak up stunning scenery while enjoying morning tea, meet the farm animals & discover what it is like to live off the land on this unique Be My Guest experience. Continue to a local vineyard, Waipara Springs Winery, where it's time to relax and enjoy a platter-style lunch among the vines. A big day leads to a big evening joining your Travel Director and travel mates for a celebratory Farewell Dinner featuring produce from the Canterbury region. B BG L FD

#### Farewell 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 trip to New Zealand. B

# **10 DAYS 12 Included Experiences**

2024

#### **Departure Dates**

2023

Oct 06, 20 Nov 17

Dec 08

Jan 05, 12, 19, 26 Feb 02, 09, 16, 23 Mar 01, 08, 15, 22 Apr 05, 19 Jul 05 **Aug** 23 Sep 06, 20 Oct 04, 18 Nov 08, 15, 22, 29 Dec 06, 20

2025	)
Jan	03, 10, 17, <b>24</b> , 31
Feb	<b>07</b> , 14, <b>21</b> , 28
Mar	07, <b>14</b> , 21, <b>28</b>

#### Definite Departures highlighted in red.

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and additional definite departure dates visit aatkings.com/izanb or contact your local travel agent. A limited number of single rooms are also available.

# Dining

9 Full buffet breakfasts B 2 Lunches L 2 Be My Guest Morning Teas BG 1 Farewell Dinner FD

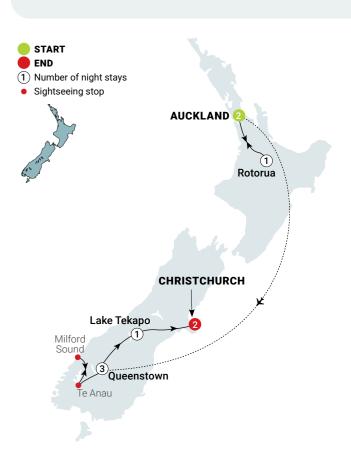
- 2 Highlight Dinners HD
- 2 Dinners with wine DW

# **Flight Information**

Day 1 – flights to arrive by 4.00pm into Auckland Airport Day 10 - flights to depart any time from Christchurch Airport Return airport to hotel transfers are included in the holiday price.

Internal-holiday flight: Please note the flight below is required to be purchased in order to fulfil the holiday itinerary: Day 4 - Auckland to Queenstown

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



# New Zealand Panorama

# Highlights

#### Local Connection

South Island farmer Laura shares what life on the land is like, while your local guide at the Ruakuri Cave at Waitomo reveals you what life in the land is like.

#### Se 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.

#### **b** Sustainable Footprints

Because the state of the state

#### Wildlife & Nature

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



#### Welcome to Queenstown

Queenstown deserves its destination crown. And you'll have plenty of time to explore. But first stop is Arrowtown, a former mining town so dreamy it looks like it has 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. The Real Country Farm Show, a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience, offers an authentic taste of what rural New Zealand is like. For every guest, we donate funds to The Fairlight Foundation, Advancing Women in Agriculture. 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 Highlight Dinner 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** 

#### 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** 

#### 5 Auckland – Rotorua

Today is set to sparkle – quite literally – as thousands of bright green and blue glowworms light up your next destination: the Waitomo Caves. From overhead attractions to those below the ground... This evening, explore Te Puia's geothermal valley, and learn about Māori history and culture on this guided experience, which includes a dinner of hangi-inspired cuisine and a cultural performance in a finely carved meeting house, Te Aronui a Rua. It ends on a high at the Pohutu Geyser, where, armed with a hot chocolate you'll view one of New Zealand's geothermal wonderlands. **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. Cap off your day at a Farewell Dinner with your Travel Director and companions. **B FD** 

#### **7** Farewell from Rotorua and Auckland

Short, sweet, and packed with highlights – how else to describe this wonderful week?  ${\bf B}$ 



# 7 DAYS 5 Included Experiences

#### Departure Dates

2023 Oct 20 Nov 08

2024	ļ
Jan	05, 26
Feb	09
Mar	08, <b>15</b>
Apr	19
May	17
Jul	05
Sep	06
Oct	14, <b>18</b>
Nov	08, <b>15</b>

2025	5
Jan	03, <b>24</b>
Feb	07, <b>21</b>
Mar	07, <b>14</b> , 28

#### Definite Departures highlighted in red.

**Dec** 06

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and additional definite departure dates visit **aatkings.com/rpaca** or contact your local travel agent. A limited number of single rooms are also available.

# 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 Return airport to hotel transfers are included in the holiday price.

Internal-holiday flight: Please note the flight below is required to be purchased in order to fulfil the holiday itinerary: Day 4 – Queenstown to Auckland

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



# New Zealand Uncovered

# **Highlights**

#### Icola 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.

#### Scultural 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 nurturing cuisine.

#### **D** Sustainable Footprints

Hear from the founder about the work being done to address biodiversity needs in the Kaikōura region, by developing a wildlife hospital and conservation centre.

#### Wildlife & Nature

A limestone landscape of pancake-shaped rock formations, blowholes and surge pools sure have carved out a name for themselves. Punakaiki or Pancake Rocks are West Coasters that are known the world over.

#### Wellington – Kaikōura

This morning cruise the Cook Strait to Kaikõura, a marine life haven. On arrival be treated to a biodiversity talk from Sabrina Leucht, founder of Kaikõura Wildlife Centre Trust, and learn about the work the trust is doing towards Wildlife rescue and rehabilitation, at this MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience. Tonight, dine at Hiku, which celebrates what Kaikõura is all about - kai moana and dramatic sea and mountain scapes. **Hotel:** Sudima. B HD

#### 8 Kaikōura – Christchurch

Enjoy a relaxed start this morning or sign up for one of several optional wildlife experiences available. Take a scenic flight for a bird's-eye view, get up close to dolphins by boat or kayak, or sample tasty crayfish at waterside fish-and-chip shops. Follow the coast and Canterbury Plains to Christchurch, home to innovative architecture, art institutions and restaurants. **Hotel: Distinction. B** 

#### Ohristchurch – 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 at their home Morelea on the edge of Lake Tekapo. **Hotel:** Mackenzie Country Inn. B BG DW

#### 10 Twizel – Dunedin

Oamaru has a rich history and proud heritage, enriched by passionate and perhaps quirky locals. Explore the shops, galleries and traditional crafts within some of the Southern Hemisphere's most complete Victorian streetscapes, before landing in Dunedin. **Hotel: Scenic Southern Cross. B DW** 

#### 1 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 lakeside town of Te Anau. Enjoy the thrill of jet boating on scenic Lake Manapouri, home to Pomona Island, where native birds are under threat - and your visit is helping to protect them through a communitybased conservation project. **Hotel: Distinction Te Anau. B DW** 

#### 12 Te Anau – Queenstown

Your journey toward your cruise on 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** 

Milford Sound/Piopiotahi

#### **13** Queenstown Free Time

Adrenaline-junkies may wish to get some perspective on a tour of 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 and farm show. **B HD** 

#### **14** 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 Mt. Hooker steal the scene. Welcome to the town of Franz Josef, home to Franz Josef Glacier/ Kā Roimata o Hine Hukatere. **Hotel: Scenic Franz Josef Glacier. B DW** 

#### Franz Josef/Waiau – Punakaiki

Explore the small but lively Franz Josef/Waiau village before venturing to 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. After a spectacular day, spend the night at an eco-friendly, waterfront resort. **Hotel: Scenic Punakaiki. B DW** 

#### 19 Punakaiki – Christchurch

Beer for breakfast? We've got you sorted on a morning tour of legendary Monteith's Brewery, which is followed by lunch. 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** 

#### **1** Farewell from Christchurch

How many travel highs can you pack into a holiday? This itinerary has certainly pushed the boundaries. Now all you have to do is go home and sort through all those photos. **B** 

#### 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 ready yourself to meet fellow travellers over a Welcome Reception and dinner. **Hotel: Cordis, 2 nights. DW** 

#### 2 Auckland

A little bit of leisure, a little bit of culture – today is one of those days. 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 – Rotorua

The O'Sullivan's welcome you to their Waikato estate for a Be My Guest lunch in their Red Barn. Expect country banter and farm-to-table fare prepared with a lot of love. The next hot spot – in every sense of the word – on your NZ holiday is Rotorua. Visit Te Puia to see and support Māori artisans at work, then continue your Rotorua tour at the steamy Whakarewarewa Thermal Reserve, a staggering valley where geysers pop and thermal springs jettison skywards. **Hotel: Millennium, 2 nights. B BG** 

#### A Rotorua

Today, choose your own adventure. We have plenty of ideas for the paths you might follow. Tonight, dive deep into Māori culture at Te Pā Tū Māori Experience, an important hub keeping tradition, art and music alive. Oh, and nurturing Māori cuisine. Enjoy a forest kai horotai (seasonal canapés) and chef choice aperitif, followed by a seasonal three-course dinner. **B HD** 

#### 5 Rotorua – Wellington

Say goodbye to Rotorua and hello to the raging rapids of Huka Falls. Your outlook then unfolds into the dreamy landscape of Lake Taupō. Traverse the volcanic Central Plateau to NZ's cool little capital of Wellington. **Hotel:** Rydges, 2 nights. B DW

6 Wellington

Take a city tour to discover highlights like its iconic Cable Car, parliament and Mt. Victoria. This afternoon is all yours. You could visit Te Papa, the Museum of New Zealand, perhaps the wine region of Wairarapa or Zealandia's ecosanctuary restoring 225 hectares of forest. **B** 

# 17 DAYS 21 Included Experiences

#### Departure Dates

l, 31

2023	3
Oct	03, 24
Nov	14, 28
Dee	10

	•
Jan	09, 16, 23, 30
Feb	06, 13, <b>20</b> , <b>27</b>
Mar	<b>05</b> , 12, 19, <b>26</b>
Apr	02, <b>09</b> , 16, 23
Jun	04, 25
Sep	03, 10, <b>17</b>
Oct	01, <b>08</b> , 15, <b>22</b> , 29
Nov	<b>05</b> , 12, <b>19</b> , 26
Dec	<b>03</b> , 10, <b>17</b> , 24, 31

2025	)
Jan	<b>07</b> , 14, <b>21</b> , 28
Feb	04, 11, 18, 25
Mar	04, <b>11</b> , 18, <b>25</b>

#### Definite Departures highlighted in red.

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and additional definite departure dates visit **aatkings.com/zaac** or contact your local travel agent.

A limited number of single rooms are also available.

# Dining

16 Full buffet breakfasts B

- 1 Be My Guest Lunch BG
- 1 Lunch L
- 1 Be My Guest Afternoon Tea BG
- 3 Highlight Dinners HD
- 7 Dinners with wine DW
- 1 Farewell Dinner FD

### **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 holiday price. Return airport to hotel transfers are included in the holiday price.





# **Highlights**

#### ① Local Connection

The dairy industry is big business in New Zealand, as you'll fast find on the O'Sullivan's Waikato farm. The stories they'll tell you about life on the land.

#### Recultural Immersion

Discover just how strong Māori culture is at Te Pā Tū Māori Experience, celebrating art, tradition and cuisine

#### **D**<sub>2</sub> Sustainable Footprints

MAKE TRAVEL MATTER reveals Rotorua's steamy history, but also supports up-and-coming Māori creatives.

#### Wildlife & Nature

If you want to be blown away by nature, Huka Falls is the place to go. This mighty waterfall sees 220,000 litres of water per second thunder over an 11-metre ridge

#### Welcome to Auckland

Meet your fellow travel companions at a Welcome Reception and dinner, and share stories of your day-one wanderings. Hotel: Cordis, 2 nights. DW

#### 2 Auckland

Those sails on the harbour? They come from a long and fascinating history of boat-building and sailing, as you'll discover on an America's Cup tour at the New Zealand Maritime Museum. The water is your backdrop as you skirt the harbour toward dreamy Mission Bay and Bastion Point. There's nothing like an epic view to set your soul soaring. B

#### 3 Auckland – Rotorua

The O'Sullivan's welcome you to their Waikato estate for a Be My Guest lunch in their Red Barn. Expect country banter and farm-to-table fare prepared with a lot of love. The next hot spot - in every sense of the word – on your NZ holiday is Rotorua. Visit Te Puia to see and support Māori artisans at work, then continue your Rotorua tour at the steamy Whakarewarewa Thermal Reserve, a staggering valley where geysers pop and thermal springs jettison skywards. Hotel: Millennium, 2 nights. B BG

#### 4 Rotorua

Today, choose your own adventure. Tonight, dive deep into Indigenous culture at Te Pā Tū Māori Experience. Hear about Māori history, traditions,

and future aspirations across an evening of celebration and feasting. Enjoy a forest kai horotai (seasonal canapés) and complementary chef choice aperitif, followed by a seasonal threecourse Highlight Dinner. **B HD** 

#### **5** Rotorua – Wellington

You'll hear Huka Falls well before you see it - 220,000 litres of water thunder over an 11 metre high waterfall every second. The road ahead unfolds in a broad panorama of Lake Taupō then the Kapiti Coast to Wellington. Hotel: Rydges, 2 nights. B

#### 6 Wellington

Head out on a city sights tour to take in highlights such as its iconic Cable Car, parliament and Mt. Victoria. This afternoon is yours to discover Wellington. Perhaps visit Te Papa, the Museum of New Zealand, tour the Wairarapa wine region or the first urban completely fenced ecosanctuary of Zealandia, where the biodiversity of 225 hectares of forest is being restored. **B** 

#### **7** Farewell from Wellington

It's been a week of epic sights and adventures in the North Island. All good things must come to an end, but there's time to enjoy one last breakfast with your travel companions. B

# 7 DAYS **10 Included Experiences**

#### **Departure Dates**

2023		2025	
Oct	03, 24, 31	Jan	<b>07</b> , 14, <b>21</b> , 28
Nov	14, 28	Feb	04, 11, 18, 25
Dec	19	Mar	04, <b>11</b> , 18, <b>25</b>



#### Definite Departures highlighted in red.

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past quest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and additional definite departure dates visit aatkings.com/zaaw or contact your local travel agent.

A limited number of single rooms are also available.

### Dining

6 Full buffet breakfasts B 1 Highlight Dinner HD 1 Be My Guest Lunch BG 1 Dinner with wine DW

#### **Flight Information**

START

END

AUCKLAND 2

The Red Barn

(apiti Coas

Day 1 – flights to arrive by 4.00pm into Auckland Airport Day 7 - flights to depart anytime from Wellington Airport Flights are not included in the holiday price. Return airport to hotel transfers are included in the holiday price.

(1) Number of night stays

2)Rotorua

Huka Falls

Lake Taupō

Sightseeing stop

# Jewels of the Bay

# **Highlights**

Decal Connection

Meet the artists, makers and producers that call the Bay of Islands home, as well as descendants of Traditional Landowners who signed the Treaty of Waitangi in 1840.

#### **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.

#### **D** Sustainable Footprints

#### 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.

As this holiday 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 descendant 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. Meet your fellow travellers at a Welcome Reception and dinner this evening. Hotel: Copthorne Hotel & Resort, 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 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





MAKE TRAVEL MATTER OF Journey through Waitangi Treaty Grounds. New Zealand's most important historic site. Discover the stories, people and events that have shaped the past, present and future.

# **3 DAYS 1 Included Experience**

### **Departure Dates**

#### 2023 2025 Oct 15 Jan 05, 12, 19, 26 Nov 12 Feb 02, 09, 16, 23 Mar 02, 09, 16, 23 Dec 03, 17

#### 2024

Jan	07, <b>14</b> , <b>21</b> , 28
Feb	04, <b>11</b> , 18, 25
Mar	03, 10, <b>17</b> , 24
Apr	14, 21
Jun	23
Sep	08, 29
Oct	06, 13, 20, 27
Nov	03, 10, 24
Dec	01, 08, 15, 22

#### Definite Departures highlighted in red.

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past quest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and additional definite departure dates visit aatkings.com/uboi or contact your local travel agent.

A limited number of single rooms are also available.

## 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 Airport

Flights are not included in the holiday price. Return airport to hotel transfers are included in the holiday price.



Bay of Islands (2) andare AUCKLAND

# Southern Spectacular

# **Highlights**

#### One connection

Angie and Stan Taylor serve up a mean afternoon tea on their estate in Tekapo. Perhaps the only thing better is cruising Milford Sound/Piopiotahi with a guide pointing out dolphins.

#### Cultural Immersion

Farming is a big deal in New Zealand, as you'll fast discover at Walter Peak Station. Sit down to a barbecue dinner before being immersed in a farm show

#### **D** Sustainable Footprints

MAKE TRAVEL MATTER OPPomona Island Charitable Trust works with passionate volunteers to rehabilitate the South Island's largest inland island. You get to be a part of the magic

#### Wildlife & Nature

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



#### **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, retired farmers Angle 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

Oamaru has a rich history and proud heritage, enriched by passionate and perhaps guirky locals. Explore the shops, galleries and traditional crafts within some of the Southern Hemisphere's most complete Victorian streetscapes. 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 visit to Speight's Brewery – a New Zealand institution. And pretty much everything in between. There's always that castle to explore... Larnach may not have the history of Scotland's grand estates, but it's just as pretty in our humble opinion. A NZ holiday must. Hotel: Scenic Southern Cross. B DW

#### 4 Dunedin – Te Anau

Leave Dunedin's pastoral 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. Take a thrilling jet boat ride down the Waiau River to Lake Manapouri and if that's not enough water for one day, you may choose to cruise to the iconic Glowworm Caves. Can we tempt you? Hotel: Distinction Te Anau. B DW

#### 5 Te Anau – Queenstown

Nature rules today, from the moment you depart Te Anau and begin your journey 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. You're in the company of a naturalist who knows every nook and cranny of this mighty cavern and will point out flora and fauna you would have never spotted on your own. Life in perspective. Hotel: Millennium, 2 niahts. B

#### **6** Queenstown Free Time

Take today at your own pace. Like things fast and furious? Feel the wind in your hair on a high-octane jet boat ride, 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. This is followed by a farm show. B HD

#### **Q**ueenstown – 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. View a working orchard in action and sample a ripe peach or two. Prepare for a flavour explosion. The next explosion is a visual one as you arrive in the town of Franz Josef/Waiau, home to 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. B DW

#### 8 Franz Josef/Waiau – Punakaiki

Explore the small but lively Franz Josef/Waiau village before venturing to Hokitika, home of New Zealand's native jade greenstone. Then soak in the natural surroundings as you head to Punakaiki to view the Pancake Rocks and Blowholes, where waves thunder through cracks in the Earth. This is the soundtrack that lulls you to sleep at tonight's eco-resort. Hotel: Scenic Punakaiki. B DW

#### 9 Punakaiki – Christchurch

Wine may steal the scene across much of New Zealand, but at legendary Monteith's Brewery, beer rules. It's a good thing lunch is included. 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

#### **1** 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

# **10 DAYS 11 Included Experiences**

#### **Departure Dates**

2023		
Oct	10, 31	
Nov	07, 21	
Dec	05.26	

	·
Jan	16, 23, 30
Feb	<b>06</b> , 13, 20, <b>27</b>
Mar	<b>05</b> , <b>12</b> , 19, 26
Apr	<b>02</b> , <b>16</b> , 23, 30
Jun	11
Jul	02
Sep	10, 17, <b>24</b>
Oct	08, <b>15</b> , 22, <b>29</b>
Nov	05, <b>12</b> , 19, <b>26</b>
Dec	03, <b>10</b> , 17, <b>24</b> , 31

2025	)
Jan	07, <b>14</b> , 21, <b>28</b>
Feb	04, <b>11</b> , <b>18</b> , <b>25</b>
Mar	<b>04</b> , 11, <b>18</b> , 25

#### Definite Departures highlighted in red.

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and additional definite departure dates visit aatkings.com/zcqr or contact your local travel agent. A limited number of single rooms are also available.

