



Great Barrier Reef. Photo credit: Kyle Taylor



Sydney Harbour with Opera House. Photo credit: Ed Dunens

*See intriguing Australian animals plus many species of birds and reptiles. Enjoy dinner in the Outback and see more stars than you thought possible. Observe an incredible array of sea life as you tour the Great Barrier Reef. Learn about the Australian Aboriginals and visit one of their most sacred and beautiful natural sights—the giant Uluru rock formation. Visit world famous sites in the cities of Melbourne, Cairns, and Sydney. You won't be disappointed by this trip of a lifetime! Optional tour extension to New Zealand, February 11-14, 2020.*

## Itinerary

### **Friday, January 31 Melbourne, Australia**

Arrive in Melbourne, home to many Australian cultural institutions, to begin your introduction to Oceania. Meet the rest of your fellow travellers for an afternoon tour of Melbourne, then relax and settle into your hotel.

### **Saturday, February 1 Melbourne, Australia**

Depart for a day of sightseeing along the spectacular Great Ocean Road. Admire the volcanic western plains of Victoria, the picturesque Geelong waterfront, and the cool temperate rainforests of the Otway Ranges National Park. Refresh yourself with lunch in a Port Campbell café, then continue to Shipwreck Coast. Be amazed by the incredible 12 Apostles rock formations and visit the shipwreck site of the Loch Ard.

### **Sunday, February 2 Melbourne, Australia**

Take advantage of free time to shop for souvenirs, explore Melbourne, or relax. Meet up for a special lunch aboard the Colonial Tramcar restaurant. Encounter cuddly-looking koalas from elevated boardwalks in the Koala Conservation Centre, and stroll through bushland to observe koalas in their natural habitat. On Phillip Island, witness the procession of the world's smallest penguins returning to their burrows after a day's fishing.

### **Monday, February 3 Alice Springs, Australia**

Take a short flight to Alice Springs, the country's best-known outback town. Visit the base of the Royal Flying Doctor Service and the School of the Air, which provide medical care and education to people in remote areas. Admire panoramic views from Anzac Hill, including vistas of the West MacDonnell Ranges, one of the oldest mountain ranges in the world. Tonight, enjoy an Original Bush BBQ dinner and entertainment.

### **Tuesday, February 4 Uluru (Ayers Rock), Australia**

Depart this morning to travel to the magnificent rock formation called Uluru (formerly Ayers Rock), a site sacred to the Aboriginal people of the area. En route you have the option to ride a camel at a local camel farm. Discover the incredible Kata Tjuta (the Olgas) on a walking tour. Experience the internationally renowned Sounds of Silence dinner as you dine under the stars and are enveloped by the serenity of the outback desert.

### **Wednesday, February 5 Cairns, Australia**

Begin with the special opportunity to witness Uluru at sunrise. See the magnificent show of colour as the sun's rays strike the mighty monolith. Then on a tour of the base of Uluru, view ancient cave paintings and learn

about Aboriginal legends and history. You'll also have the chance to visit the Maruku Arts and Craft Cooperative to see Aboriginal artists at work. End the day with a short flight to Cairns.

#### **Thursday, February 6 Cairns, Australia**

Immerse yourself in the beauty of the Great Barrier Reef—the world's largest coral reef, encompassing 900 islands and stretching more than 2,300 kilometres. Admire the coral and the incredible underwater wildlife from the comfort of a glass-bottomed boat or up close with the snorkeling equipment and lessons provided.

#### **Friday, February 7 Cairns, Australia**

Enjoy a leisure day to explore Cairns. Or take an optional day trip to Kuranda, a picturesque mountain village in the rainforest. Browse Kuranda's quaint shops, admire the views from a café, or go on a rainforest walk.

#### **Saturday, February 8 Sydney, Australia**

Fly to Sydney, Australia's most populous city. On a city tour, see the famous beaches, the varied architecture from the traditional Victorian town hall to modern developments, the Botanic Garden, and more.

#### **Sunday, February 9 Sydney, Australia**

Begin the day with a walking tour of the historical area of Sydney known as the Rocks, a district full of vibrant cafes, restaurants, shops, and stalls that still preserve Old World charm. Then take a luncheon cruise through Sydney's spectacular harbour, followed by a guided tour of the famous Sydney Opera House.

#### **Monday, February 10 Sydney, Australia**

At Featherdale Wildlife Park, see the incredible diversity of Australian wildlife. Then discover the remarkable beauty of the Blue Mountains National Park. Enjoy lunch at the Skyway Brasserie and then ride on the Scenic Railway or the Scenicender cable car down into the rainforest. Enjoy a walk in the forest and views of the beautiful Three Sisters. On your way back to the city, see the Sydney Olympic Park.

#### **Tuesday, February 11 On Board Cruise Ship**

Bid farewell to Sydney as you fly home or board a cruise ship bound for New Zealand.

#### **Fare per person:**

CAD: Double Occupancy \$6,354; Single Supplement \$1,690

USD: Double Occupancy \$4,915; Single Supplement \$1,307

#### **Fare includes**

- Hotel accommodations
- Group airport transfers
- Transportation by coach bus
- All entrance fees included in the itinerary
- All breakfasts, 4 lunches, 2 dinners
- Expert tour leaders & local guides
- Gratuities for drivers, guides, and group meals

#### **Fare excludes**

- Airfare (international and domestic)
- Airport transfers on arrival/departure if separate from group transfer
- Optional activities as listed in itinerary
- 6 lunches, 9 dinners
- Australia tourist visa
- Travel medical (out-of-country emergency) and cancellation/interruption insurance

#### **Insurance**

Travel medical (out-of-country emergency) and cancellation/interruption insurance are not mandatory but are highly recommended.

#### **Payments**

Rates shown are in effect 01/19. Though every effort is made to maintain established prices, TM reserves the right to adjust prices should it become necessary. The price is guaranteed when paid in full. We accept cheque and credit card payments. Credit card payments are charged a 3% fee.

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