



Sydney, Reef, Rainforest & Red Centre

Especially prepared for Essential Downunder Travel

Meals included indicated by:

(CB) Continental Breakfast; (B) Full Breakfast; (BH) Breakfast Hamper

(L) Lunch; (D) Dinner

Day 1 Fly from your hometown to Los Angeles. Board flight to Cairns (Via Sydney or Brisbane)

Day 2 Cross International Dateline

Day 3 **Welcome to Cairns, Australia / Afternoon Free**

Arrive in Cairns midday. You will be met at the airport and given a private transfer to your hotel in Cairns. Afternoon is free to relax or explore the Cairns city area.

Accommodation: Cairns Harbour Lights, One Bedroom – 4 Nights

Day 4 **Outer Barrier Reef Cruise**

(L)

Today visit just a wee part of the 1,200 mile-long Great Barrier Reef – the only living thing which can be seen from outer space! The Reef is 2 hours offshore and you will be entertained with marine biology presentations as you head out by high-speed catamaran to Agincourt Reef. Upon arrival, you can snorkel, take an introductory dive, or ride in a semi-submersible coral viewer (Additional cost).



Buffet lunch is served on board and you will be transferred back to your hotel at the tour conclusion.

Day 5 **Daintree & Cape Tribulation**

(L)

Departing your accommodation, travel through the rich farming areas toward the World Heritage Listed forest region of Cape Tribulation. Step aboard our own personalized craft for a cruise on the mirrored smooth waters of the Daintree River. Cruise close to riverbanks and under the overhead canopy of the rainforest seeking out the vivid Ulysees Butterfly, Kingfishers and other wildlife. Arriving on the northern side of the river enter the Cape Tribulation

section of the Wet Tropics World Heritage protected rainforest. Journey over the Alexandra Range to our morning tea stop, located deep in the rainforest.

Continue along the Cape Tribulation road; stop at the magical Thornton Beach. The guides will highlight the amazing wildlife and ecosystems unique to this part of the world – “where the rainforest meets the sea”.



Lunch is a special treat today, deep under the Rainforest canopy. We enjoy a delicious lunch of tropical rainforest-inspired local produce. This is a unique opportunity to enjoy quality food, whilst bathed in the serenity of the Tropical Rainforests.

After lunch, visit an exotic tropical fruit orchard. Here, depending upon the season, you will get to see unusual,

exotic fruit originating from all over the globe's tropical regions. Along with the fruit trees the orchard is also a host to beautiful species of tropical flowering plants, both native and introduced.

The last stop and final lasting impression will be at the outstanding panoramic picture postcard view at Alexandra Range Lookout. From here you'll have a spectacular view of the mouth of the Daintree River, Snapper Island and on a clear day Port Douglas.

One final treat for the day is the crossing on the Daintree River Ferry – the iconic vehicle punt which transfers you out of the world heritage rainforest and on to your home-ward road. You will be back at your accommodation early in the evening.

Day 6

Free Day, Cairns

Today is at your leisure to either relax or take a ride on the Skyrail Gondola to Kuranda or visit Tjapukai and learn about the Aboriginal dreamtime.

Day 7

(D)

Uluru, Kata Tjuta & Sounds of Silence Dinner

This morning you will be met at your hotel and transferred to Cairns Airport. Upon arrival in Ayers Rock, transfer to your accommodation.

Sounds of Silence is a truly unique Outback experience - the best of the Red Centre distilled into four magic hours. Here is an unforgettable evening, eating beautifully prepared food under the Outback sky. Guests are escorted to a special location shortly before sundown. A lone didgeridoo echoes across the desert as you enjoy champagne and canapés. While the sun sets in a blaze of reds and oranges, and well into the starlit night, you feast on array of the Northern Territory's culinary delights, including barramundi, kangaroo, emu, crocodile, bush salads, and classic Australian desserts.

Attention then turns to some of the world's best stargazing, with the assistance of a resident astronomer. As you relax, coffee and tea are served.

In winter, guests gather around a campfire to savor a special treat of hot mulled wine.

Accommodation: Desert Gardens Hotel, Standard Room – One Night

Day 8

(B)

Ayers Rock Sunrise & Alice Springs

One hour prior to Sunrise tour departs for Uluru Kata Tjuta National Park and head to the sunrise viewing site for approximately 45 minutes. Hot drinks provided at Anangu Tours bus. After sunrise, tour continues on lap of Uluru (if time permits short walk at base of rock) Arrive at Cultural Centre for breakfast in upstairs restaurant.



After breakfast meet Aboriginal guide and Aboriginal language interpreter at the touch wall for the Liru Walk. Continue along the Liru Walk on foot learning the ancient history of

Uluru from your Aboriginal guides. Liru Walk is 2 hours/2 km easy walking.

Liru Walk ends near the base of Uluru, where you are met by your vehicle and driver. Farwell Anangu Guides at the Cultural Centre.

Continue on transfer back to your accommodation.

Return to your hotel before boarding your luxury coach early afternoon and travel through Yulara and Curtin Springs. See Mt Conner in the distance. This fascinating flat-topped mountain juts out of the surrounding desert plain, bearing witness to a period of massive uplift followed by eons of erosion. Continue to the heart of the Red Centre, Alice Springs. Pass through the striking Outback landscapes, including the extraordinary West MacDonnell Ranges that show a spectacular array of sun burnt oranges, maroons and purples. Your Driver/Guide will provide an informative and entertaining commentary. Learn about the natural and geological history of the region, unique Australian desert flora and fauna, and some of the traditional customs and beliefs of the Aboriginal people.