### Dining

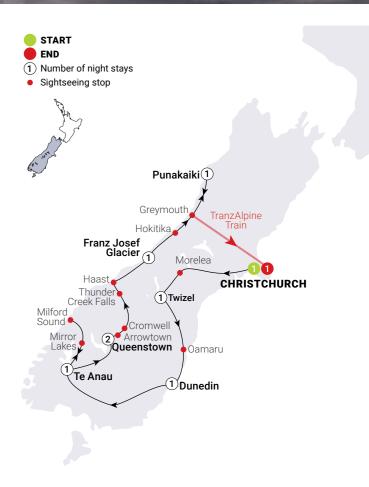
9 Full buffet breakfasts B 1 Lunch L 1 Be My Guest Afternoon Tea BG 1 Farewell Dinner FD

1 Highlight Dinner HD 5 Dinners with wine DW

## 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 holiday price.

Return airport to hotel transfers are included in the holiday price.



# Best Buys

manca Market, Tasmania

# Awe-inspiring Attractions, Built-in Flexibility

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

# sympFlexible Holidays

Striking the perfect balance between a guided holiday and an independent tour, because sometimes you need a helping hand from the professionals but other times the travel moments you most remember are unplanned and unscripted.

# 🕑 Iconic Sites

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

# 🕲 Sustainable Travel

We've been exploring these regions for 100 years, and hope to do so for many more to come. Over that century we've worked with, supported and sustained environments and communities, far and wide, big and small. Their future ensures our future.

# 🖄 Natural Wonders

Being amid nature boosts your happy hormones. And Australia and New Zealand are blessed when it comes to wide, open spaces. From World Heritage listed wilderness areas to record-breaking natural attractions, wonder at what nature intended.

# What's included on a Best Buys Holiday?

- Comfortable accommodation with easy access to city centres
- Flexible free time on your holiday
- Earlier starts to maximise your days
- Many meals including daily breakfast
- Iconic destinations = Bucket List achieved!
- Optional experiences, for you to add on to your holiday
- Travel in purpose-built air-conditioned coaches with reclining seats, and WiFi where available
- The services of a highly experienced Travel Director

# East Coast Islands & Rainforest

# **Highlights**

#### $\propto$ Flexible Holidays

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

#### 🕑 Iconic Sites

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

#### 🗈 Sustainable Travel

oceans through small collective efforts of rubbish collection.

#### 🖄 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.



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 Club Croc, 2 nights. B L** 

#### The Whitsunday Islands 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 Lake Barrine, where it's 'all aboard' for a tranquil cruise. Explore Kuranda before getting some perspective on the Skyrail Rainforest Cableway, high above the canopy of the Barron Gorge National Park. **B** 

#### Great Barrier Reef

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

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

#### **1** 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 a Welcome Dinner with 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 in a Gold Coast tour 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** 

#### Gold Coast – K'gari (Fraser Island)

Guests joining this morning on the Gold Coast will need to pre-book accommodation for the previous night (Code: QGC). 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

#### 12 DAYS • 10 Included Experiences QSC: Sydney to Cairns

Departure Dates

2023	2024	2025
Nov 06	Feb 05	Jan 06
	Mar 04	Feb 03
	<b>Jul</b> 08	Mar 03
	Sep 09	
	<b>Oct</b> 07	
	Nov 04	

#### 9 DAYS • 7 Included Experiences

QGC: Gold Coast to Cairns Departure Dates

2023	2024	2025
Nov 09	Feb 08	Jan 09
	Mar 07	Feb 06
	Jul 11	Mar 06
	Sep 12	
	<b>Oct</b> 10	
	Nov 07	

#### Definite Departures highlighted in red.

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and additional definite departure dates visit **aatkings**. **com/qsc or qcs, or qgc/qcg** or contact your local travel agent. A limited number of single rooms are also available.

### Dining

11 Full breakfasts B 3 Lunches L 1 Dinner **D** 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 QGC: Gold Coast to Cairns Day prior – flights to arrive anytime into Gold Coast Airport Day 9 – flights to depart anytime from Cairns Airport Flights are not included in the holiday price.



# Northern Territory Explorer

# **Highlights**

#### $\propto$ Flexible Holidays

Life in the Top End moves at a leisurely pace. Choose your own leisurely adventures exploring World Heritage listed Kakadu National Park and the steamy NT capital, Darwin.

#### 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  $Ulu\underline{r}u.$ 

#### 🛍 Sustainable Travel

Supporting Aboriginal-owned and -operated businesses helps ensure the world's oldest culture thrives into the future.

#### 🖄 Natural Wonders

Sunrise over  $Ulu_{IU}$  has this incredible ability to make you forget everything else around you and just focus on the now.



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** 

#### 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

This morning is yours to spend as you choose. Sleep in, take to the skies in a hot-air balloon as the desert awakens, explore the West Macs on a guided tour or visit the Alice Springs Desert Park. It's home to a vast range of plants and wildlife native to the area. You can really experience the beauty and diversity of this incredible landscape. The Arrente people, Traditional Owners of the park, are also on hand to share their local wisdom and knowledge. 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** 

Nitmiluk (Katherine) Gorge Cruise

#### Alice Springs – Uluru

From the moment you wake up until the last of day disappears, spiritual Aboriginal culture is all around on today's Northern Territory tour. Get set to be in awe over Dreamtime stories about the creation of Ulu<u>r</u>u, 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 Hotel & Lodge, 2 nights. B** 

#### 10 Ulu<u>r</u>u 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 Rock' on an Uluru tour, you'll begin to understand why this part of the country is so special to the Anangu people, who have called the region home for millennia. Go at your own pace this afternoon. We wouldn't blame you for taking a dip in the resort pool to cool off. But if you want to see the monolith in another different light, opt to chopper around it on a scenic helicopter flight. Either way, you'll have plenty of stories to tell over your Farewell Dinner. **B FD** 

#### Farewell from Ulu<u>r</u>u

Another reason to rise early: to catch the optional experience of Bruce Munro's Field of Light art installation that blankets the desert floor. Your spirit will glow just as brightly as you bid farewell to this epic Northern Territory tour.  ${\bf B}$ 

#### Welcome to Darwin

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.** 

#### **2** Darwin Sightseeing & Free Time

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. 100% Aboriginal owned and operated family business, Pudakul offers cultural and nature-based cultural experiences from the Adelaide River Flood Plains on Aboriginal owned land Limilngan-Wulna. On this MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience, dive deep into First Nations heritage, 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 Kakadu tour on a high, watching the sun set over floodplains. **B** 

# 11 DAYS 16 Included Experiences

### **Departure Dates**

2024		2024 continued	
Apr	17	Jul	03, <b>17</b> , 24, 31
May	<b>08</b> , 29	Aug	14
Jun	05, <b>19</b> , 26		

Definite Departures highlighted in red.

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and additional definite departure dates visit **aatkings.com/ndau** or contact your local travel agent.

A limited number of single rooms are also available.

# 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 holiday price.







# South Australian Outback Adventure

# **Highlights**

#### $\propto$ Flexible Holidays

Take a flight over mighty Lake Eyre, or if terra firma is more your thing, stay on the coach to Coober Pedy to experience more of the famous Oodnadatta Track with your experienced Driver Guide.

#### 🕑 Iconic Sites

Explore Farina, one of Australia's most famous ghost towns, and enjoy a tour of Coober Pedy where 70% of the population live underground.

#### 🛍 Sustainable Travel

Arkaroola has established an education and research foundation to foster an interest in science, education and conservation. AAT Kings donates \$10 for every guest that visits.

#### 🖄 Natural Wonders

See prehistoric river systems as you fly over Lake Eyre, Australia's largest inland lake.

#### 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, join your Travel Director and fellow travellers for a drink and then 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** 

#### 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 firery 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.

#### **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 and subterranean adventures. **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 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** 

#### 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. Lambert Estate reveals some of the finest regional drops, your lunchtime tipples complemented by glorious views over the vines. Cheers to that! 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

# 8 DAYS 10 Included Experiences

### Departure Dates

2023	2024
Oct 07	Apr 20
	May 04, 18
	Sep 07, 21
	Oct 05.19

#### Definite Departures highlighted in red.

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and additional definite departure dates visit **aatkings.com/samc** or contact your local travel agent. A limited number of single rooms are also available.

# 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 holiday price. Internal-holiday scenic flight is included in the holiday price.



# Remarkable Adelaide to Kangaroo Island

# Seal Bay Conservation Par

# **Highlights**

#### $\propto$ Flexible Holidays

Foodies, rejoice! Arrive early to discover the culinary joys of Adelaide (don't miss the Central Market) then refuel at Kangaroo Island Brewery. They make a mean beer.

#### Conic Sites

From the Remarkable Rocks to Admirals Arch, Kangaroo Island's natural drama is only outshone by its abundance of wildlife.

#### 🗈 Sustainable Travel

MAKE TRAVEL MATTER O Visits to Seal Bay Conservation Park and Flinders Chase National Park help protect these fragile ecosystems - and the animals that call them home.

#### 🖄 Natural Wonders

Flinders Chase NP offers an embarrassment of flora and fauna, from voluptuous rock formations to stands of eucalyptus.

#### Welcome to Adelaide

Meet your Travel Director and fellow travellers for a drink this evening. Hotel: HotelMOTEL.

#### 2 Adelaide – Kangaroo Island

Embark on a city sights tour before discovering Fleurieu Peninsula, the gateway to all manner of wild and wonderful destinations. Not in the least Kangaroo Island, accessed via the Cape Jervis ferry, bound for Penneshaw. Bubbling with excitement to arrive on KI? So is Mike, your host at Kangaroo Island Brewery. This is no ordinary brew-house - Mike makes all his beers using rainwater he collects from the roof of his shed. Try a paddle of his liquid gold, or sip wine and cider while chatting with your host. Hotel: Aurora Ozone, 2 nights. B D

#### 3 Kangaroo Island

Your outlook begins on a high at the Remarkable Rocks. Formed some 500 million years ago, the precariously balanced, rust-hued granite boulders cut a dramatic form against the inky blue of the Southern Ocean. Your outlook is just as wild at Admirals Arch, a natural rock formation within Flinders Chase National Park, and a popular hangout for cacophonous New Zealand fur seals. They're petite compared to the creatures found at Seal Bay, where playful seals tumble down the sand to splash about in the water. And onto that

food and drink. After a two-course lunch at Vivonne Bay Bistro. Peter at Island Beehive will dish up samples of the honey he makes here using Ligurian bees. They're found on KI, and nowhere else in Australia. Meanwhile, the owners of Islander Estate Vineyard will pour you a glass or two and talk through the production of their wines. B L

#### **4** Kangaroo Island – Adelaide

One of the reason bees are so happy on Kangaroo Island is because they have an immense floral bounty to buzz over at Emu Bay Lavender Farm. Maria and Tony have been tending the land for two decades, and today grow 10 varieties of this fragrant flower. They turn it into all kinds of products, from soaps and beauty products to ice-cream, iam and scones. Dig in. Before you leave the island, follow your nose to Emu Ridge Eucalyptus Distillery. If Australia was an aroma, this would be it. Pick up essential oils, body creams, sweets honey and soaps, and taste their cider. Back in Adelaide, join your fellow foodies for a Farewell Dinner. Hotel: HotelMOTEL. B FD

#### **G** Farewell from Adelaide

It's time to bid farewell to Adelaide and Australia's second-largest (but perhaps most beguiling) island. B

# 5 DAYS **9 Included Experiences**

## **Departure Dates**

#### 2024

May	<b>12</b> , 26
Sep	<b>15</b> , 29
Nov	03

#### Definite Departures highlighted in red.

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ quests, multi-trip savings and additional definite departure dates visit aatkings.com/saki or contact your local travel agent.

A limited number of single rooms are also available

### Dining

4 Full breakfasts B 1 Lunch L

1 Dinner D 1 Farewell Dinner FD

# **Flight Information**

Day 1 - flights to arrive prior to 4.00pm into Adelaide Airport

Day 5 - flights to depart anytime from Adelaide Airport Flights are not included in the holiday price.

# South Australian Eyre Peninsula Escape

# **Highlights**

#### $\propto$ Flexible Holidays

Kick back in Coffin Bay with wine and the sound of didgeridoos. Or lace up your hiking shoes to explore countryside around Elliston.

#### Iconic Sites

The end-of-the-Earth sea cliffs of the Great Australian Bight frame a marine environment that humbles. Explore by land and sea, and get set for goosebumps

### 🛅 Sustainable Travel

man-made eco sanctuary hidden away in the hinterland of Coffin Bay.

#### A Natural Wonders

Marvel at the weathered rock formations as you wander around Murphy's Haystacks; 1,500 million years in the making.

#### Adelaide – Port Augusta

Just 90 minutes after departing Adelaide you're in the heart of the Clare Valley, one of South Australia's premier wine regions. Gather in the cellar door at Knappstein Wines, whose riesling will make you weak at the knees. Join your Travel Direct or for a Welcome Dinner in Port Augusta. Hotel: Majestic Oasis Apartments. D

#### 2 Port Augusta – Ceduna

The town of Kimba may be small in population, but it's big in attractions. Look no further than the larger-than-life drawcard is Kimba's silos, which forward-thinking artists have decorated with eye-popping murals. Talking about colourful, wait until you see the pink ripples that Pildappa Rock casts. Hotel: Ceduna Foreshore Hotel Motel. B D

#### 3 Ceduna – Streaky Bay

Head down the coast to Smoky Bay for a cruise around the scenic harbour in search of dolphins and sea lions, followed by a shared lunch including freshly shucked oysters and wine enjoyed in a working oyster shed. Discover more of Ceduna on a town tour, and visit to a local Aboriginal art gallery before arriving at your seaside hotel. Hotel: Streaky Bay Hotel-Motel. B L

#### 4 Streaky Bay – Port Lincoln

Explore Cape Bauer Loop Scenic Drive where you'll visit the Whistling Rocks and Blowholes.

Nature continues to reign supreme at Murphy's Havstacks, and Talia Caves. Stretch your legs along a section of the Elliston Coastal Trail at Little Bay, before arriving in Port Lincoln. Hotel: Port Lincoln, 2 nights. B D

#### 5 Port Lincoln & Coffin Bay

Head to Coffin Bay to dive deep into Aboriginal culture on a Wild Yarnbala tour, covering off-grid, organic orchards and gardens, giving you the opportunity to taste bush tucker. The nutrient-rich waters in this area are a natural habitat for many marine creatures but none more popular or famous than their oysters. Wearing waterproof waders, tour an oyster farm, slurp some freshly shucked molluscs, then sit down on the deck overlooking beautiful Coffin Bay and enjoy an indulgent seafood platter. BL

#### 6 Port Lincoln – Adelaide

Today's your day to compare silo art: Kimba vs Tumby Bay. Arriving at the Lucky Bay Jetty, jump aboard the Spencer Gulf Searoad to cruise across the gulf to Wallaroo. And just when you thought your week couldn't get any more colourful, you arrive at Bumbunga Pink Lake. This eye-popping waterway changes colour depending on the salinity. Hotel: HotelMOTEL. B FD

# **7** Farewell from Adelaide

Short and sweet, we hope your journey inspired extended South Australian wanderlust. B



ADELAIDE Kangaroo Emu Bay Island Brewerv Lavender Farm Kingscote, Cape Jervis Kangaroo Island Penneshaw Flinders Emu Ridae

Eucalvotus

Distillerv

Seal Bay

Chase

National

Park

# (1) Number of night stays

Murphy's Haystacks

Enjoy some bush tucker and learn how to water divine as owner Kane shows you his

# 7 DAYS **16 Included Experiences**

### **Departure Dates**

2023	2024	
Oct 15, 29	Apr	14, <b>28</b>
	Oct	<b>13</b> , 27
	Nov	10

#### Definite Departures highlighted in red.

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ quests, multi-trip savings and additional definite departure dates visit aatkings.com/saep or contact your local travel agent.

A limited number of single rooms are also available

# Dining

6 Full breakfasts B 2 Lunches L

3 Dinners D 1 Farewell Dinner FD

# **Flight Information**

Day Prior - Flights to arrive prior to 8.00am into Adelaide Airport Day 7 - Flights to depart anytime from Adelaide Airport

Flights are not included in the holiday price.



# Tasmanian Wonders

# Highlights

#### $\propto$ Flexible Holidays

Discover Tasmania's wild side spotting devils, wombats and little penguins. Or just chill out with a glass of wine in Hobart and Launceston's forward-thinking restaurants.

#### 🕑 Iconic Sites

From untamed wilderness areas like Cradle Mountain and Freycinet National Park to the World Heritage listed Port Arthur, Tassie is not short on attractions.

#### 🛍 Sustainable Travel

with the conservation of these pristine natural environments.

#### 🖄 Natural Wonders

Cruise the Gordon River amid World Heritage listed wilderness, the banks clad with ancient forest, including a 2,000-year-old pine.



