

SOUTH PACIFIC HIGHLIGHTS FEATURING AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND

17 days

(3) Cairns - (3) Sydney - (2) Melbourne - (1) Christchurch -
(3) Queenstown - (2) Rotorua



TOUR FEATURES

- **ROUND TRIP INTERNATIONAL AIR TRANSPORTATION** - Air transportation from Washington Dulles and inner Australia and New Zealand flights
- **FIRST-CLASS ACCOMMODATIONS** - Hotel accommodations for 14 nights
- **SUPERB CUISINE** - 21 included meals consisting of 14 buffet breakfasts, 2 lunches and 5 dinners
- **COMPREHENSIVE ROUTE** - Visiting Cairns, Sydney, Melbourne, Christchurch, Queenstown, Rotorua and Auckland
- **SIGHTSEEING TOUR PROGRAM** - Sightseeing, including local guide and all entrance fees as per the day to day
- **CULTURAL DISCOVERY SERIES** - Our program encompasses cultural connections, in-depth learning on the local economy, social systems and interaction with locals
- **PROFESSIONAL TOUR DIRECTOR** - Assistance of a professional Tour Director upon arrival in Cairns
- **DELUXE MOTORCOACHES** - Touring by private deluxe air-conditioned motorcoach
- **BAGGAGE HANDLING AND TRANSFERS** - Baggage handling for one piece of checked luggage outside of the airport

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

Visit the Southern Hemisphere, cross the Equator and International Date Line, experience the culture and traditions of Australia and New Zealand.

- Cairns** - Catamaran Cruise to Great Barrier Reef
- Sydney** - Sydney city tour seeing Bondi Beach, Opal Presentation, Sydney Harbor Coffee Cruise
- Melbourne** - Melbourne City Tour
- Christchurch** - Christchurch panoramic city tour including lunch at the foot of Mt. Cook
- Queenstown** - Queenstown city tour including Bungy Bridge
- Rotorua** - Thermal Reserve and Maori Village, Rainbow Springs Nature Park, Maori Hangi Feast farewell dinner
- Auckland** - Waitomo Glow Worm Caves, Auckland panoramic city tour including the Auckland Tower

Days 1 & 2 Depart USA Exhilaratingly diverse, intriguing, welcoming, and full of adventure, Australia & New Zealand await with near endless opportunities for discovery and fun! The sixth largest country in the world, this land “Down Under” presents a dazzling range of landscapes and seascapes to enjoy – from renowned beaches and reefs, to rainforests, deserts, and a rugged interior terrain known as the Outback. Your fascinating Aussie experience begins today as you board your flight bound for Australia. As you travel en route from the USA to Australia, you will cross the International Dateline, an imaginary line running from the North Pole to the South Pole that denotes the place where a new day begins. Crossing the line from the east to the west adds a day while crossing it from west to the east subtracts a day. You’ll “regain” a day when flying from Australia back to the USA at the conclusion of your Australian escapade!

Day 3 Arrive Cairns, Australia Upon arrival in Cairns, you will be greeted at the airport by your private driver and coach and embark on a sightseeing tour en-route to your hotel. Check into your hotel then say hello to Cairns, the major center in Tropical North Queensland. This area is a well-known and traveled gateway to the Great Barrier Reef. Along the fringes of this city you will find abundant rainforests, yet to the North and South the vast ocean teeming with marine life and sandy white beaches awaits to be explored. In this mesmerizing area you can delve into aboriginal cultural, cuddle an Australian Koala, or have an underwater adventure in the Great Barrier Reef. This evening there will be a Welcome dinner with your fellow travelers. (D)

Day 4 Cairns/Great Barrier Reef Catamaran Cruise After breakfast today, the Great Barrier Reef beckons with moments to relish and share on your full-day cruise experience to breathtaking Michaelmas Cay. The Great Barrier Reef is the world’s most impressive coral reef system boasting amazing white sand cays, an expansive array of fish and diverse marine life that can be found within its depths, and hundreds of lush tropical islands. An exclusive beach island welcomes you at Michaelmas Cay. This Cay is a protected seabird sanctuary that hosts more than 20,000 migratory seabirds and is one of the most important nesting sites in the Southern Hemisphere. Your sailing experience on a large Australian catamaran will offer you a variety of ways to explore The Great Barrier Reef. You can snorkel and dive from the beach rather than from a pontoon into deep waters. Featuring a large environmentally friendly sailing catamaran that glides along at low speeds, you are assured maximum comfort at sea. The vessel offers a spacious wide open foredeck perfect for sun bathing as well as comfortable lounge seating. Included in this excursion are morning and afternoon refreshments, as well as a delicious hot and cold buffet freshly prepared onboard with seafood selections. Return to Cairns in the late afternoon. (B,L)

Day 5 Cairns The amazing experiences continue today after breakfast in your hotel with the opportunity to explore a rainforest environment. The “Village in the Rainforest” – Kuranda – welcomes you on an optional excursion where you will learn about Tropical North Queensland’s history. During this relaxing journey by train, take-in the breathtaking scenery as you traverse the rainforest. On your way to Kuranda, you will enjoy the rare opportunities to stop in Barron Gorge and along Stoney Creek Bridge to photograph the unique settings. Take some time to delve into Kuranda on your own where you can have lunch at a local restaurant or enjoy some shopping at the area’s heritage markets. The Asian Butterfly Sanctuary is your next stop on this exciting day trip where you can partake in a wildlife encounter. Leaving Kuranda, we enjoy a spectacular Skyrail experience. Spanning over 10 miles over pristine rainforest, this cable car journey allows you to explore the wonders of an ancient tropical rainforest and learn about one of the most botanically fascinating and diverse areas on earth. Gliding just meters above the rainforest canopy, the Skyrail journey immerses you in an intimate rainforest experience where you’ll see, hear, smell and become part of the tropical rainforest environment. We will also visit the Tjapukai Aboriginal Culture Park to interact with Australia’s 40,000 year old aboriginal culture. Tonight enjoy your included dinner at a local restaurant. (B,D)

Day 6 Cairns – Sydney This morning we head to the airport to depart Cairns and head to Sydney. Welcome to spectacular Sydney, Australia’s first and most vibrant city. From its relaxed coastal ambiance with vast outdoor lifestyle activities, to its sophisticated arts scene, shopping, and