Accommodation: Crowne Plaza, Garden View Room – Two Nights

Day 9

(L)

Western MacDonnell Ranges

Travel West from Alice Springs and experience some of the most spectacular scenery unique to Central Australia. Highlights include Anzac Hill, Flynn's Grave, Simpsons Gap and Standley Chasm. Be served Traditional Billy Tea boiled on an open campfire with a light picnic lunch. Passengers have the option on the return trip to town to visit the World Class Alice Springs Desert Park where you will spend the afternoon looking through the Nocturnal House, Woodland, Sand Dune and Riverine Habitats plus the unforgettable Birds of Prey Show. Your guide will escort you into the park, and return for you after the Raptor Show at approximately 4:30pm.

Day 10**Sydney**

This morning you have free time before being met at your hotel and transferred to Alice Springs Airport. Upon arrival in Sydney, you will be transferred to your Sydney accommodation.

Accommodation: The Grace Hotel, Superior Room – 4 Nights

Day 11

(L)

Sydney Harbour Seafood Luncheon Cruise

This morning you have free time before making your own way to Circular Quay to board a Captain Cook Cruise. Cruise aboard Sydney's flagship MV Sydney 2000. Enjoy stunning views, a comprehensive commentary and a delicious seafood buffet lunch. The rest of your day is at leisure to visit museums, the aquarium or perhaps climb the Sydney Harbour Bridge or enjoy an evening performance at the Sydney Opera House. (Additional Cost)

**Day 12**

(L)

Blue Mountains & Wildlife Park

The day begins at Featherdale Wildlife Park where you'll have the run of the Park before official opening hours. After breakfast enjoy meeting Australian animals including kangaroos, emus, wombats, dingoes and more. Depart Featherdale Park and travel to the Blue Mountains, Tomah Botanic Gardens and a stop at Mt Banks. Here you'll take a short nature walk while the native flora is described.

From this point you'll cross the mountains to Mt Victoria and enjoy a buffet style lunch at the Historic Imperial Hotel. After lunch continue on to Govetts Leap for magnificent valley and waterfall views and then on to see the views of spectacular Megalong Valley and the Three Sisters.

Traveling down the mountain you'll head into the national park to Euroka Clearing and view kangaroos in their natural environment while enjoying a glass of champagne. Drive to the Olympic Site for a short tour followed by a return transfer to your accommodation.

Day 13**Sydney at Leisure**

Today is free to explore Sydney at your own pace.

Day 14**Depart Sydney**

Today you will be transferred from your hotel to Sydney Airport for your flight back home.

***Cost Per Person including GST (Valid May 1, 2010 – March 31, 2011)**

based on double occupancy from **USD\$2,913.00**

Inclusions:**Cairns**

- Roundtrip private sedan transfers airport/hotel
- Four Nights accommodation Cairns Harbour Lights in a One Bedroom Apartment
- Full Day Outer Barrier Reef Cruise including lunch

- *Full Day Daintree 4WD Tour including lunch*

Ayers Rock

- *Resort offered seat in coach arrival transfer at Ayers Rock*
- *One nights accommodation at the Desert Gardens Hotel in a Deluxe Room*
- *Sounds of Silence Dinner*
- *Aboriginal Uluru with Breakfast*
- *Coach transfer from Ayers Rock to Alice Springs*

Alice Springs

- *Two nights accommodation Crowne Plaza Hotel, Garden View Room*
- *Full Day Western McDonnell ranges Tour including lunch*
- *One way private sedan transfer for hotel to airport*

Sydney

- *Roundtrip private sedan transfers airport/hotel*
- *Four nights accommodation Grace Hotel in a Superior Room*
- *Sydney Harbour Cruise including seafood buffet lunch*
- *Full day Blue Mountains tour including lunch*
- Emergency phone assistance
- Australian Goods & Services Tax

Exclusions:

- International & Domestic Airfares
- Meals not indicated on the itinerary
- Beverages with meals
- *National Park Entry Free Uluru*
- Items of a personal nature i.e. phone calls, liquor, and laundry
- Use of hotel rooms before/after normal check in/out times or pre-registration
- Costs of optional touring
- Any services not mentioned in this itinerary
- Hotel/Airport Porterage
- Personal Travel Insurance (baggage/medical/tour cancellations)
- Tips or gratuity
- Unforeseen expenses due to last minute airline rescheduling or delays (inclusive of baggage delay, missed departure and loss of passport or cab charge voucher)
- Medical or hospital expenses

Please note:

- **All arrangements in this unique itinerary are subject to strict cancellation terms. You are strongly advised to purchase a comprehensive travel insurance policy, to protect against cancellation as well as medical and other items.**
- Normal check in / check out times apply
- Voluntary modifications can not be made unless absolutely necessary and not without the specific authorization from DUA.
- Prices do not include credit card surcharge or wire transfer fees
- Costs quotes are subject to availability
- Costs are not applicable during holiday's seasons or special events unless specified
- Costs are subject to increase should any federal or state government levies or taxes be introduced
- All touring and land arrangements are subject to weather conditions

**based on the exchange rate as of May 2010 and subject to change.*

Subject to confirmation of all arrangements.