#### **1** Welcome to Hobart

The Tasmanian capital of Hobart may be small in size, but it's big in attractions, as you'll discover this afternoon. Put your destination into perspective from the summit of Mt. Nelson, offering endless vistas over Australia's southernmost city. View the charming Georgian cottages of Battery Point and explore the streets and convict built warehouses along Salamanca Place, the backdrop of epic Saturday markets. Gaze over boats at Constitution Dock - this is where yachts finish when competing in the annual Sydney to Hobart race, and take a stroll in the second oldest Botanical Gardens in Australia with its amazing collection of plants from around the world. Tonight, join your Travel Director for a Welcome Dinner. **Hotel: Best Western. D** 

#### 2 Hobart – Strahan

Western Tasmania is like nature amplified, a place where the wilderness rules and people are few and far between. Visiting Mount Field National Park is a humbling experience, not only for the fact it's part of the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area, but also because it's home to some of the tallest eucalypts and flowering plants on Earth. Wander amid these giants to reach Russell Falls – take a deep breath; you're officially on holiday. Records continue to be broken at Lake St. Clair, the deepest freshwater Lake in Australia, before you arrive in Strahan, gateway to World Heritage listed Franklin-Gordon Wild Rivers National Park. Hotel: Strahan Village, 2 nights. B D

#### **3** Strahan – Gordon River Cruise

The inky waters of the Gordon River – given its colour by amber buttongrass tannins – are as eery as they are beautiful, the mirror-like surface only broken by your Gordon River chariot as you cruise through Hells Gates, the treacherous entrance to the harbour before returning to Sarah Island. It's hard to reconcile the beauty of this part of the state with its grim history as a penal colony; a place where convicts would fell Huon pines for boat building. Disembark at Heritage Landing to view one of these 500-year-old majestic trees. Safely back on dry land, it's soon time to discover 'The Ship That Never Was', the dramatic and hilarious true story of the Great Escape from Sarah Island! You'll see it performed live by a group of theatre professionals. **B L D** 

#### 4 Strahan – Cradle Mountain – Burnie

Today your journey reaches new heights – quite literally with a visit to the 1,545-metre Cradle Mountain, your backdrop as you explore Dove Lake on your Cradle Mountain tour, the wild alpine moorlands here a natural magnet for lovers of the wilderness. The spectacular and pristine wilderness of Cradle Mountain is home to the mysterious and secretive Tasmanian Devil. You'll love the next adventure today, a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience. A Day Keeper at Devils @ Cradle will lead you through the sanctuary and provide you with a thorough insight into its operation. When joining this tour you will be directly supporting these animals and threatened species conservation. Leave the Central Highlands after an uplifting day and head towards the scenic north-west coast for your overnight stay. **Hotel: Beachfront Voyager Motor Inn. B L D** 

#### 5 Burnie – Launceston

Table Cape is by far Wynyard's most remarkable natural wonder, at 180 metres high, 'The Cape' - as locals refer to it - offers spectacular views of Tasmania's coastline. As you drive to the top of the remains of a 12-million-year-old volcano you'll reach Table Cape lookout where, on a clear day, you can see mountain ranges over 175 kilometres away. If there's a town with a cuter name than Penguin, we're yet to find it. Locals embrace its appeal – there are penguin sculptures at every turn, including one measuring over 3 metres tall. Your journey along the northwest coast also passes through Ulverstone and Sheffield, The Town of Murals, boasting over 100 large paintings depicting the area's rich history and local characters. All this exploring builds an appetite. Refuel at Ashgrove Tasmanian Farm, where happy cows contribute to award-winning cheeses – everything from cheddar and red Leicester to creamy Tasmanian blue. **Hotel: Best Western Plus, 2 nights. B** 

#### 6 Launceston

There are few places in the world where you can leave the city behind and within minutes be amid an immense wilderness area. Launceston is one. Blink and you're at Cataract Gorge, a yawning chasm carved by ancient rivers. This rare natural phenomenon unites bushland with neat Victorian gardens, replete with ferns and exotic plants. Get a different perspective of the green cavern on the optional scenic chairlift, zipping you over the water to a lofty lookout. We wouldn't blame you for lingering here, or perhaps sample more of Tassie's finest fare on a Tamar Valley winery tour. The choice is yours. **Guests depart this afternoon in Launceston (FHHL). Guests join this afternoon in Launceston (FLHH).** B

#### 2 Launceston – Bicheno

You'll smell Bridestowe before you see it, this enormous lavender farm perfuming the Tasmanian countryside. The flowers grown here aren't just used in fragrances – they're also infused into ice-cream, teas and jams. It's a tasty entrée to the Legerwood Carved Memorial Trees, sculpted into World War One soldiers. Little penguins come out to play in Bicheno; sign up to spot them after dark as they waddle to shore from the water. **Hotel: Beachfront Bicheno. B D** 

#### Bicheno – Hobart

The colours at Freycinet National Park are so vivid you'll think someone has taken the glasses off your nose and cleaned them for the first time. The patchwork of ocean blues that lap Coles and Wineglass bays. The dramatic pink granite cliffs. There's a reason why the peninsula stars on postcards. The other place on postcards is Richmond, its grand 1820s Georgian buildings today home to bijou boutiques, galleries and cafés that appear to be lost in time. **Hotel: Best Western, 2 nights. B** 

#### Port Arthur Historic Site

The Isle of the Dead, Devil's Kitchen, Blowhole... the attractions at and around Port Arthur nod to the region's notoriously grim history. This is the best-preserved convict site in Australia, and among the most significant convict-era destinations worldwide. The stories these walls could tell. **B FD** 

#### **10** Farewell from Hobart

It took early explorers months to circumnavigate Tasmania. You've done it in 10 days. What a wild ride.  ${\bf B}$ 

# 10 DAYS • 17 Included Experiences FHLH: Hobart Return

Departure Dates

2023	2024	1	2025	5
Oct 18, 25	Jan	10, 24	Jan	01, <b>08</b> , 11, <b>22</b> , 29
Nov 04, 15, 25	Feb	03, 14, 28	Feb	01, <b>12</b> , 19, 26
Dec 06, 23	Mar	<b>09</b> , 13, <b>20</b>	Mar	<b>08</b> , 12, <b>19</b>
	Apr	03		
	May	<b>01</b> , 11		
	Sep	04, 25		
	Oct	05, <b>16</b> , 23, <b>30</b>		
	Nov	02, <b>13</b> , <b>23</b> , 27		
	Dec	<b>04</b> , 14, 21		

# 6 DAYS • 10 Included Experiences

#### FHHL: Hobart to Launceston Departure Dates

2023	3	2024	Ļ	2025	5
Oct	18, 25	Jan	10, 24	Jan	01, <b>08</b> , 11, <b>22</b> , 29
Nov	04, 15, 25	Feb	03, 14, 28	Feb	01, <b>12</b> , 19, 26
Dec	06, 23	Mar	<b>09</b> , 13, <b>20</b>	Mar	<b>08</b> , 12, <b>19</b>
		Apr	03		
		May	<b>01</b> , 11		
		Sep	04, 25		
		Oct	05, <b>16</b> , 23, <b>30</b>		
		Nov	02, <b>13</b> , <b>23</b> , 27		
		Dec	<b>04</b> , 14, 21		

#### **5 DAYS** • 8 Included Experiences

#### FLHH: Launceston to Hobart Departure Dates

2023		2024	Ļ	2025	5
Oct 02	2, 23, 30	Jan	15, 29	Jan	06, <b>13</b> , 16, <b>27</b>
Nov 09	9, 20, 30	Feb	08, 19	Feb	03, 06, <b>17</b> , 24
Dec 11	l, <b>28</b>	Mar	<b>04</b> , <b>14</b> , 18, <b>25</b>	Mar	03, <b>13</b> , 17, <b>24</b>
		Apr	08		
		May	<b>06</b> , 16		
		Sep	09, 30		
		Oct	10, <b>21</b> , 28		
		Nov	<b>04</b> , 07, <b>18</b> , <b>28</b>		
		Dec	02, <b>09</b> , 19, 26		

#### Definite Departures highlighted in red.

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and additional definite departure dates visit **aatkings.com/fhlh or fhhl or fhhh** or contact your local travel agent. A limited number of single rooms are also available.

# Dining

9 Full breakfasts **B** 2 Lunches **L**  5 Dinners **D** 1 Farewell Dinner **FD** 

# **Flight Information**

Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 12.30pm into Hobart Airport Day 10 – flights to depart anytime from Hobart Airport Flights are not included in the holiday price.

# Western Wonderland

# **Highlights**

#### $\propto$ Flexible Holidays

Beaches rule in WA – you'll find it hard to leave the sandy coves of Albany or Rottnest Island. Have your phone ready for selfies with guokkas; their smile is infectious.

#### 🕑 Iconic Sites

From dramatic geological formations (we're looking at you Wave Rock) to blindingly blue water (Lucky Bay) and record-breaking attractions (Busselton Jetty), we've got you sorted.

#### 🕮 Sustainable Travel

world. It's brought into full focus exploring Yanchep National Park with a traditional landowner.

#### 🖄 Natural Wonders

The colours of Monkey Mia sear into your memory, the turquoise ocean here home to a famously friendly pod of resident dolphins.



#### **1** Welcome to Perth

Perth may be the West Australian capital, but it's home to a remarkable amount of green space. Follow your Tour Director to Kings Park to witness 3,000 floral species in the Botanic Gardens, overlooking the Swan River, not to mention art installations and the Anzac Memorial. Tonight, join your Travel Director for a Welcome Dinner. **Hotel: Holiday Inn West Perth. D** 

#### 2 Perth – Wave Rock

Wave Rock deserves its name – the cliff resembles an enormous surf wave above the bush. The rainbow-hued granite swell is a short walk from another imaginatively named rock formation: Hippo's Yawn. You can climb through the 'neck' to grab a happy snap. Wave Rock locals are a friendly bunch, passionate about the place they call home. But don't take our word for it. Meet Sheenagh, who will show you her farm and talk life on the land. Which can be harsh, but also healing, in a way unique to the Aussie outback. You'll also get to glimpse her collection of vintage cars. **Hotel: Wave Rock Motel. B D** 

#### **3** Wave Rock – Kalgoorlie

Get your bearings on a Kalgoorlie town tour, with vistas over the staggering 'Super Pit' open-cut gold mine. Today's outings continue to gleam as you visit Hannans North Mine; nothing puts life into perspective like standing next to enormous U-Haul trucks and loaders. **Hotel: Rydges. B D** 

#### **4** Kalgoorlie – Esperance

More than 31,000 hectares of sweeping heathlands, rugged coastal peaks and white sandy beaches... it's no wonder Cape Le Grand National Park is voted among the most alluring of its kind in Australia. Just when you thought WA couldn't get any prettier, you arrive at Thistle Cove – sun, sand, sea and sculpted rock formations that 'whistle' with the sounds of the wind and waves – and Lucky Bay, a postcard-worthy cove where kangaroos sunbake on the sand. **Hotel: Comfort Inn Bay of Isles. B D** 

#### **5** Esperance – Albany

Today's journey takes you through Fitzgerald River National Park, a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, then Stirling Range National Park, blanketed with 1,500 species of wildflowers, some of which are found nowhere else on Earth. Enjoy perspective from the Bluff Knoll Lookout, one of WA's highest peaks. **Hotel: Dog Rock Motel, 2 nights. B D** 

#### 6 Albany Free Time

Nature, history, food and wine... there's not much that Albany can't do. The hardest thing you have to decide is which direction to wander. Perhaps opt for a tour to the last port of call for ANZAC troopships departing Australia in WWI. Maybe explore Torndirrup National Park, where steep cliffs give way to dramatic rock formations and whales are a common sight. Or get a taste for the region on a culinary excursion. The choice is yours. **B** 

#### Albany – Margaret River

Suspended 40 metres above the forest floor, the Tree Top Walk offers a bird's-eye view of the tingle trees that stand large through the Valley of the Giants. More lofty attractions await at the Cape Leeuwin Lighthouse, the tallest of its kind in Australia, set where the Indian and Southern Oceans meet. You'll feel like you're on the edge of the Earth. Being amid nature makes you thirsty. It's a good thing the Margaret River wine region is on the horizon. Hotel: Stay Margaret River, 2 nights. B D

#### 8 Margaret River

The Margaret River's 200 vineyards produce 25 per cent of Australia's premium wines. And then there are the gourmet purveyors in between... you're in for a tasty day. Vasse Virgin makes olive oil that's sweet enough to drink. We recommend you savour it with bread, however. Lunch is leisurely, at a vineyard with plenty of time to sip and savour local drops. **B** L

#### 9 Margaret River – Fremantle

The Margaret River's coastline follows you to Busselton, home to the longest wooden jetty in the Southern Hemisphere. Tip your cap to those who built this 1.8-kilometre structure out into Geographe Bay. The afternoon is all yours in Freo. **Hotel: Esplanade Hotel Fremantle, 2 nights. B D** 

#### Fremantle Free Time

Sometimes, the most memorable travel moments are those when you lose yourself wandering the foreshore, lingering over lunch or a cool ale. Spend your day of leisure doing just that (Freo's Little Creatures Brewery is legendary). Of course, having a local show you around also has its benefits, with a walking tour revealing those hidden haunts most visitors pass right on by. If you're catching the ferry to Rottnest Island, make sure you have your phone ready to capture selfies with the island's smiley quokkas. **B** 

#### 1 Fremantle – Geraldton

Guests depart this morning in Fremantle (Code: WPPP). Guests joining this morning in Fremantle will need to pre-book accommodation for the previous night (Code: WPMP). Yanchep National Park is incredibly spiritual, as you'll discover on a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Aboriginal Cultural Experience revealing First Nations history through Dreamtime stories and didgeridoo sessions. We've left some of the best to last: entering Nambung National Park you're greeted by a moonscape spiked with the Pinnacles, a series of head-scratching limestone formations. This afternoon, Geraldton's HMAS Sydney Memorial beckons. Hotel: Mantra. B

#### Geraldton – Monkey Mia

The colours of World Heritage listed Shark Bay are so vivid, you'll think they're painted on, a patchwork of blues fading into powdery white sand. This is what awaits in Monkey Mia, where the afternoon is all yours. Perhaps consider an optional sunset cruise to spot sea creatures great and small. **Hotel: Monkey Mia Dolphin Resort. B D** 

#### B Monkey Mia – Kalbarri National Park

If there's anything worth getting out of bed for, it's Monkey Mia's wild dolphins, which swim close to shore to greet visitors every morning. Keep your sunnies handy at Shell Beach, a powder-white cove formed from billions of coquina bivalve shells, and Hamelin Pool, the world's best-known colony of stromatolites. Arriving at Kalbarri National Park you'll have the opportunity to take in views of the Murchison River Gorge. If you're here during wildflower season, expect acacia, banksia and caladenia in full bloom. **Hotel: Kalbarri Edge Resort. B D** 

#### 14 Kalbarri National Park – Perth

Just when you thought WA couldn't get any more colourful, Hutt Lagoon appears on the horizon – just one of the state's bubblegum pink lakes. Arriving back in Perth you have a Farewell Dinner to swap contact details with your new friends. **Hotel: Holiday Inn West Perth. B FD** 

#### **15** Farewell from Perth

Fourteen days of wild adventures on your tour from Perth – it's hard to pick a WA highlight. That's what your journey home is for.  ${\bf B}$ 

### **15 DAYS** • 24 Included Experiences

### WEMP: Perth Return

Departure Dates

2024		2
May	19	S
Jun	02	C
Aug	04, 18, <b>25</b>	

#### 2024 continued

Sep	01, <b>08</b> ^, 15^, <b>22</b> ^, 29
Oct	<b>06</b> , 13, 20

### 11 DAYS • 13 Included Experiences

WPPP: Perth to Fremantle

#### **Departure Dates**

2023		2024	
May	19	Sep	01, <b>08</b> ^, 15^, <b>22</b> ^, 29
Jun	02	Oct	<b>06</b> , 13, 20
Aug	04, 18, <b>25</b>		

#### **5 DAYS** • 8 Included Experiences

#### WPMP: Fremantle to Perth

#### Departure Dates

2024		2024 continued		
May	29	Sep	<b>04</b> , 11^, <b>18</b> ^, 25^	
Jun	12	Oct	<b>02</b> , 09, <b>16</b> , 23, 30	
Aug	14,28			

#### Definite Departures highlighted in red.

^ Expected wildflower season departure.

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and additional definite departure dates visit **aatkings.com/wemp or wppp or wpmp** or contact your local travel agent.

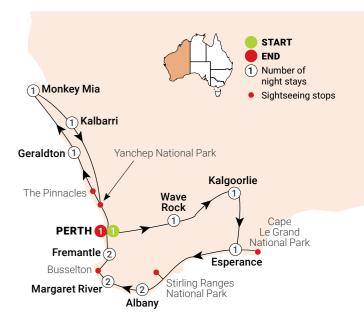
A limited number of single rooms are also available.

# Dining

14 Full breakfasts B 1 Lunch L 9 Dinners D 1 Farewell Dinner FD

# **Flight Information**

Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 12 noon into Perth Airport Day 15 – flights to depart anytime from Perth Airport Flights are not included in the holiday price.



# Spirit of New Zealand

# Highlights

#### ightarrow Flexible Holidays

Whether you're on foot or in a boat, you'll be wowed by Abel Tasman National Park's all-consuming beauty. Soak up the bounty at your own pace.

#### 🖄 Iconic Sites

There are few places in NZ quite as humbling as Milford Sound/ Piopiotahi within World Heritage listed Fiordland National Park. Waterfalls, ancient escarpments and dolphins await.

#### 🛍 Sustainable Travel

at Te Puia contributes to its success, committed to preserving and promoting Māori arts and crafts.

#### 🖄 Natural Wonders

An island off an island, Stewart Island is wild, wide and wonderful. Some 97% is national parkland - prepare for epic animal encounters.



#### Welcome to Christchurch

Community spirit is strong in Christchurch, as you'll discover exploring its streets at your leisure. We recommend jumping on the tram to tour Christchurch and discover how the city has rebuilt itself since the 2010/11 earthquakes. Meet your Travel Director and fellow travellers for a Welcome Reception this evening. **Hotel: Wyndham Garden**.

#### 2 Christchurch – Omarama

More of Christchurch is revealed before the colours of the Canterbury Plains spread before you: the turquoise waters of Lake Tekapo, snowcapped mountains and atmospheric towns. Your Indoor Dark Sky Astronomy Experience at Tekapo, hosted by passionate guides, will forever change the way you see the night sky. You'll see for yourself it may be one of the quietest spots on the planet, yet it has one of the busiest skies in the universe. **Hotel: Heritage Gateway. B D** 

#### 3 Omarama – Dunedin

Architectural drama awaits in Dunedin. While away the afternoon in atmospheric art-lined alleys or sipping a lager or two in Speight's Brewery (a national institution). **Hotel: Kingsgate. B** 

#### Dunedin – Invercargill

Invercargill is obsessed with motor vehicles. Tributes to speed legends colour the city. So it's only fitting that you visit Classic Motorcycle Mecca for a tour and Highlight Dinner. **Hotel: Kelvin, 2 nights. B HD** 

#### 5 Stewart Island

Wild, wide and wonderful, Stewart Island's rugged coastline cuts a dramatic form in the Southern Ocean. It's largely untouched, which means that endemic flora and fauna thrive. But don't take our word for it. Meet the locals on a tour through the Village and Bays. **B** 

#### 6 Invercargill – Queenstown

The Real Country Farm Show, a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience, offers an authentic taste of what rural New Zealand is like. For every guest, we donate funds to The Fairlight Foundation, Advancing Women in Agriculture. Continue to Queenstown and take the afternoon at your own pace. Hotel: Copthorne Hotel & Resort, 2 nights. B

#### **2** Queenstown Free Time

A spot of bungy jumping at the place it was born? Or an epic journey through Fiordland National Park to Milford Sound/Piopiotahi, carved by waterfalls and a playground for dolphins and seals? There's a reason why this part of the island has World Heritage status. You choose today's path. **B** 

#### Queenstown – Franz Josef/Waiau

Around the next bend is the Alpine countryside of the Southern Lakes. Over the Haast Pass, the pretty town of Franz Josef/Waiau, at the edge of Westland World Heritage Park, awaits. **Hotel: Scenic Franz Josef Glacier. B D** 

#### 9 Franz Josef/Waiau – Punakaiki

Wander Hokitika's windswept coast before discovering the town's other beauty: pounamu (native greenstone or jade). Prepare yourself for Punakaiki's Pancake Rocks and blowholes; they owe their existence to the thundering surf that will lull you to sleep. **Hotel: Scenic Punakaiki. B D** 

#### 10 Punakaiki – Nelson

Ease along the Heritage Highway toward Nelson. Press your nose against the glass as your coach weaves through Buller Gorge and Kahurangi National Park. **Hotel: Rutherford, 2 nights. B** 

#### 11 Nelson Free Time

Lace up your hiking shoes and head off on a bushwalk, or cruise through Abel Tasman National Park. This pocket in the north of the island inspires calm, its golden beaches framed by sculpted granite cliffs. **B** 

#### 12 Nelson – Wellington

 $\mbox{All}$  aboard the Interislander for a cruise through Queen Charlotte Sound to Wellington. Hotel: Travelodge. B D

#### 13 Wellington – Napier

Head out on a city sights tour. After the opportunity to visit Te Papa, the Museum of New Zealand, travel to Art Deco mecca, Napier. **Hotel: Scenic Te Pania, 2 nights. B** 

#### 14 Napier

After a devastating earthquake in 1931, Napier completely rebuilt itself in just two years. The end result is architectural Nirvana, a city home to the

world's greatest concentration of Art Deco, Spanish Mission and Striped Classical buildings. This morning get the lowdown from your in-the-know local guide on a Napier tour. This afternoon is yours at leisure. **B** 

#### 15 Napier – Rotorua

This evening, explore Te Puia's geothermal valley, and learn about Māori history and culture on this guided experience, including hangi-inspired cuisine and a cultural performance in a finely carved meeting house, Te Aronui a Rua. It ends on a high at the Pohutu Geyser, where, armed with a hot chocolate you'll view one of New Zealand's geothermal wonderlands. **Hotel: Sudima, 2 nights. B HD** 

#### 16 Rotorua Free Time

Bliss out in the Polynesian Spa's thermal springs; visit the Hobbiton movie set; or board a scenic flight for a bird's-eye view.  ${f B}$ 

#### 17 Rotorua – Auckland

Today your sights are firmly set on the Auckland's main love: rugby. The interactive All Blacks Experience explores an introduction to the game as a part of New Zealand culture. **Hotel: Holiday Inn Express. B** 

#### 18 Auckland – Bay of Islands

Guests depart this morning in Auckland (Code: LCQA). The Bay of Islands is undeniably beautiful, but it also holds a special historical secret: this is where the Treaty of Waitangi was signed in 1840. Your guide, perhaps a descendent of one of the original signatories, will explain the significance. Hotel: Copthorne Hotel & Resort, 2 nights. B D

#### 19 Bay of Islands Free Time

Trip the light fantastic and head off in whatever direction you please. B

#### 20 Bay of Islands – Auckland

Explore Whangarei, the island's most northerly outpost, at your leisure before the commute back to Auckland for your Farewell Dinner. Hotel: Holiday Inn Express. B FD

#### 21 Farewell from Auckland

We hope you've packed your address book with the names of new friends. But at the end of the day, it's the memories that will fuel your flight home. **B** 

#### 21 DAYS • 22 Included Experiences LCQB: Auckland to Christchurch

Departure Dates

2023	2024	4	2025	5
Oct 05	Feb	<b>08</b> , 15, 29	Jan	02, 23, <b>30</b>
Nov 30	Mar	<b>07</b> , 21	Feb	06, 13, <b>20</b> , 27
	Oct	<b>03</b> , 17, 31	Mar	06, <b>20</b>
	Nov	21, <b>28</b>		
	Dec	12 19 26		

#### 18 DAYS • 21 Included Experiences

LCQA: Christchurch to Auckland

#### Departure Dates

2023	2024		2025	
Oct 05	Feb	<b>08</b> , 15, 29	Jan	02, 23, <b>30</b>
Nov 30	Mar	<b>07</b> , 21	Feb	06, 13, <b>20</b> , 27
	Oct	<b>03</b> , 17, 31	Mar	06, <b>20</b>
	Nov	21, <b>28</b>		
	Dec	12, 19, 26		

#### Definite Departures highlighted in red.

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and additional definite departure dates visit **aatkings.com/lcqb or lcqa** or contact your local travel agent. A limited number of single rooms are also available.

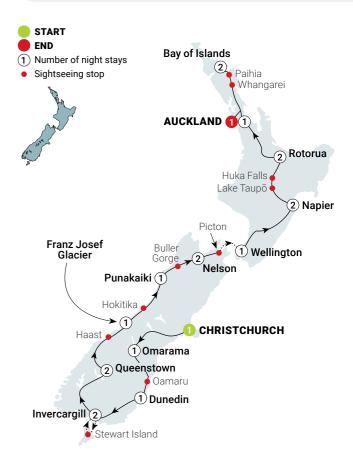
# Dining

20 Full buffet breakfasts B 5 Dinners D

2 Highlight Dinners HD 1 Farewell Dinner FD

## **Flight Information**

Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 4.00pm into Christchurch Airport Day 21 – flights to depart any time from Auckland Airport Flights are not included in the holiday price.



# Kia Ora **New Zealand**

# **Highlights**

#### $\propto$ Flexible Holidays

Want to get your heart racing? Explore the extremes of the North Island then feel the natural rush of Queenstown. Or just laze by the pool. 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.

#### 🛍 Sustainable Travel

EXPENIENCE STATES Journey through New Zealand's most important historic site, Waitangi Treaty Grounds, with a passionate local guide. Discover the stories, people and events that have shaped the past, present, and future.

#### 🖄 Natural 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.

#### Welcome to Auckland

Explore waterfront precincts filled with yachts or just meet your fellow travellers for a Welcome Reception 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, perhaps a descendent 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, 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 a cruise to the iconic Hole in the Rock or join a tour of Russell and learn more about the settling of the Bay of Islands. B

#### Bay of Islands – Auckland

Whangarei is a place where waterfalls meet beaches, galleries meet museums. It's like the country in a tantalising snapshot – a union of nature and forward-thinking culture. Explore at your leisure before sinking back 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. This evening, explore Te Puia's geothermal valley, and learn about Māori history and culture on this guided experience, which includes a dinner of hangi-inspired cuisine and a cultural performance in a finely carved meeting house, Te Aronui a Rua. It ends on a high at the Pohutu Geyser, where, armed with a hot chocolate you'll view one of New Zealand's geothermal wonderlands. 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 Taupō. Traverse the Kapiti Coast to New Zealand's cool little capital, Wellington. Hotel: Travelodge. B

#### 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: Picton Yacht Club. B 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: Wyndham Garden. B

#### 10 Christchurch – Omarama

On your city tour view the mind-bending Transitional Cathedral, made largely of cardboard, and Turanga, the gold-clad central library. From here, your outlook is the Canterbury Plains: the turquoise waters of Lake Tekapo, snow capped mountains and atmospheric towns. Your Indoor Dark Sky Astronomy Experience in Tekapo, hosted by passionate guides, will forever change the way you see the night sky. You'll see for yourself it may be one of the quietest spots on the planet, yet it has one of the busiest skies in the universe. 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's Scottish ancestry is everywhere you look, from the manicured grounds of Otago University to Larnach Castle. 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

Te Puia Cultural Performance

#### Dunedin – Te Anau

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. Venture out into the Fiord on a sightseeing cruise, where dolphins and seals are a common sight. Hotel: Copthorne Hotel & Resort, 2 nights. B

#### **1** Queenstown Free Time

Take Queenstown at your own pace today. Feel the wind in your hair on a high octane jet boat ride, perhaps. But 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 BBQ Highlight Dinner and farm show. B HD

#### 15 Queenstown – Franz Josef/Waiau

Leaving Lake Wakatipu behind, Arrowtown and Lake Dunstan appear on the horizon. Then there's Lakes Hawea and Wanaka, with its Instagrammable shoreline of poplars and willows. Over the Haast Pass, the pretty town of Franz Josef/Waiau awaits. Hotel: Scenic Franz Josef Glacier, B D

#### 16 Franz Josef/Waiau – Christchurch

Swap snow for pounamu (native greenstone or jade) in Hokitika. 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: Wyndham Garden. B FD

#### **1** 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

# 17 DAYS • 19 Included Experiences LABC: Auckland to Christchurch

**Departure Dates** 

2023	2024	1	2025	5
Oct 14	Jan	06, 13, <b>20</b> , 27	Jan	04, <b>11</b> , 18, 25
Nov 04, 11	Feb	03, <b>10</b> , <b>17</b> , 24	Feb	01, <b>08</b> , 15, 22
Dec 02, 09	Mar	02, <b>09</b> , 16, 23	Mar	01, <b>08</b> , 15, 22
	Apr	13, 20, 25		
	Jun	22		
	Jul	20		
	Sep	07, <b>21</b> , 28		
	Oct	05, <b>12</b> , 19, <b>26</b>		
	Nov	02, <b>09</b> , 23, <b>30</b>		
	Dec	07, 14, 21		

# 17 DAYS • 19 Included Experiences

LCBA: Christchurch to Auckland **Departure Dates** 

2023	2024		2025	
Oct 02, 23	Jan	<b>01</b> , 08, 15, 22, 29	Jan	06, <b>13</b> , 20, <b>27</b>
Nov 20	Feb	<b>05</b> , 12, 19, <b>26</b>	Feb	03, <b>10</b> , 17, <b>24</b>
	Mar	<b>04</b> , 11, 18, 25	Mar	03, <b>10</b> , 17, 24
	Apr	01, 08		
	Sep	02, 30		
	Oct	14, 21, <b>28</b>		
	Nov	04, <b>18</b> , 25		
	Dec	02, <b>09</b> , 16, 23, <b>30</b>		

#### Definite Departures highlighted in red.

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and additional definite departure dates visit aatkings.com/labc or lcba, or contact your local travel agent.

A limited number of single rooms are also available.

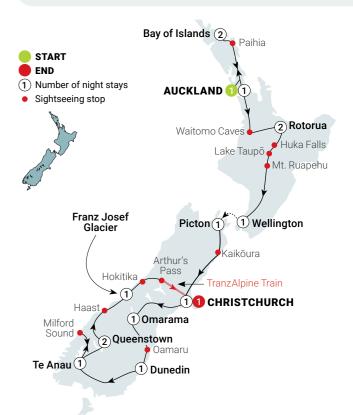
# Dining

16 Full buffet breakfasts B 5 Dinners D

2 Highlight Dinners HD 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 holiday price.



# New Zealand Marvel

# Highlights

### lpha Flexible Holidays

From helicopter jaunts to jet-boat rides, winery expeditions and Hobbiton tours, your Travel Director is ready to organise optional experiences across Rotorua and Queenstown.

### 🕑 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.

### 🛍 Sustainable Travel

night skies by connecting manuhiri (visitors) to the relevance of the night sky via scientific and cultural experiences.

### 🖄 Natural 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.



### 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. Meet your Travel Director and travelling companions for a Welcome Reception tonight. **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. Visit the small town of Hokitika, the heritage and cultural centre of the West Coast well-known for its jade. Around the corner is the town of Franz Josef, gateway to Franz Josef Glacier/Kā Roimata o Hine Hukatere. Get some perspective on an optional flight. **Hotel: Scenic Franz Josef Glacier. B D** 

### 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 a high-octane jet boat ride, 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 BBQ Highlight Dinner and farm show, 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. You'll likely spot them on your Milford Sound/Piopiotahi cruise. 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). **Hotel: Scenic Dunedin City. B** 

### Dunedin – Omarama

If you didn't get a taste for Dunedin's Scottish heritage yesterday, you surely will today. Explore grand Larnach Castle at your leisure – this is, after all, the only one of its kind in the country – then wander the manicured grounds of Otago University or the city's 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. Your Indoor Dark Sky Astronomy Experience at Tekapo, hosted by passionate guides, will forever change the way you see the night sky. You'll see for yourself it may be one of the quietest spots on the planet, yet it has one of the busiest skies in the universe. Back on earth, 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 Kaikōura 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: Picton Yacht Club. B D** 

### Picton – Wellington

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

### 1 Wellington – Rotorua

The road ahead unfolds in a broad panorama of Lake Taupō, 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. This evening, explore Te Puia's geothermal valley, and learn about Māori history and culture on this guided experience, which includes a dinner of hangi-inspired cuisine and a cultural performance in a finely carved meeting house, Te Aronui a Rua. It ends on a high at the Pohutu Geyser, where, armed with a hot chocolate you'll view one of New Zealand's geothermal wonderlands.. **Hotel: Ibis, 2 nights. B 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** 

### Farewell from Auckland

The 'City of Sails' flutters as if waving goodbye as you make your way home.  ${\bf B}$ 

### 14 DAYS • 18 Included Experiences LCCA: Christchurch to Auckland

**Departure Dates** 

2023	2024	1	2025	5
Oct 02, 23	Jan	<b>01</b> , 08, 15, 22, <b>29</b>	Jan	06, <b>13</b> , 20, <b>27</b>
Nov 20	Feb	<b>05</b> , 12, 19, <b>26</b>	Feb	03, <b>10</b> , 17, <b>24</b>
	Mar	<b>04</b> , 11, 18, 25	Mar	03, <b>10</b> , 17, 24
	Apr	01, 08		
	Sep	02, 30		
	Oct	14, 21, <b>28</b>		
	Nov	04, <b>18</b> , 25		
	Dec	02, <b>09</b> , 16, 23, <b>30</b>		

### 14 DAYS • 18 Included Experiences

LAAC: Auckland to Christchurch

Departure [	Dates
-------------	-------

-				
2023	2024	1	2025	5
Oct 17	Jan	09, 16, <b>23</b> , 30	Jan	07, <b>14</b> , 21, 28
Nov 07, 14	Feb	06, <b>13</b> , <b>20</b> , 27	Feb	04, <b>11</b> , 18, 25
Dec 05, 12	Mar	05, <b>12</b> , 19, 26	Mar	04, <b>11</b> , 18, 25
	Apr	16, 23		
	May	28		
	Jun	25		
	Jul	23		
	Sep	10, <b>24</b>		
	Oct	01, 08, <b>15</b> , 22, <b>29</b>		
	Nov	05, <b>12</b> , 26		
	Dec	<b>03</b> , 10, 17, 24		

### Definite Departures highlighted in red.

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and additional definite departure dates visit **aatkings.com/lcca or lacc**, or contact your local travel agent.

A limited number of single rooms are also available.

### Dining

13 Full buffet breakfasts B 5 Dinners D

2 Highlight Dinners HD 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 holiday price.



# Southern Spirit

### **Highlights**

### times Flexible Holidays

New Zealand's natural bounty is epic, as you'll see in Nelson, the gateway to Abel Tasman National Park. The bounty also inspires talented chefs across Queenstown, Christchurch and Wellington.

### 🖄 Iconic Sites

New Zealand's cool little Capital, Wellington's diversions range from cultural Nirvana at Te Papa, the Museum of New Zealand to the beehive-like Parliament building.

### 🛍 Sustainable Travel

of real, rural New Zealand is like. For every guest, we donate funds to The Fairlight Foundation, Advancing Women in Agriculture.

### 🖄 Natural Wonders

**1** Welcome to Christchurch

2 Christchurch – Omarama

**3** Omarama – Dunedin

**4** Dunedin – Invercargill

universe. Hotel: Heritage Gateway. B D

(a national institution). Hotel: Kingsgate. B

Garden.

An island off an island, Stewart Island is wild, wide and wonderful. Some 97% is national parkland – prepare for epic animal encounters.

There are plenty of reasons to arrive in New Zealand's 'Garden City' early,

since the devastating 2010/11 earthquakes. Explore at your leisure. We

among them the astonishing transformation that has reinvigorated streets

recommend jumping aboard the Christchurch Tram. This evening, it's time

Step out with your guide for a deeper dive into 'The City of Gardens' before

traversing the colourful Canterbury Plains: the turguoise waters of Lake

Tekapo and snow-capped mountains. Your Indoor Dark Sky Astronomy

Experience at Tekapo, hosted by passionate guides, will forever change

quietest spots on the planet, yet it has one of the busiest skies in the

Architectural drama awaits in Dunedin. While away the afternoon in

atmospheric art-lined alleys or sipping a lager or two in Speight's Brewery

If you find yourself humming a Garth Brooks tune en route to Gore, you're

not alone; it's the country music capital of NZ. Invercargill is obsessed with

something else: motor vehicles. Tributes to speed legends colour the city.

So it's only fitting that you visit Classic Motorcycle Mecca for a tour and

the way you see the night sky. You'll see for yourself it may be one of the

to meet your fellow travellers for a Welcome Reception. Hotel: Wyndham

### 6 Invercargill – Queenstown

You've probably already noticed that there's a lot of farmland here in New Zealand. It's fitting, then, that you meet southern girl Laura, who will introduce you to the sheep farm she was born and raised on. Continue to Queenstown and take the afternoon at your own pace. Wine aficionado? Sip your way through surrounding vineyards. You might choose to glide across Lake Wakatipu aboard the historic TSS Earnslaw to Walter Peak High Country Farm, where a gourmet barbecue BBQ dinner and farm show awaits. **Hotel: Copthorne Hotel & Resort, 2 nights. B** 

### Queenstown Free Time

We wouldn't blame you for using today to linger by the banks of Lake Wakatipu, marvelling at the sky-scraping Remarkables. But if you want to venture further afield, we have a few ideas. Top of our list today is an epic journey through Fiordland National Park to Milford Sound/Piopiotahi, carved by waterfalls and a playground for dolphins and seals. There's a reason why this part of the island has World Heritage status. **B** 

### 8 Queenstown – Franz Josef/Waiau

Atmospheric Arrowtown was born from gold, and its movie-set-like streets still shimmer today. It's hard to tear yourself away, but the Alpine country of the Southern Lakes is calling, from Lake Dunstan – pause for juicy stone fruit picked fresh from the tree – to oh-so-blue Lake Hawea and lovely Lake Wanaka, with its shoreline of poplars and willows. Over the Haast Pass, the pretty town of Franz Josef/Waiau awaits. Get some perspective on an optional Franz Josef Glacier/Kā Roimata o Hine Hukatere flight tour – if the weather behaves, you may even get to land on it. New Zealand tours don't get much cooler than this. **Hotel:** Scenic Franz Josef Glacier. B D

### 9 Franz Josef/Waiau – Punakaiki

On the wild West Coast, Hokitika may be small in size, but boy is it big in personality, not to mention natural attractions. Wander the windswept coast before discovering the town's other beauty: pounamu (native greenstone or jade). Steel yourself for Punakaiki's Pancake Rocks and blowholes; they owe their existence to the thundering surf that will lull you to sleep. **Hotel: Scenic Punakaiki. B D** 

### 1 Punakaiki – Nelson

After action-packed days, all you need to do today is sit back and enjoy the drama of the Heritage Highway en route to Nelson. Gaze over Buller Gorge – a deep canyon home to New Zealand's longest swingbridge – and Kahurangi National Park, a place of wild rivers, high plateaus, alpine herbfields and coastal forests. **Hotel: Rutherford, 2 nights. B** 

ak High Country Farn

### **1** Nelson Free Time

The South Island's oldest city, Nelson is the ideal starting point for outings through Abel Tasman National Park. This pocket in the north of the island is a beguiling union of golden beaches framed by sculpted granite cliffs. It's home to one of the country's most legendary coastal tracks, if you fancy stretching your legs on a hike. Otherwise, drift away on a cruise around the coast, revealing unpeopled bays and dreamy inlets. The choice is yours. **B** 

### 12 Nelson – Wellington

All aboard the Interislander for a cruise through Queen Charlotte Sound, up the Tory Channel and across Cook Strait, from the South Island to the North, navigating a maze of arms and inlets into New Zealand's cool little capital of Wellington. End your tour on a high note at a Farewell Dinner with your Travel Director and travel companions. **Hotel: Travelodge. B FD** 

### **13** Farewell from Wellington

Wellington also knows a thing or two about good coffee, and you'll need a strong one to get you through this morning's sightseeing. You may wish to linger in town, discovering Māori culture at Te Papa, the Museum of New Zealand. It's hard to say goodbye to your tour of the South Island of New Zealand. If you can't bear to leave, we have a few ideas up our sleeve to extend your holiday. **B** 

Highlight Dinner. Hotel: Kelvin, 2 nights. B HD
Stewart Island
Invercargill is the gateway to the southernmost community in the country. Welcome to Stewart Island, a wild and wonderful drop of land that is 97% national parkland. Naturally, it's a magnet for endemic flora and fauna, as you'll discover on your guided Village and Bays tour. Later you have the option to join a leisurely cruise, including a picnic lunch, around Paterson

Inlet that will take you past unique places including Acker's Cottage before

docking at Ulva Island to admire the bird life and native flora. B

### 13 DAYS 15 Included Experiences

### **Departure Dates**

2023	2024	4	2025	5
Oct 05	Feb	<b>08</b> , 15, 29	Jan	02, 23, <b>30</b>
Nov 30	Mar	<b>07</b> , 21	Feb	06, 13, <b>20</b> , 27
	Oct	<b>03</b> , 17, 31	Mar	06, <b>20</b>
	Nov	21, <b>28</b>		
	Dec	12, 19, 26		

### Definite Departures highlighted in red.

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and additional definite departure dates visit **aatkings.com/lcqw** or contact your local travel agent.

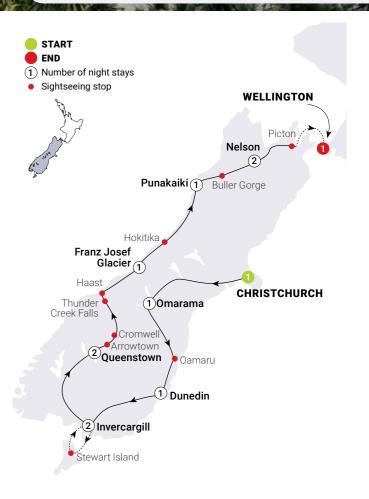
A limited number of single rooms are also available.

### Dining

12 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 13 – flights to depart at 12 noon from Wellington Airport Flights are not included in the holiday price.



# Southern Spotlight

### **Highlights**

### times Flexible Holidays

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

### 🖄 Iconic Sites

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

### 🛍 Sustainable Travel

night skies by connecting manuhiri (visitors) to the relevance of the night sky via scientific and cultural experiences.

### 🖄 Natural Wonders

The West Coast, or 'the Coast' as locals call it, is an untamed natural wilderness of rivers and rainforests, glaciers and geological treasures.

### 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 a high-octane jet boat ride, 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 and farm show. **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 to the town of Franz Josef, where, this afternoon you may choose to fly over Franz Josef Glacier/Kā Roimata o Hine Hukatere. **Hotel: Scenic Franz Josef Glacier. B D** 

### Franz Josef/Waiau – Christchurch

Swap snow for pounamu (native greenstone or jade) in Hokitika. 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: Wyndham Garden. B FD** 

### 9 Farewell from Christchurch

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





### **Welcome to Christchurch** Since its 2010/11 earthquakes, Chi

Since its 2010/11 earthquakes, Christchurch has reinvented itself in more ways than one. Discover how if you choose to step back in time aboard the Christchurch Tram, linking some of the city's most legendary attractions. It's time tonight to meet your travelling companions for a Welcome Reception. **Hotel: Wyndham Garden**.

### 2 Christchurch – Omarama

On your city tour view the mind-bending Transitional Cathedral, made largely of cardboard, and Turanga, 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. Your Indoor Dark Sky Astronomy Experience at Tekapo, hosted by passionate guides, will forever change the way you see the night sky. You'll see for yourself it may be one of the quietest spots on the planet, yet it has one of the busiest skies in the universe. **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 Citv. B** 

### 4 Dunedin – Te Anau

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** 

### 9 DAYS • 10 Included Experiences LCQR: Christchurch Return

Departure Dates

2023	2024	ļ.	2025	5
Oct 22	Jan	14, 21, <b>28</b>	Jan	12, <b>19</b> , 26
Nov 12, 19	Feb	04, 11, <b>18</b> , <b>25</b>	Feb	02, 09, <b>16</b> , 23
Dec 10, 17	Mar	03, 10, <b>17</b> , 24, 31	Mar	02, 09, <b>16</b> , 23, 30
	Apr	21, 28		
	Jun	02, 30		
	Jul	28		
	Sep	15, 29		
	Oct	06, 13, <b>20</b> , 27		
	Nov	<b>03</b> , 10, <b>17</b>		
	Dec	01, <b>08</b> , 15, 22, 29		

### 9 DAYS • 10 Included Experiences

### LRQC: Christchurch Return Departure Dates

•				
2023	2024	1	2025	5
Oct 02, 23	Jan	<b>01</b> , 08, 15, 22, <b>29</b>	Jan	06, <b>13</b> , 20, <b>27</b>
Nov 20	Feb	<b>05</b> , 12, 19, <b>26</b>	Feb	03, <b>10</b> , 17, <b>24</b>
	Mar	<b>04</b> , 11, 18, 25	Mar	03, <b>10</b> , 17, 24
	Apr	01, 08		
	Sep	02, 30		
	Oct	14, 21, <b>28</b>		
	Nov	04, <b>18</b> , 25		
	Dec	02, <b>09</b> , 16, 23, <b>30</b>		

### Definite Departures highlighted in red.

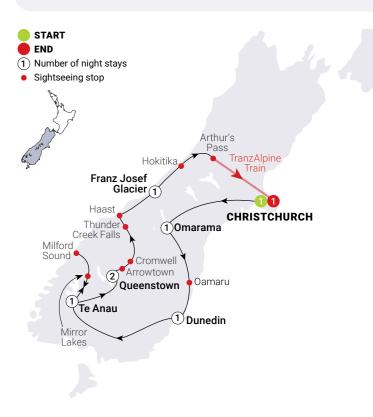
For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and additional definite departure dates visit **aatkings.com/lcqr or lrqc**, or contact your local travel agent. A limited number of single rooms are also available.

### 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 holiday price.



# Northern Spotlight

## **Highlights**

### $\propto$ Flexible Holidays

Sometimes, the best experiences in life (meals, spas, hikes) are those you stumble upon. We can point you in the right direction in Auckland, Rotorua and Wellington – then go for it!

### 🖄 Iconic Sites

Life becomes all the more radiant at Waitomo Glowworm Caves, a subterranean wonderland that replicates the night sky.

### 🕮 Sustainable Travel

The Te Po Experience at Te Puia contributes to the success of the Māori Arts & Crafts Institute, committed to preserving, fostering, and promoting Māori arts and crafts.

### 🖄 Natural Wonders

Ancient volcanoes, thundering waterfalls and a yacht-studded harbour are your backdrop in Whangarei, New Zealand's northernmost city. What a wildlife wonderland.



### Welcome to Auckland

Auckland is known as the 'City of Sails'. And you'll discover why when exploring its two harbours at your leisure. Pick a waterfront precinct and find a perch to while away the afternoon over a Marlborough savignon blanc tonight. Should you need a closer look, take a cruise out to the wineries of Waiheke Island. Meet your fellow travel companions for a Welcome Reception tonight. **Hotel: Holiday Inn Express.** 

### 2 Auckland – Bay of Islands

Your journey north to New Zealand's Bay of Islands is not short of drama – discover 140 droplets of land ringed by turquoise sea at the top of the country. 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, perhaps a descendant 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. **Hotel: Copthorne Hotel & Resort, 2 nights. B D** 

### **3** Bay of Islands Free Time

If there's a travel destination that inspires wanderlust, the Bay of Islands is it. And today, you can do just that. At your leisure, venture 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, cruise to the famous Hole in the Rock or join a tour of Russell and learn more about the settling of the Bay of Islands. The choice is yours. **B** 

### Bay of Islands – Auckland

Northern exposure is a thing today, when you journey toward the top of the country to visit Whangarei – NZ's northernmost city, and 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

There's no bad day in Auckland – today, yours starts with a city sights tour before you set your GPS for the Waikato River and Waitomo Caves. This

place is radiant – quite literally. While 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, and steam rushes skywards from cracks in the Earth. This evening, explore Te Puia's geothermal valley, and learn about Māori history and culture on this guided experience, which includes a dinner of hangi-inspired cuisine and a cultural performance in a finely carved meeting house, Te Aronui a Rua. It ends on a high at the Pohutu Geyser, where, armed with a hot chocolate you'll view one of New Zealand's geothermal wonderlands. **Hotel:** Ibis, **2 nights. B HD** 

### 6 Rotorua Free Time

Explore at your own pace today, but with plenty of tips from your Travel Director. Want a bit of down time? We wouldn't blame you for simply blissing out at in the steamy thermal springs at Rotorua's Polynesian Spa. Animal lover? Go behind the scenes on a working kiwi nursery and hatchery. Culture vulture? Hobbit fans will want to take advantage of the opportunity to tour the sights featured in The Lord of the Rings movies at Hobbiton. **B** 

### Rotorua – Wellington

You'll hear Huka Falls well before you see it – at this natural wonder, a staggering 220,000 litres of water thunder over an 11-metre-high waterfall every second. The road ahead unfolds in a broad panorama of Lake Taupō, its waters so vivid and blue you'll think someone has taken the glasses off your nose and cleaned them for the first time. Traverse the Kapiti Coast to New Zealand's cool little capital, Wellington, where there are so many restaurants and bars to choose from. Ask your Travel Director for tips on where to eat. **Hotel: Travelodge. B** 

### 8 Farewell from Wellington

The best way to begin a Wellington day? With a coffee. The city is known for its uber-cool cafés, designed to fuel you through your city sights tour. You may wish to linger in town, discovering Maori culture at Te Papa, the Museum of New Zealand. Afterwards, it's time to bid farewell to your NZ crew. What a week. **B** 





, **08**, 15, **22**, 29 5, 12, **19**, 26

. 12. 19. 26

### 8 DAYS • 9 Included Experiences LABW: Auckland to Wellington

Departure Dates

2023	2024	1	2025	5
Oct 14	Jan	06, 13, <b>20</b> , 27	Jan	04, <b>11</b> , 18, 25
Nov 04, 11	Feb	03, <b>10</b> , <b>17</b> , 24	Feb	01, <b>08</b> , 15, 22
Dec 02	Mar	02, <b>09</b> , 16, 23	Mar	01, <b>08</b> , 15, 22
	Apr	13, 20		
	May	25		
	Jun	22		
	Jul	20		
	Sep	<b>21</b> , 28		
	Oct	05, <b>12</b> , 19, <b>26</b>		
	Nov	02, <b>09</b> , 23, <b>30</b>		
	Dec	07, 14, 21		

### 8 DAYS • 9 Included Experiences

### LWBA: Wellington to Auckland

### Departure Dates

2023	2024	1	2025	5
Oct 11	Jan	<b>10</b> , 17, 24, 31	Jan	0
Nov 01, 29	Feb	07, <b>14</b> , 21, 28	Feb	0
	Mar	<b>06</b> , <b>13</b> , 20, 27	Mar	0
	Apr	03, 10, 17		
	Sep	11		
	Oct	09, 23, 30		
	Nov	<b>06</b> , 13, <b>27</b>		
	Dec	04, 11, <b>18</b> , 25		

### Definite Departures highlighted in red.

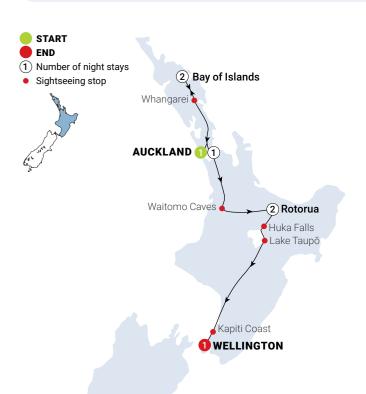
For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and additional definite departure dates visit **aatkings.com/labw or lwba**, or contact your local travel agent. A limited number of single rooms are also available.

### Dining

7 Full buffet breakfasts **B** 1 Dinner **D**  1 Highlight Dinner HD

### **Flight Information**

Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 4.00pm into Auckland Airport Day 8 – flights to depart after 12 noon from Wellington Airport Flights are not included in the holiday price.



# Short Breaks

# Personalise Your Experience

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



# Add a Short Break to your Guided Holiday

With so much to see and do in this extraordinary part of the world, we make it easy for you to customise your holiday. Add on one of our Short Breaks to your Guided Holiday 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 twocountry holiday 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

# *Aluru* & Kata Tju<u>t</u>a Highlights

ULURU RETURN : Uluru Sunset • Mutitjulu Waterhole • Aboriginal Rock Art • Uluru Sunrise • Kata Tjuta • Walpa Gorge

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 Uluru-Kata Tjuta Cultural Centre. Later, travel around the base of Uluru in comfort as your Driver Guide provides commentary about the numerous sacred sites and features to be found at Uluru. Learn about the native flora, fauna and intriguing culture of the traditional owners, the Anangu, and discover an array of fascinating 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 Hotel & Lodge (B), Desert Gardens (R) or Sails in the Desert (S), Ayers Rock Resort.

### Uluru BBQ Dinner (+BBQA)

After sunset, why not add on our exclusive BBQ Dinner. Please enquire for details.

### 2 Ulu<u>r</u>u Sunrise – Kata Tju<u>t</u>a – Depart Ulu<u>r</u>u

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. This morning you'll be transferred to Ayers Rock Airport for your onward flight.

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

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

For latest pricing, days of departure and itinerary

National Park Pass is included.

details, visit aatkings.com/U2L

**DEPARTS** 

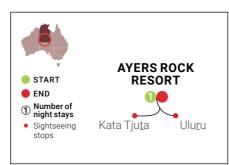
**CONCLUDES** 

U2L

2 DAYS

(U3L1)

3 DAYS



& Kata Tju<u>t</u>a Experience

> DEPARTS 90 minutes prior to sunset

**CONCLUDES** 30 minutes after sunrise

National Park Pass is included For latest pricing, days of departure and itinerary details, visit aatkings.com/U3L1

### Kata Tjuta viewing platform

ULURU RETURN : Kata Tjuta Sunset • Uluru Sunrise • Walpa Gorge • Mutitjulu Waterhole Aboriginal Rock Art • Ulu<u>r</u>u Sunset • Field of Light

Arrive Uluru – Kata Tjuta Sunset

On arrival at Avers 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 Hotel & Lodge (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.

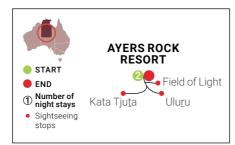
### Uluru BBQ Dinner (+BBQA)

After sunset, why not add on our exclusive BBQ Dinner. Please enquire for details.

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 through 50,000 magical hand-crafted frosted glass spheres of light, in colours of ochre, 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 Ulu<u>r</u>u, 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).



# Highlights



ULURU RETURN : Kata Tjuta Sunset • Kings Canyon • Uluru Sunrise • Kata Tjuta • Walpa Gorge • Aboriginal Rock Art • Uluru Sunset • Uluru Field of Light

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). Take a leisurely drive to Kata Tjuta to experience a magnificent outback sunset. Hotel: Outback Hotel & Lodge (B), Desert Gardens (R) or Sails in the Desert (S), Ayers Rock Resort, 3 nights.

### 2 Kings Canyon

Rise early for your drive through sandhill country towards Kings Canyon, stopping for breakfast at Kings Creek Station. Join a guided climb to the rim of Kings Canyon for marvellous views of Watarrka National Park. Follow the rim of the canyon, stopping at vantage points to look down into the canyon gorge. Time permitting, you may descend into the green oasis of the 'Garden of Eden'. Or you may wish to take an easier, shorter walk to explore the boulder-strewn canyon creek bed. Return to Ayers Rock Resort. B

### Uluru Sunrise – Kata Tjuta Sacred Sites & Sunset

Witness a magnificent Uluru sunrise, then continue to Kata Tjuta, a series of 36 ancient red-rock domes. On the way, enjoy panoramic views of its southern side from the dune viewing platform, before arriving at the base of Walpa Gorge. Walk through the gorge, and follow the natural creek bed between two of the tallest of these domes. Later, view the amazing collection

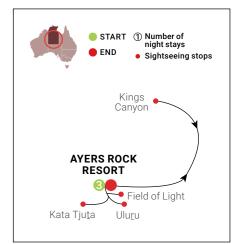
of Aboriginal paintings at the Uluru-Kata Tjuta Cultural Centre, then tour the base of Uluru and take the Kuniya Walk to the sacred Mutitjulu Waterhole. In the late afternoon, witness the remarkable colour changes of Uluru, the world's largest monolith, at sunset while sipping sparkling wine.

### Uluru BBO Dinner (+BBQA)

After sunset, why not add on our exclusive BBQ Dinner. Please enquire for details.

### 4 Field of Light – Depart Uluru

Experience artist Bruce Munro's Field of Light. Under cover of darkness, wander through 50,000 magical hand-crafted frosted glass spheres of light in shades of ochre, deep violet, blue and gentle white. Then make your way to the dune top and watch in awe as the sun pops up in the distance behind Uluru, flooding the landscape, including Kata Tjuta behind you, with light. Later, you will be transferred to Ayers Rock Airport for your onward flight (flights to depart after 9.30am).



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

Outback Highlight

U5L **5 DAYS** 

# Canyon

As this Short Break departs at 7.00am, accommodation will need to be pre-booked for the previous night.

Uluru ba

Kings Canyon

Alice Springs – Uluru – Kata Tjuta Sunset Depart Alice Springs for Ayers Rock Resort. Witness an outback sunset at Kata Tjuta while enjoying sparkling wine. Hotel: Outback Hotel & Lodge (B), Desert Gardens (R) or Sails in the Desert (S), Ayers Rock Resort, 2 nights.

ALICE SPRINGS RETURN : Kata Tjuta

Sunset • Uluru Sunrise • Walpa Gorge •

Uluru Sunset • Uluru BBQ Dinner •

2 Uluru Sunrise – Kata Tjuta - Uluru Sacred Sites, Sunset & BBQ Watch the sun rise at Uluru, and then travel to Kata Tjuta to explore Walpa Gorge. Join your

guide for a drive around the base of Uluru. Witness sunset over Uluru and then join us at our exclusive venue for a barbecue dinner. D

3 Ulu<u>r</u>u – Kings Canyon

Depart Ayers Rock Resort for Kings Canvon. The rocky climb to the canyon rim reveals views over Watarrka National Park. Or, enjoy a more leisurely walk along the boulder-strewn canyon creek bed. Hotel: Kings Canyon Resort (B, R, S). B

4 Kings Canyon – Depart Alice Springs After time at leisure, travel to Alice Springs, where your Short Break concludes.

As this Short Break concludes after 7.00pm, accommodation will need to be pre-booked for tonight.



Kata Tjuta

ALICE SPRINGS RETURN : Aboriginal Rock Art • Uluru Sunset • Ulu<u>r</u>u Sunrise • Kata Tjuta • Walpa Gorge

As this Short Break departs at 7.00am, accommodation will need to be pre-booked for the previous night.

### Alice Springs – Uluru Sacred Sites & Sunset

Depart Alice Springs through the rugged desert landscape before arriving at Ayers Rock Resort. Visit the Uluru-Kata Tjuta Cultural Centre and then travel around the base of Uluru. Learn about flora, fauna, and visit an array of sacred sites. At Mutitjulu Waterhole, you'll explore several caves and view Aboriginal rock paintings. Late afternoon, relax with sparkling wine as you witness the striking colour changes of Uluru at sunset. Hotel: Outback Hotel & Lodge (B), Desert Gardens (R) or Sails in the Desert (S), Ayers Rock Resort.

### 2 Uluru Sunrise – Kata Tjuta – Depart Alice Springs

Experience the two major landmarks in Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park. Start with an amazing sunrise at the Uluru sunrise viewing area. Afterwards, on the 45 kms drive to Kata Tjuta, enjoy panoramic views of its southern side from a viewing platform, as your Driver Guide provides you with an historical overview of the National Park. The walk through the sheer walls of Walpa Gorge at Kata Ťjuta won't disappoint as you're led into a world of rare plant species and lush evergreen scrubs This afternoon, you'll travel to Alice Springs, where your Short Break concludes.

As this Short Break concludes after 7.00pm. accommodation will need to be pre-booked for tonight.

**DEPARTS** 90 minutes prior to sunset

**CONCLUDES** 30 minutes after sunrise

National Park Pass is included For latest pricing, days of departure and itinerary details. visit aatkings.com/U5L

ULURU RETURN : Kata Tjuta Sunset • Uluru Sunrise • Kata Tjuta • Walpa Gorge • Sounds of Silence Dinner • Kings Canyon • Uluru Sunset • Uluru Sunrise Field of Light

### Arrive Ulu<u>r</u>u – Kata Tju<u>t</u>a Sunset

On arrival at Ayers Rock Airport you'll be transferred to the resort (flights to arrive prior to 3.00pm). Take a leisurely drive to Kata Tjuta to experience a magnificent outback sunset. Hotel: Outback Hotel & Lodge (B), Desert Gardens (R) or Sails in the Desert (S), Ayers Rock Resort, 4 nights.

### Uluru Sunrise – Kata Tjuta – Sounds of Silence Dinner

Rise early to witness a stunning Uluru sunrise, then continue to Walpa Gorge. where you'll follow the natural creek bed between two of the tallest formations of Kata Tjuta, a mysterious series of 36 red-rock domes. This evening, dine under a million stars at the Sounds of Silence Dinner. As the sun sets, listen to the sound of a didgeridoo and join your fellow travellers for an unforgettable experience. Enjoy a gourmet buffet of Australian delicacies accompanied by fine Australian wines, then sit back and relax as a star talker explains the constellations of the southern night sky (weather conditions permitting). D

### 3 Kings Canyon

You'll get a sense of the remoteness of outback Australia as you travel to Kings Canyon. Located in the heart of Watarrka National Park, it lies in an ancient Australian landscape that is sacred ground for the Ulpanyali and Lilla people. The Rim Walk is

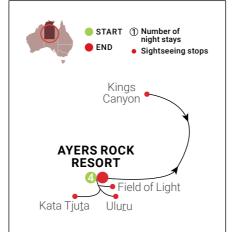
a once-in-a-lifetime experience. The climb up a 100-metre cliff face reveals views of sandstone walls, grottos, chasms and cliffs. Or, for something more relaxing, set off on a two-kilometre stroll along the creek bed that leads to impressive views of the canyon rim. Return to Ayers Rock Resort. B

### Uluru Sacred Sites & sunset

Visit the Uluru-Kata Tjuta Cultural Centre to view the collection of First Nations art and then travel around the base of Uluru. Learn about flora, fauna, and culture of traditional owners, the Anangu, and visit an array of sacred sites. At Mutitjulu Waterhole, you'll explore a cave and view Aboriginal rock paintings as your Guide interprets their meaning and significance. Later, travel to the Uluru sunset viewing area relax with sparkling wine as the setting sun changes the colour of the world's largest monolith.

### 5 Field of Light – Depart Uluru

Experience a once-in-a-lifetime Uluru event! Acclaimed artist Bruce Munro's Field of Light is one of his most beautiful installations to date. Under cover of darkness, wander through 50,000 magical spheres of light, in colours of ochre, deep violet, blue and gentle white, before making your way up to the dune top viewing area. Watch the amazing transformation of colours and life as the Red Centre awakens, while enjoying tea, coffee or hot chocolate. Then as the first rays of



sunlight creep across the desert sky, gaze in awe as the sun rises in the distance behind Uluru, flooding the landscape, including Kata Tjuta, with light. Later, you will be transferred to Ayers Rock Airport for your onward flight (flights to depart after 9.30am).

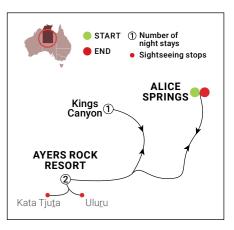






**CONCLUDES** 6.30pm (Oct-Mar) and 7.00pm (Apr-Sep)

National Park Pass is included For latest pricing, days of departure and itinerary details, visit aatkings.com/A4A



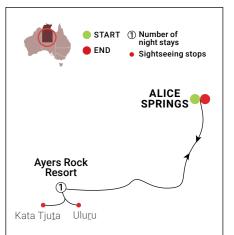




### **DEPARTS** 7.00am (Oct-Mar) and 7.30am (Apr-Sep)

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

National Park Pass is included For latest pricing, days of departure and itinerary details, visit aatkings.com/A2L



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

# **Alligator River**

Guluyambi Cultural Tour

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

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



In April, February & March if weather conditions

For latest pricing, days of departure and itinerary

preclude access to the East Alligator region

alternative touring will be arranged on day 2.

National Parks Pass is included.

details, visit aatkings.com/DK40

DK40

2 DAYS

DG42

3 DAYS

Cairns & the Great **Barrier Reef** 



**Great Barrier Reef** 

**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 semisubmersible and glass bottom boat tours. Visit the underwater observatory to discover the world's most impressive natural fish tank

*Topical* Reef & Rainforest

and get up close to marine life. Enjoy a tropical buffet lunch on the water before returning to Cairns early evening. **B**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

# Kakadu & Nitmiluk (Katherine) Gorge

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

**DEPARTS** 6.30am (May-Nov) CONCLUDES

7.30pm (approximately)

**CONCLUDES** 6.00pm approximately

National Parks Pass is included. For latest pricing, days of departure and itinerary details, visit aatkings.com/DG42

**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, accommodation will need to be pre-booked for the previous night.

Darwin – Jumping Croc Cruise – Kakadu Cruise on the Adelaide River, home to over 1,600 crocodiles. Later. travel into Kakadu National Park. Stop at the Marrawuddi Art Gallery, and then Ubirr to view ancient Aboriginal rock art. Hotel: Mercure Kakadu Crocodile. L

#### 2 Kakadu – Katherine

Ubirr Rock Ar

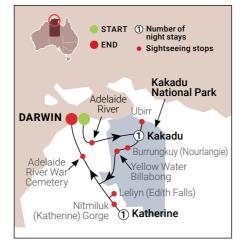
You'll be mesmerized as you explore the Nourlangie rock art site, which had provided shelter to Aboriginal people for millennia. Later, join your local guide for a cruise on

Yellow Water Billabong. Continue to Katherine, stopping at Leliyn (Edith Falls) along the way. The natural pool at the base of the falls is suitable for swimming throughout most of the year. Hotel: Contour. L

### 3 Katherine – Depart Darwin

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 scenery. Return to Darwin, stopping at 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 accommodation for tonight



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

#### Cairns – Port Douglas

**Dreamtime Gorge Walk** 

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 nterpretive walk. Learn about the local Kuku Yalanji people's special relationship with the land here, BL

### 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 Port Douglas – Depart Cairns

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

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

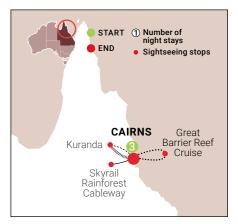




DEPARTS Daily (Apr-Mar)

CONCLUDES Morning of day 4

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





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

Gorge

CAIRNS

Port Douglas

# Day Tours

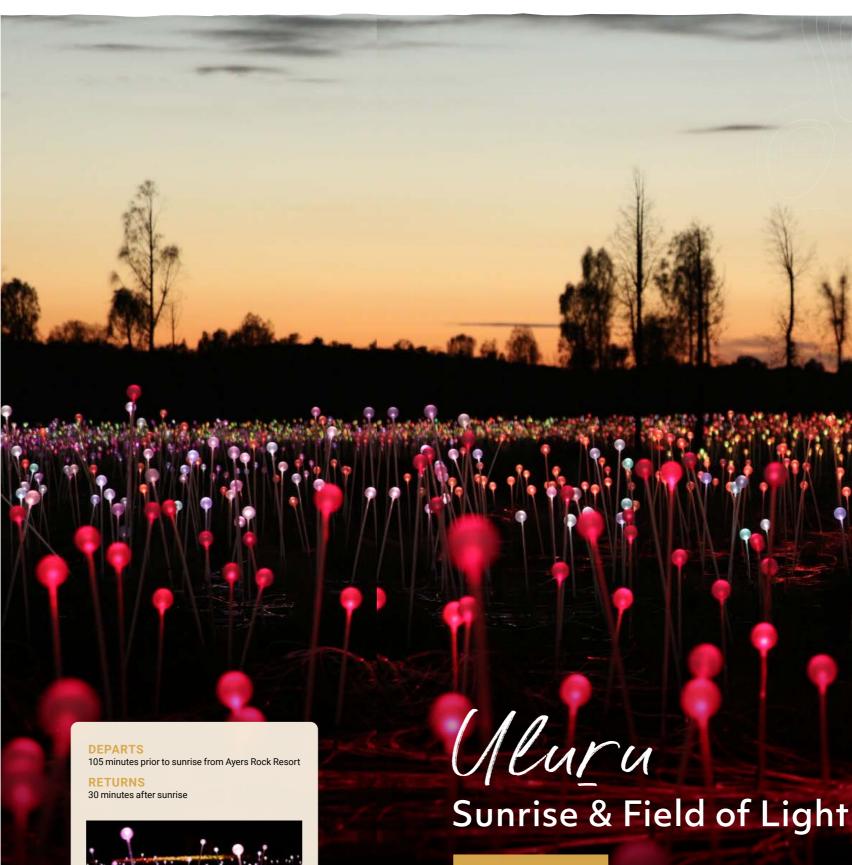
# Full or Half day **Sightseeing Tours**

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 Holidays, 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





EXCLUSIVE EXPERIENCE

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 Ulu<u>r</u>u 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.

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

EARLY MORNING



### 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.

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

### Active

If staying active and immersing yourself in the natural environment are an important part of your holiday 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) + Ulu<u>r</u>u Sunset (Y11) + Uluru Morning Guided Base Walk (Y40)

Add on Uluru BBQ (Code: BBQA) Add on Kings Canyon (Code: Y19)

### 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 airconditioned 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 (Code: BBQA)



2 Day Pass Includes: Uluru Sacred Sites & Sunset (Y17) + Uluru Sunrise & Kata Tjuta (Y14) Add on Uluru BBQ (Code: BBQA) Add on Kings Canyon (Code: Y19)



3 Day Pass Includes: Uluru Sacred Sites & Sunset (Y17) + Kata Tiuta Sunset (Y8) + Uluru Sunrise & Field of Light (FOL) Add on Uluru BBQ (Code: BBQA)

# Tiwi Islands Aboriginal Cultural Tour



Tiwi Island

# **Red Centre**

## Uluru Aboriginal Art & Cultural Experience\*

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

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

(times approximate)

### 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.

DEPARTS RETURNS 90 minutes prior to sunrise from Ayers Rock Resort 4 hrs approximately after sunrise

### Uluru Morning Guided Base Walk\*

Watch the first rays of the sun set the Red Centre alight before you accompany your guide on the 10.5 kms walk around the entire base of Uluru. At Kuniya Piti hear the Tjukurpa story of the Mala Men. Continue the Mala Walk, and into Kantju Gorge. The Lungkata Walk leads you to the Mutitjulu Waterhole. Your guide will point out the natural features of the landscape, Aboriginal rock paintings, and relay more traditional stories relating to this special place. Includes light breakfast. Uluru base walk is Grade 3, moderate.

DEPARTS 60 minutes prior to sunrise from Avers Rock Resort RETURNS 4½-5 hrs after sunrise

### Kata Tjuta Sunrise & Valley of the Winds\*

View an outback sunrise at Kata Tjuta with Uluru in the distance, and then commence the 5.4 kms Valley of the Winds walk, which takes you into a timeless haven. Hear fascinating stories of the geology, history, and culture of the region. Stop at the Karu lookout and then continue down the steep rocky path to the valley. Keep a look out for the local birds and wildlife as you make your way to Karingana lookout for incredible views over the plain. Includes light breakfast. Walk to Karu lookout is Grade 3, moderate. Walk to Karingana lookout is Grade 4, difficult.

DEPARTS

RETURNS

95 minutes prior to sunrise from Avers Rock Resort

# Uluru Sacred Sites & Sunset\* + BBQ Dinner

Visit Uluru-Kata Tjuta Cultural Centre and then travel around the base of Uluru. Learn about flora, fauna and cultural traditions of traditional owners, the Anangu, and visit an array of sacred sites. At the Mutitiulu Waterhole, you'll explore a number of caves and view Aboriginal rock paintings as your Guide interprets their meaning and significance. Later, travel to the Uluru sunset viewing area relax with sparkling wine as the setting sun changes the colour of Uluru. Add on our BBQ Dinner Y17B. See below.

RETURNS

Y17 30 minutes or Y17B 2½ hours approximately after sunset

## Uluru Sunset<sup>\*</sup> + 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. Dine on favourites from the grill, a selection of fresh salads, a tasty dessert and Australian wine. Top off the evening with a talk about the spectacular night sky.

DEPARTS 60 minutes prior to sunset from Avers Rock Resort

RETURNS Y11 30 minutes or Y11B 2½ hours approximately after sunset

### This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to visit a modern-day Aboriginal community. Tiwi locals will provide you with an insight into their rich culture and lifestyle. The tour will reveal scenes seldom seen by many outsiders and will leave you with a lifetime memory. Many cities are blessed with island destinations close by, but only Darwin has the Tiwi Islands.

### Bathurst Island

Take a 2½-hour ferry ride from Darwin aboard Tiwi Mantawi

### Visiting sites

Explore the Tiwi Museum with its interesting displays of traditional art and depictions of Tiwi Dreamtime stories, and Early Mission Precinct with its unique Tiwi-style Catholic Church.

### Lunch

Sample local billy tea and damper with your lunch.

### Tiwi Artisans

Sit down with a group of Tiwi ladies while they weave and paint. Learn how to weave pandanus. and get a feel for what everyday life is like.

### Wurrumiyanga

Join a local guide for a journey through this progressive modern community.

### Smoking Ceremony

See your guides and the women perform a smoking ceremony to bless their visitors, and witness totem dances and find out the meaning behind these traditional rituals.

#### Arts & Crafts Centres

The Tiwi people are world-famous for their art. Visit an art centre to meet the artists, watch them paint, weave, sculpt and carve, and learn the story behind their distinctive pieces.

DEPARTS 7.30am check-in for 8.00am departure from Cullen

at 5.45pm approximately

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

Bay Ferry Terminal RETURNS Depart Bathurst Island at 3.15pm to arrive in Darwin

FULL

DEPARTS

2.30pm (Apr-Oct) and 3.00pm (Nov-Mar) from Ayers Rock Resor

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

### 5 hrs approximately after sunrise











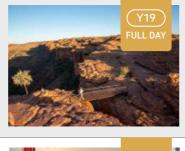
# **Red Centre & Top End**

Kings Canyon & Outback Panoramas\*

You'll get a sense of the remoteness of outback Australia as you travel to Kings Canyon. Located in the heart of Watarrka National Park, it lies in an ancient landscape that is sacred ground for the Ulpanyali and Lilla people. The rocky climb to the canyon rim reveals views of sandstone walls, grottos, chasms and cliffs. Or, for something more relaxing, set off on a two-kilometre stroll along the creek bed that leads to impressive views of the canyon rim Includes breakfast at Kings Creek Station.

**DEPARTS** 4.00am (Oct-Mar) and 4.30am (Apr-Sep) from Avers Rock Resort

RETURNS 5.00pm (Oct-Mar) and 5.30pm (Apr-Sep) to Avers Rock Resort



\*Northern Territory Parks Pass (separate from Uluru-Kata Tjuta National

Park Pass): From 01 November 2023, the NEW Parks Pass must be purchased in addition to your Day Tour, where indicated. See next page.

# A Town like Alice

Tour the sights of 'The Alice' including the School of the Air and the historic Telegraph Station, which marks the original site of the first European settlement in Alice Springs. Visit the Royal Flying Doctor Service, where you'll see 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.

DEPARTS

RETURNS 6.00pm approximately

### Palm Valley Safari by 4WD\*

1.45pm from Alice Springs (earlier from your hotel)

Travel through the West MacDonnell Ranges to Hermannsburg, an Aboriginal community and historic precinct which is renowned for its Aboriginal art collection and the works of Albert Namatjira. Travel down the bed of the Finke River, one of oldest water courses in the world, into Palm Valley. See spectacular rock forms, white sands and an oasis of rock pools and palm trees. Visit the spectacular rock formation known as the Amphitheatre. Includes picnic lunch and morning or afternoon tea.

### DFPARTS

7.15am (Apr-Sep) from Alice Springs (earlier from your hotel) 6.00pm approximately

RETURNS

### 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. Includes lunch. National Parks Pass is included

DEPARTS

6.30am from Darwin

### RETURNS 7.30pm approximately

### Litchfield National Park Waterfalls

Established in 1986, Litchfield National Park is a stunning location. You can take in the splendour of thundering waterfalls, rainforest pockets and historic sacred sites. It is a haven for hundreds of native bird species, and the plateau supports a rich range of woodland flora. The traditional custodians of the Park are the Wagait people, many of whom still call the area home. Includes lunch.

DEPARTS 7.30am from Darwin

RETURNS 6.00pm approximately



RETURNS

RETURNS

(Oct-Mar)

(Apr-Sep)

RETURNS

(Oct-Mar)

(Apr-Sep)

6.30pm approximately

7.00pm approximately

10.00am approximately

10.30am approximately

1.00pm approximately

(A6

# **Red Centre Connections**

Travel between Ayers Rock, Alice Springs or Kings Canyon on one of our luxury coach transfers with informative commentary from vour Driver Guide along the way.



Alice Springs to Ayers Rock

**DEPARTS** 

7.00am

# Sydney, Melbourne & Cairns

## **Blue Mountains Your Way**

Discover the vast wonders of the Blue Mountains. Enjoy a leisurely walk through Leura village and then witness the magnificent Three Sisters rock formation up close at Echo Point. From there, embark on your personalized exploration of this remarkable region, creating your own unique adventure. Add on the Scenic World Unlimited Discovery Pass. Glide on the world's steepest passenger railway, soar above the valley on the Skyway, and stroll along tranquil trails J15SW. For an additional Add-on experience visit aatkings.com/J15.

DEPARTS	RETURNS
8.00am from Sydney	5.30pm approximately

### Great Ocean Road & the Twelve Apostles

First stop is the Great Ocean Road Chocolaterie and Ice Creamery for billy tea and ANZAC biscuits. Drive through the Memorial Arch, start of the Great Ocean Road. Time for a photo stop at the seaside town of Lorne before visiting Apollo Bay for lunch (own expense). The rugged splendour of the Twelve Apostles incredible limestone rock formations is breathtaking. Hear the amazing shipwreck story of survival of the Loch Ard and visit its famous gorge. Stop in Port Campbell and then view the remnants of Loch Ard Gorge before returning to Melbourne

DEPARTS 7.30am from Melbourne RETURNS 7.30pm approximately

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. View the Nobbies, one of the largest fur seal colonies in Australia. 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)

## 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.

DEPARTS 7.00am from Cairns

# RETURNS

4.00pm approximately

## **Daintree Dreaming**

At Cooya Beach learn the traditional fishing and gathering techniques from a member of the Kubirri Warra clan. You will be greeted with a traditional smoking ceremony followed by a delicious lunch at the Mayi Cafe. Wander through the lush rainforest, as your Aboriginal guide will explain the rich flora and fauna of this diverse environment, as well as share history and stories of the Kuku Yalanji culture.

DEPARTS	RETURNS
7.30am from Cairns	5.30pm approximately

Booking Conditions

Uluru-Kata Tjura National Park Pass: The price of this pass must be added to the Day Tour prices in this brochure, where indicated. Children 17 years and under are free of charge. It is valid for 3 consecutive days. When taking multiple Day Tours over 3 consecutive days in the National Park you only need to pay the fee once. Northern Territory Parks Pass (separate from Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park Pass): From 01 November 2023, the NEW Parks Pass must be purchased in addition to your Day Tour, where indicated. Visit: https://www.aatkings.com/park-passes for further information. These are additional compulsory government charges and are subject to change without notice. You must carry your pass with you every time you enter the National Parks or you will be required to purchase another.

### RESERVATIONS 020 8225 4220 res@aatkings.co.uk TRADE MARKETING & SALES DEPT sales@aatkings.co.uk **ONLINE** aatkings.com

PHOTOGRAPHY: A selection of images in this brochure have been supplied by Tourism Australia, Tourism NT, Kakadu Tourism, South Australia Tourism Commission, Tourism & Events Queensland, Voyages Indigenous Tourism Australia, Tourism Western Australia, New Zealand Tourism, Cristian Fletcher, Adam Bruzzone, Vaughan Brookfield, Sara Orme, Mark Pickthall, Shaana McNaught, Miles Holden, Emily Godfrey, Jason Charles Hill, Grant Hunt, Natalie Mendham, Fraser Clements, Jess Bonde, Colby Brown, Nicholas Kavo, Greg Snell, Jemma Craig, Salty Aura, James Fisher, Jason lerace. Images in this brochure are indicative only and may not reflect specific destinations visited.















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



TREADRIGHT

26

AAT Kings Tours (UK) Limited

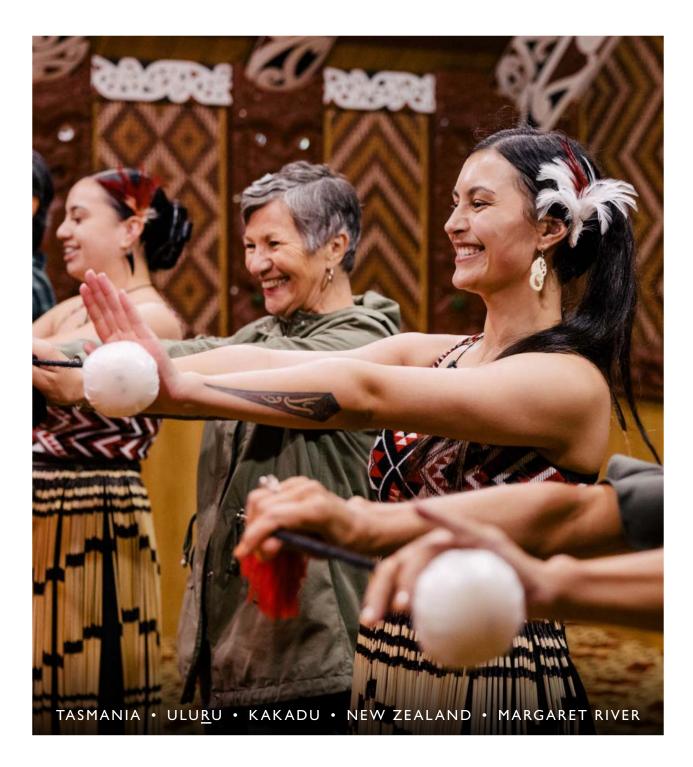
15 Grosvenor Place London SW1X 7HH T 00 44 20 8225 4220



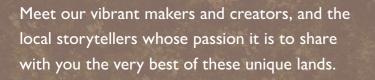


IMMERSIVE SMALL GROUP JOURNEYS

# AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND



INSPIRINGJOURNEYS.COM 24/25

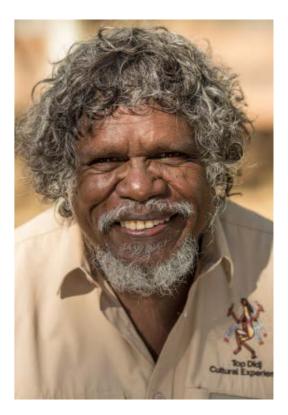


Delight the senses with exclusive culinary experiences and allow your expert guide to show you the iconic sights that promise moments of awe and wonder.

Your small group journey will be expertly curated with no detail forgotten, ensuring your adventure is seamless, stress free and timed to perfection.

With more than 100 years' experience in showcasing these mesmerising locations, we've collected a wealth of unmatched knowledge and passion that allows us to create an unforgettable travel experience for you.

# 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.







AUSTRALIA			
Inspiring Australia 13 days • IJFLY	10	Tastes of Tasmania 7 days • IJTHBL	16
Explore Australia's highlights on a journey from the Tropical North, to its spiritual heart and on to sparkling Sydney.		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.	
Outback Contrasts 6 days • CRAA	12	Flavours of South Australia 5 days • SATA	18
Witness the rugged landscape of the Red Centre and the ancient cultures that have cared for this land for generations.		Embark on a culinary discovery through the Barossa, Adelaide Hills and McLaren Vale wine regions.	
Kakadu's Ancient Secrets 5 days • MNDD	14	A Journey to the West 7 days • IJWA	20
Be awe-struck by Australia's Top End, where you'll discover untamed waterfalls, vast wetlands and ancient cultures.		Unique Rottnest Island, renowned wine region Margaret River and an enriching Cape Naturaliste Aboriginal cultural experience await you.	



@eff\_abiana #greatbarrierreef #snorkelling #inspiringjourneys

### **NEW ZEALAND**

### The Long White Cloud 19/12/8 days • NZIJ/NZSI/NZNI

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



### Cover story: Māori Cultural Experience

Celebrate the abundant harvest of the season, and explore concepts, rituals, and stories of ancient Māori warfare and peace in a feast of culture and cuisine.

Immerse yourself in Māori culture on The Long White Cloud, pg 22.



22

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



IMMERSE yourself in new experiences



EXPLORE boundless landscapes



RELAX and recharge

# 4.6/5 feefo.

Independent reviews from our guests

"Excellent tour guide and bus driver. Great accommodation each night. Very detailed information given at all stops during our tour."

 $\star$   $\star$   $\star$   $\star$   $\star$  5.0/5 Michael F

"Too many to mention, but the hours spent with MANUEL will stay with us forever."

 $\star$   $\star$   $\star$   $\star$   $\star$  5.0/5 Chris G

"I would be very happy to book the company again."  $\star$   $\star$   $\star$   $\star$   $\star$  5.0/5 Susan M

# THE INSPIRING JOURNEYS EXPERIENCE



MEET WINEMAKER,

Hamish

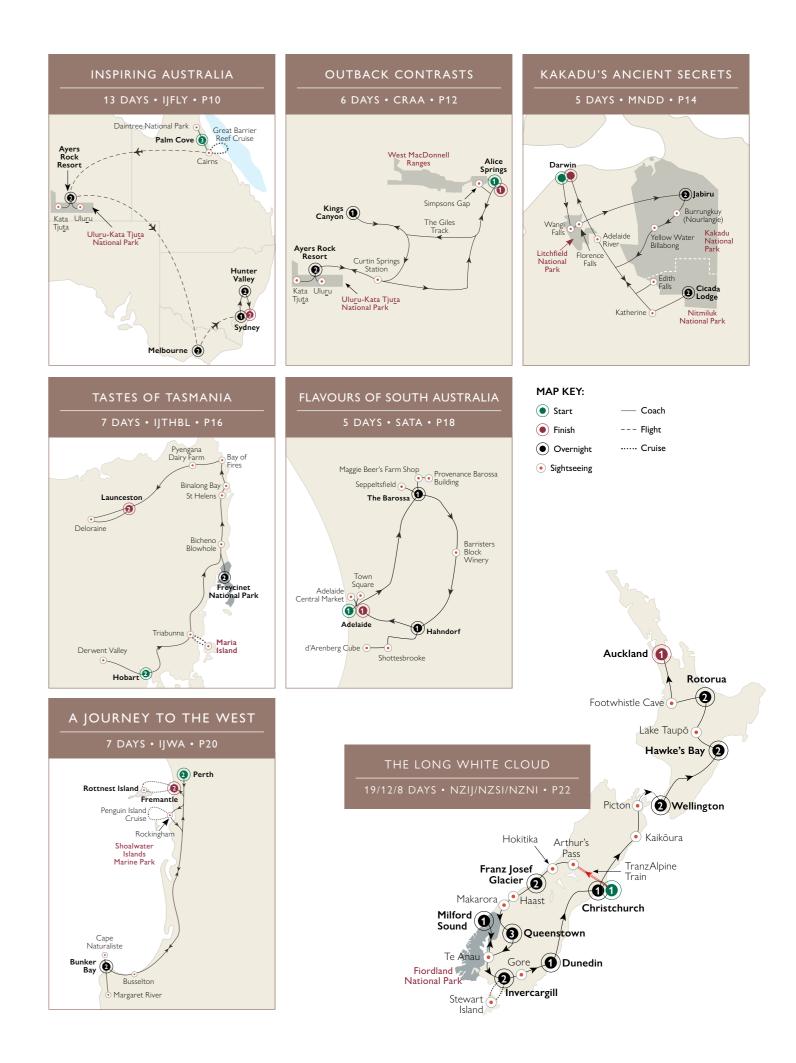
Hamish Maguire is Shottesbrooke Vineyard's General Manager and Chief Winemaker, and it is his mission to build upon the legacy of his stepfather, the vineyard's founder. It continues to produce high-quality wines from both its estate-owned and managed vineyards in McLaren Vale and Adelaide Hills. Hamish is thrilled that the vineyard's high-tech winery achieved certification as a Sustainable Wine Grape Grower of Australia in 2023.



MEET ORCHARD OWNER,

Mrs. Jones

Mrs. Jones Fruit Stall is a refreshing stop on any itinerary; expect stone fruit ice cream made on-site and heartwarming stories. On a few acres, where the family had fruit trees, Mrs. Jones said to her husband that she would sell excess fruit on the side of road and read books all day. However, there was little time for reading, as her small business flourished. Now over 40 years later, they still offer Kiwi fruits to our guests.



# LIFE ENRICHING MOMENTS



Immense

YOURSELF IN NEW EXPERIENCES

Dive in deep and absorb every small detail of your destination. Embrace the opportunity to connect with descendants of ancient cultures. Go behind the scenes to experience life like a true local. Immerse yourself in the sights, smells, sounds, and folklore that make every stop on your journey a memorable one.



Dine at Te Pā Tū Māori Experience on The Long White Cloud pg. 22

Indulge YOUR SENSES

Te Pā Tū presents culture and kai (cuisine) events – sharing Māori history, traditions, and future aspirations across an evening of celebration and feasting.

Enjoy a forest kai horotai (seasonal canapés) and complementary chef choice aperitif, followed by a seasonal three-course dinner.

 $\bigcirc$  Look for this icon to find Indulge highlights



Explore

BOUNDLESS LANDSCAPES

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

O Look for this icon to find Immerse highlights



Relax

AND RECHARGE

Sit back and relax knowing that your experience will be seamless from the very moment you start planning your journey with us. With every detail taken care of, you can be certain that the curated encounters, scenic destinations and carefully chosen hotels are exactly what you needed.

Dook for this icon to find Relax highlights

# INSPIRING AUSTRALIA

CAIRNS | PALM COVE | DAINTREE RAINFOREST | GREAT BARRIER REEF | ULURU | KATA TJUTA | MELBOURNE | SYDNEY | HUNTER VALLEY



# O IMMERSE

# $\bigcirc$ indulge

# ( EXPLORE

Great Barrier Reef and cruise on Sydney Harbour

# $\mathcal{D}$ RELAX

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, get set to explore Melbourne, 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 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

### 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 sets below the horizon.

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

### Day 5: Uluru

Rise early to experience the Bruce Munro's 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 Dining Experience under the sparkling outback sky at the award-winning Sounds of Silence Dinner.

MEALS Breakfast, Local Dining Experience

### Day 6: Ulu<u>r</u>u – Melbourne

Start the day with an unforgettable experience as you watch the sun rise over Uluru. After this, fly to the vibrant city of Melbourne where you will be treated to a delicious welcome dinner at one of the city's local restaurants. **HOTEL** InterContinental, 2 nights

MEALS Breakfast, dinner with wine

### Day 7: Melbourne

Today indulge your senses in the Yarra Valley with a chocolate tasting and winery masterclass followed by lunch at Dominique Portet, and a G&T tasting at Four Pillars Gin Distillery. **MEALS** Breakfast, lunch with wine

### Day 8: Melbourne - Sydney

The morning is yours. Why not explore Melbourne's world-famous laneways or treat yourself to some shopping at the local stylish boutique stores? Explore all the sites Melbourne has to offer with a city orientation tour, then enjoy lunch at Big Esso by Mabu Mabu, where you will fill your belly with delicious native Australian bush flavours before jetting off to Sydney. HOTEL The Langham

MEALS Breakfast, lunch

### Day 9: Sydney - Hunter Valley

- ( Enjoy a Sydney sightseeing tour including a visit to Mrs. Macquarie's Chair for panoramic views over the Opera House and Harbour Bridge. 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 good food, great wine and beautiful scenery. Indulge in exclusive private wine tastings at boutique vineyards and sit down to an exceptional tasting lunch. There will be time to explore 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 (a) 💭 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 restaurants. **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  $\bigtriangledown$  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

### DEPARTURES

2023	2024		2025	
Nov 07	Jan	09	Jan	07, 28
	Feb	27	Feb	25
	Apr	02		
	Jul	02		
	Oct	01		
	Nov	05		

#### Definite Departures highlighted in red.

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and additiona definite departure dates visit inspiringjourneys.com/ijfly or contact your local travel agent. A limited number of single rooms are also available.

### INCLUSIONS

- Small group (average 16 guests)
- 17+ Unforgettable experiences
- 22 included meals
- 12 Nights premium accommodation

### NOTES

#### **IIFLY: CAIRNS TO SYDNEY**

- Flights are not included in holiday price.
- Private vehicle return airport to hotel transfers are included in holiday price.
- Flight Information: Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 2.00pm into Cairns Airport Day 13 – flights to depart anytime from Sydney Airport

#### Internal-holiday flights: Please note the flights below are required to be purchased in order to fulfil the holiday itinerary:

Day 4 – Cairns to Ayers Rock

- Day 6 Ayers Rock to Melbourne
- Day 8 Melbourne to Sydney



# OUTBACK CONTRASTS

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



## O IMMERSE

# $\bigcirc$ indulge

# ( EXPLORE

## $\mathcal{D}$ RELAX

Nestled in the rugged bush, unwind in your room at

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.

Old Quarr

### 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 (b) 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 Reception at Tali Restaurant. **HOTEL** Crowne Plaza Alice Springs Lasseters

MEALS Dinner with wine

### 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 Ģ 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

**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 6km 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  $\bigcirc$ Community to learn about the Luritja and Pertame people's spiritual connection to the land at the Karrke Aboriginal Cultural Experience. 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

 $\bigcirc$ 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 İlkari Restaurant.

MEALS Breakfast, Dinner with wine

### Day 5: Field of Light - Uluru - Alice Springs

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

HOTEL Crowne Plaza Alice Springs Lasseters MEALS Breakfast, Celebration Dinner

### Day 6: Farewell from Alice Springs

Relax this morning as your journey comes to an end. You might choose to take an optional hot air balloon ride to experience the scenic landscapes of the outback before your journey is completed. MEALS Breakfast

### DEPARTURES

2024			
Apr	<b>16</b> , 30	Aug	<b>06</b> , 20
May	<b>14</b> , 28	Sep	03, <b>17</b>
Jun	<b>11</b> , 25	Oct	01, 08
Jul	<b>09</b> , 23		

Definite Departures highlighted in red.

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and additiona definite departure dates visit <u>inspiringjourneys.com/craa</u> or contact your local travel agent. A limited number of single rooms are also available.

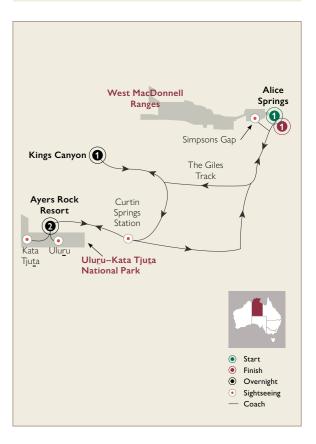
### INCLUSIONS

- Small group (average 16 guests)
- 10+ Unforgettable experiences
- 11 included meals
- 5 Nights premium accommodation

### NOTES

### CRAA: ALICE SPRINGS RETURN

- Flights are not included in holiday 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



# KAKADU'S ANCIENT SECRETS

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



### IMMERSE 🔘

Visit the Adelaide River War Cemetery and learn of its moving history, and discover the ancient rock art gallery at Burrungkuy (Nourlangie).

# ☐ INDULGE

Unwind on an indulgent Nitmiluk (Katherine) Gorge dinner cruise, and dine at the award-winning Cicada Lodge, where the Chef's menu is crafted daily.

# EXPLORE

Climb Burrungkuy (Nourlangie) for spectacular views over Kakadu, spot crocodiles and other wildlife on Yellow Water Billabong.

## D RELAX

Stay in the heart of Nitmiluk National Park at the ecofriendly Cicada Lodge, where you can enjoy sunset drinks and canapés poolside looking out to the native bushland. 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 – Kakadu

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 also enjoy a swim to cool off at Wangi Falls, surrounded by tropical monsoon rainforest and hear about its importance in Aboriginal culture. Get ready for a cross-country journey into magnificent Kakadu National Park. Keep your eyes peeled for crocodiles as you cross the South Alligator River, and brolgas, magpie geese and jabiru as you traverse the long grasses of the marshes and wetlands. Kakadu really is a diverse UNESCO world heritage site. This afternoon check into the Crocodile Hotel in Jabiru. Wander through the on-site Aboriginal Art Gallery before getting to know your fellow travellers over a Welcome Reception.

HOTEL Mercure Kakadu Crocodile, Jabiru, 2 nights

### MEALS Lunch, dinner with wine

### Day 2: Kakadu 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. Join your Journey Director on a walk at Kakadu's stunning Ubirr rock art site.

- You'll see ancient rock art and discover remarkable views over the surrounding wetlands and escarpments from the fantastic
- Intervention of the standard of the standar

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** 

- Burrungkuy (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
- Image: Second 
HOTEL Cicada Lodge, Nitmiluk National Park, 2 nights

 $\ensuremath{\mathsf{MEALS}}$  Breakfast, dinner with wine

### Day 4: Nitmiluk (Katherine) Gorge

- Today meet prominent local 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
- 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 boat.

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

### Day 5: 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

### DEPARTURES

2024	
May	<b>09</b> , 16, 23
Jun	<b>06</b> , 20
Jul	<b>04</b> , 18, 25

Aug **01**, 15, **29** Sep 05, **12**, 19, 26

Definite Departures highlighted in red.

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and additional definite departure dates visit <u>inspiringjourneys.com/mndd</u> or contact your local travel agent. A limited number of single rooms are also available.

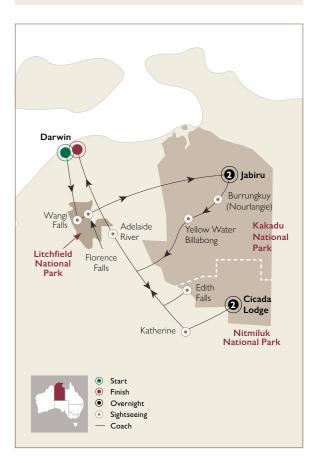
### INCLUSIONS

- Small group (average 16 guests)
- 11+ Unforgettable experiences
- 12 included meals
- 4 Nights premium accommodation

### NOTES

### MNDD: DARWIN RETURN

- Flights are not included in holiday price.
- Private vehicle return airport to hotel transfers are included in holiday price.
- Flight Information: Day prior – flights to arrive anytime into Darwin Airport Day 5 – flights to depart after 8.00pm from Darwin 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.

## IMMERSE

Immerse yourself in the weird and wonderful world of Mona. Meet the stallholders and soak up the atmosphere of Salamanca Market.

# 

Sample natural Tasmanian ingredients and homemade preserves at the Tasmanian Gourmet Sauce Co. Indulge in a paddock to plate feast of fresh local produce at the Agrarian Kitchen.

# EXPLORE

Wander around the oldest Trout hatchery in the southern hemisphere. Soak up panoramic views of one of the world's most beautiful beaches, Wineglass Bay.

# D RELAX

Unwind at the modern Hotel Verge in the heart of Launceston, and stay 2 nights in a national park at tranquil Coles Bay on the east coast. 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

Welcome to Australia's island state, home to the Tassie Devil and the world's cleanest air! This morning you'll meet your Journey Director and fellow travellers before taking a walking tour of the historic Hobart docks, 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, our next stop is lunch on the docks overlooking the majestic Derwent River. Enjoy a three-course dining experience which will give you a scrumptious taste of what's to come and Drepare you for your afternoon visit to Australia's Museum of Old and New Art (Mona), located within the grounds of stunning Moorilla Winery. Take a self-guided tour and immerse yourself in what is described by its owner as a "subversive adult Disneyland" before enjoying a relaxing ferry ride back to Hobart for a free evening at leisure. HOTEL Crowne Plaza, 2 nights MEALS Lunch with wine

### Day 2: Derwent Valley

Every Sunday morning Farm Gate Market transforms an inner-city street into a bustling farmers' market. Situated just a block from your hotel, you'll have the chance to meet the makers and growers as you wander through an ever-changing array of fresh, local produce that Tasmania has become renowned for. Later, head up into the Derwent Valley, a major hop growing region where you'll see Oast Houses used for drying hops for beer making, scattered throughout this picturesque valley. Here you'll meet owners Rod and Severine who will show you around their veggie garden, housed in an old asylum's exercise yard, before enjoying a delicious three-course paddock to plate dining experience at their restaurant, the Agrarian Kitchen. Bellies full, take a wander around the historic Salmon Ponds which also once housed the oldest trout hatchery in the Southern Hemisphere. Finish off your visit to the Derwent Valley with a cider tasting before returning to Hobart for a free evening to explore at leisure.

### Day 3: Hobart – Freycinet National Park

- 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 a glass of wine on the balcony of your lodge situated on the shores of the national park as you watch the sun set, followed by a scrumptious BBQ dinner.

**HOTEL** Freycinet Lodge, 2 nights **MEALS** Breakfast, lunch, dinner with wine

### Day 4: Freycinet National Park

- ☐ Today your adventure includes a Pennicott Lunch Cruise from Coles Bay to picturesque Wineglass Bay. The bay boasts magnificent views of clear emerald waters surrounded by pink granite peaks. Spot friendly seals, hidden sea caves, beautiful waterfalls and diverse birdlife. Enjoy a ploughman-style lunch of smoked meats, salad and cheeses served alongside locally baked bread, a sweet treat, and all the wine and beer you desire. Back on land explore more of the magnificent Freycinet National Park, where
- you may choose to hike the 90-minute round-trip up to the lookout to experience a panoramic aerial view of 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 rugged rocky
- outcrops. Later, you can take a leisurely walk along the beach or a swim at Honeymoon Bay before an evening at leisure at the lodge.
   MEALS Breakfast, lunch with wine

### Day 5: Freycinet National Park – 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. En 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. In 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 Verge, 2 nights MEALS Breakfast, lunch

### 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 tour 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, make this the perfect spot to
- produce spirits. Relax and taste some of their fine poitin (Irish spirit), vodkas and gins. Back at your hotel, you'll enjoy a Celebration Dinner with your Journey Director and fellow travellers.
   MEALS Breakfast, 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

### DEPARTURES

2023	2024		2025	
Nov 11	Feb	03	Jan	11
	Mar	09	Feb	08
	Oct	12	Mar	08
	Nov	09		

#### Definite Departures highlighted in red.

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and additional definite departure dates visit <u>inspiringiourneys.com/ijthbl</u> or contact your local travel agent. A limited number of single rooms are also available.

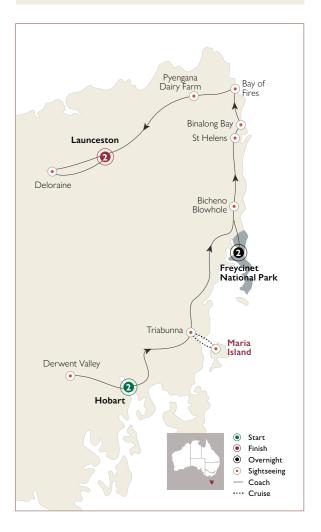
### INCLUSIONS

- Small group (average 16 guests)
- 8+ Unforgettable experiences
- 14 included meals
- 6 Nights premium accommodation

### NOTES

### IJTHBL: HOBART TO LAUNCESTON

- Flights are not included in holiday price.
- Private vehicle return airport to hotel transfers are included in holiday price.
- Flight Information: Day prior – flights to arrive anytime into Hobart Airport Day 7 – flights to depart anytime from Launceston Airport



# FLAVOURS OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

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



### O IMMERSE

# $\bigcirc$ INDULGE

# $(\mathbf{\hat{w}})$ EXPLORE

# $\mathcal{D}$ 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. Next, your foodie adventure begins at Adelaide Central Market where you'll meet your expert hosts, who'll introduce you to the passionate market stall owners. You will taste signature dishes throughout the market, enjoying a four-course roaming Welcome Reception with local wine. It is serious fun for those with a passion for great food, and who enjoy meeting the people who grow and supply it to our tables. HOTEL Hotel Indigo Adelaide Markets

MEALS Dinner with wine

### 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 JamFactory 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 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, dinner with wine

### 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  $\bigcirc$ 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
- (i) 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?

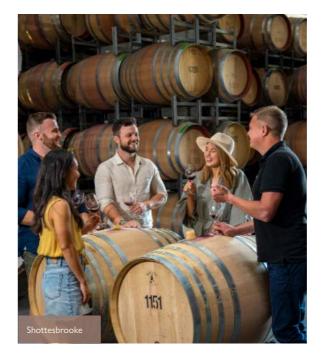
HOTEL The Manna by Haus MEALS Breakfast, lunch with wine

### Day 4: Adelaide Hills - McLaren Vale - Adelaide

After breakfast, our journey takes us to the rich landscape of McLaren Vale, home to 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. There will also be an opportunity for those interested

 $\bigtriangledown$  to see the Salvador Dali exhibition. Afterwards, **take a tour and** tasting at Shottesbrooke before enjoying a delicious lunch with wine at the iconic Currant Shed. 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 from 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, Celebration Lunch

### DEPARTURES

2024	
Mar	0
Apr	2
Oct	0
Oct	2

#### Feb 28

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and definite departure dates visit inspiringjourneys.com/sata or contact your local travel agent. A limited number of single rooms are also available.

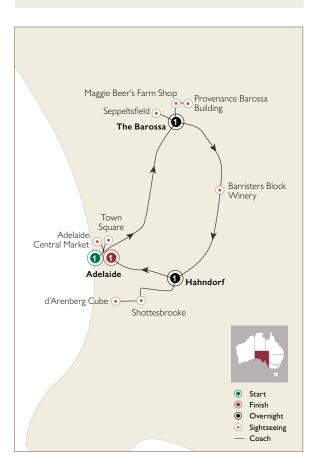
### INCLUSIONS

- Small group (average 16 guests)
- 14+ Unforgettable experiences
- 9 included meals
- 4 Nights premium accommodation

### NOTES

### SATA: ADELAIDE RETURN

- Flights are not included in holiday price.
- Private vehicle return airport to hotel transfers are included in holiday 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



# IMMERSE

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

# ☐ INDULGE

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

# EXPLORE

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

### D RELAX

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

### Day 2: Perth

This morning enjoy a leisurely breakfast at the hotel before you head out for a city sites tour. You Journey Director will show you the best city sites 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 Perth's sites. Tonight, you will enjoy a dinner overlooking the picturesque Swan River.

MEALS Breakfast, dinner with wine

### Day 3: Perth - Penguin Island - Busselton - Bunker Bay

Today you head to the world renowned winery region of Margaret River. Leaving cosmopolitan Perth behind your first stop is Penguin Island. With its white sandy beaches and surrounded by crystal clear waters, Penguin Island lays in the heart of the ruggedly spectacular Shoalwater Islands Marine Park. () W Here you will **board your boat to cruise through Shoalwater Bay's wildlife** 

Sanctuary to see dolphins, sea lions, penguins and sea birds. After your

cruise you 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 1.84km timber piled jetty that is the longest in the southern hemisphere. Nestled on the white sandy beaches your accommodation for the night is the 5 Star Pullman Bunker Bay. Tonight, you will 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 'Welcome to Country' as part of your First Nations experience at Cape Naturaliste. Your local guide will escort you on a short 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.
- You will arrive at a rolling vineyard where you will enjoy a highlight degustation lunch with a focus on local produce that is paired with matching wines. After you have indulged in your long lunch you will explore more of the region and 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

This morning why not relax with a morning stroll along the beautiful white sandy beach and turquoise waters of Bunker Bay. Then enjoy a leisurely breakfast with views out to the sparkling ocean before relaxing by the pool. Leaving wine country behind you will be hugging the coastline north as you continue along Australia's exquisite southwest coast to Fremantle. This afternoon you will join a local guide on a walking tour to explore some

hidden gems and the historic streets of Fremantle. HOTEL Esplanade Hotel Fremantle, 2 nights

MEALS Breakfast

### Day 6: Rottnest Island

Board your boat and escape across the open ocean to Rottnest Island, an island paradise lovingly referred to by the sun-worshipping

- locals as 'Rotto'. Feel the sand between your toes and keep a keen eye out for the happiest little animal on earth, the Quokka. Join a 'Local Specialist' on a guided Discovery Rottnest bus tour
- covering the length of the island's most spectacular locations. Delve into the island's history and culture, its pristine 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 Farewell 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, lunch, Celebration Dinner



### Day 7: Farewell from Fremantle

Relax this morning as your journey comes to an end. You might choose to take in the intriguing Fremantle Markets before your Inspiring Journey completed. You will be transferred by private car to Perth airport for your onward travel.

**MEALS** Breakfast

### DEPARTURES

2024 Sep 29 Oct 27 Nov 10

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 94 guests, multi-trip savings and definite departure dates visit <u>inspiringjourneys.com/ijwa</u> or contact your local travel agent. A limited number of single rooms are also available.

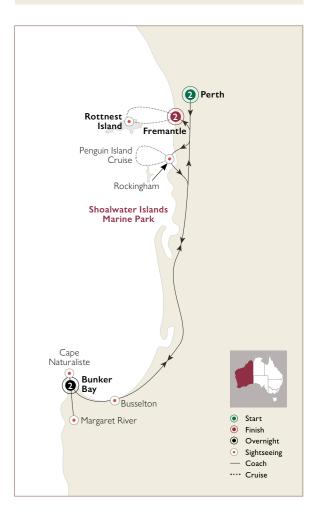
### INCLUSIONS

- Small group (average 16 guests)
- 23+ Unforgettable experiences
- 13 included meals
- 6 Nights premium accommodation

### NOTES

### IJWA: PERTH TO FREMANTLE

- Flights are not included in holiday price.
- Private vehicle return airport to hotel transfers are included in holiday price.
- Flight Information:
   Day 1 flights to arrive prior to 4.30pm into Perth Airport
   Day 7 flights to depart anytime from Perth Airport



# THE LONG WHITE CLOUD

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



# 🔘 IMMERSE

# $\bigcirc$ indulge

Enjoy an unforgettable dining experience at Craggy

# ( EXPLORE

# 🖞 RELAX

Traverse New Zealand's North and South Islands, from the hot pools of Franz Josef/Waiau, a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience in Dunedin, to the brave depths of Queenstown, the adventure capital. Explore extraordinary landscapes and ancient heritage, as you encounter New Zealand as few have seen it before.

### Day 1: Welcome to Christchurch

Board a private transfer to your hotel. Tonight, meet your Journey Director for a Welcome Reception with local wines and canapés. 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. 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/Waiau (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: Queenstown at Leisure

Enjoy Queenstown your way! Perhaps join a wine tour and taste some of Central Otago's world-renowned Pinot Noir. MEALS Breakfast

### Day 6: Queenstown at Leisure

( Make the most of your extended stay in Queenstown. Perhaps take a peaceful cruise across Lake Wakatipu aboard New Zealand's oldest steamship, the TSS Earnslaw to Walter Peak Station. Tonight, enjoy a Local Dining Experience in one of Queenstown's most 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, where you'll stop for lunch at a local farm, and then through World Heritage Fiordland 🖞 National Park. Tonight, you will **stay aboard the iconic Milford Mariner**.

HOTEL Milford Mariner MEALS Breakfast, lunch, dinner with wine

### Day 8: Milford Sound/Piopiotahi - Invercargill

( Leave Fiordland National Park and journey to Invercargill. A city obsessed with motoring history, there are tributes to speed legends across town, from Burt Munro to Bill Richardson and his shed full of classic vehicles. Enjoy a tour of the largest private collection of its type in the world. **HOTEL** The Langlands, 2 nights MEALS Breakfast

### Day 9: Invercargill (Stewart Island)

Board a ferry at Bluff and cruise to the pristine Stewart Island. Later, join a leisurely cruise around Paterson Inlet and see diverse flora and birdlife. MEALS Breakfast, lunch, dinner with wine

### Day 10: Invercargill - Dunedin

Enjoy a relaxed start before departing for Dunedin. On a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience visit Dunedin Craft Distillers, who produce botanical spirits from surplus bread and bakery products that would otherwise go to landfill. Venture just next door for a special Chocolate tasting journey at OCHO Chocolate.

**HOTEL** Hotel Distinction Dunedin MEALS Breakfast, dinner with wine

### Day 11: Dunedin – Christchurch

Travel up the east coast through Omarau and Timaru to Christchurch. 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. Perhaps visit the urban eco-sanctuary of Zealandia/Te Māra a Tāne, or Te Papa, the Museum of New Zealand. **MEALS** Breakfast

### Day 14: Wellington - Hawke's Bay

Travel through the dairy farming land of Manawatu to Napier. Enjoy a Local Dining Experience at Craggy Range winery. **HOTEL** Porters Boutique Hotel, 2 nights MEALS Breakfast, Local Dining Experience

### Day 15: Napier (Relaxed Start)

Join a local guide for a vintage car tour through Napier and surrounding areas. You'll learn about the earthquake that destroyed the city in 1931. MEALS Breakfast, dinner with wine

### Day 16: Hawke's Bay – Rotorua

Continue to Rotorua, where this afternoon, armed with a packed lunch, you'll join a local guide for a cultural walking eco-tour to discover the jurassic Whirinaki Forest, a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience.

HOTEL Pullman Rotorua, 2 nights MEALS Breakfast, lunch

### Day 17: Rotorua - Redwoods Treewalk

( 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. Tonight, visit Te Pā Tū Māori Experience. Tū Te Rā is a celebration of the abundant harvest of this season, and explores concepts, rituals, and stories of ancient Māori warfare and peace in a feast of culture and cuisine. Enjoy a forest kai horotai (seasonal canapés) and chef choice aperitif, followed by a seasonal three-course dinner.

### **MEALS** Breakfast, Local Dining Experience

### Day 18: Rotorua - Caveworld Waitomo - 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 this morning and you are transferred to Auckland Airport for your onward flight. MEALS Breakfast

### NZIJ: Christchurch to Auckland (19 Days) DEPARTURES

2023	2024	2024		2025	
Oct 09	Jan	01, 08, <b>29</b>	Jan	06, 27	
Nov 06	Feb	05	Feb	03	
	Mar	04	Mar	03	
	Oct	07			
	Nov	04			

### NZSI: Christchurch Return (12 Days) DEPARTURES

2023	2024		2025	
Oct 09	Jan	01, 08, <b>29</b>	Jan	06, 27
Nov 06	Feb	05	Feb	03
	Mar	04	Mar	03
	Oct	07		
	Nov	04		

### NZNI: Wellington to Auckland (8 Days) DEPARTURES

2023	2024	2024		2025	
Oct <b>20</b>	Jan	12, 19	Jan	17	
Nov 17	Feb	<b>09</b> , 16	Feb	07, 14	
	Mar	15	Mar	14	
	Oct	18			
	Nov	15			

Definite Departures highlighted in red.

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and additional definite departure dates visit inspiringjourneys.com/nzij or nzsi or nzni, or contact your local travel agent. A limited number of single rooms are also available.

### INCLUSIONS

- Small group (average 16 guests)
- 13+ Unforgettable experiences
- 33 included meals
- 18 Nights premium accommodation

