



## **Sydney, Reef, Rainforest, Red Centre *PLUS* Adelaide, Kangaroo Island & the Barossa Wine Valley**

***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. Speed there on the Quicksilver, a high-speed catamaran, to Agincourt Reef. Enroute, there will be marine biology presentations. 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)

Depart your accommodation and 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 Ulysses 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.



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 Uluru, Kata Tjuta & Sounds of Silence Dinner**

(D) This morning you will be met at your hotel and transferred to Cairns Airport. Upon arrival in Ayers Rock, you will be transferred 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 Ayers Rock Sunrise & Alice Springs**

(B)

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. Head to the town at the heart of the Red Centre, Alice Springs. Pass through the striking Outback landscapes, including the extraordinary West MacDonnell Ranges, which 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 ASP, 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**

**Adelaide**

Transfer to Alice Springs airport for your flight to Adelaide. Upon arrival in Adelaide you will be met and taken your historic Bed & Breakfast. This afternoon is free to visit this city's museums, Aboriginal culture center or the largest food market in the Southern Hemisphere!

Accommodation: Buxton Manor, One Bedroom – One Night

**Day 11**

**Kangaroo Island**(B,L,D) Fly to Kangaroo Island for a two day / one night tour including Bed & Breakfast accommodation, meals and 4WD touring. Kangaroo Island is the best place in Australia to view wildlife in the their

natural environment – Koalas, kangaroos, echidnas, goannas, sea lions, fur seals, abundant bird life and amazing rock formations. A night time fairy penguin tour is optional this evening (additional cost).

Accommodation: Stranraer Homestead, Double Room – One night

**Day 12**  
(B,L)

**Kangaroo Island**

This morning you will be met at transferred to Flinders Chase National Park. Here, kangaroos laze and Cape Barren geese graze. The Chase is home to all our varieties of native animals and birds. On to Admirals Arch, ancient limestone formations close to the ocean, a perfect haul-out area for an active colony of the New Zealand fur seal. To Remarkable Rocks, via



the spectacular coastline of Cape du Couedic, where the forces of nature have carved modern sculptures out of the granite. A short bush walk searching for the Echidna (spiny ant-eater) and observing the colorful Kangaroo Island endemic Crimson Rosella. Head back for a BBQ lunch of marinated steak, onions and potatoes, cooked in front of you by your guide (now turned chef!). This is complimented by fresh salads, local KI wines and other refreshments. For dessert spoil yourself by indulging in our special Pears poached in KI red wine, accompanied by KI's unique Sheep's Milk Yogurt. All this served in the bush, nestled amongst the beautiful tall Gum trees. After our meal, we head for Koala Avenue just outside the Park where Koalas are easily seen in the 'Manna Gums' that grow in the area. Your guide will then take you down a bush lined track and into 'Grassdale', part of the Kelly Hill Conservation Park. Here you will enjoy viewing the large 'mob' of Kangaroo's that graze the grassy flats and shelter in the surrounding bush. Also listen for the many parrots and other bird species that live in the tall gum trees. Wonder through some of the old relics that speak of a by gone era of early pioneer farming. Head for Vivonne Bay, with its crystal clear turquoise water. Your guide will take you to Point Ellen where you can fossick for shells on the beach and possibly sight a penguin in its rookery. Our tour concludes with your departure at the airport, or return to your Island accommodation.

Accommodation: Buxton Manor, One Bedroom – Two nights

**Day 13**  
(B,L)

**Barossa Valley Wine Tasting**

Head north from Adelaide towards the Barossa Valley, over the Torrens River and into the Torrens Gorge. We make our way to Williamstown and admire the beautiful stone buildings before having morning tea from the historic Lyndock bakery. Visit the Angas Park Fruit Co. at the charming stone brick town of Angaston, before admiring the panoramic views offered from

Menglers Hill Lookout, which gives you fantastic photographic opportunities looking out onto the Barossa Valley.

Lunch will be at award winning Peter Lehman Wines and consist of a beautiful tasting plate of local meats and cheeses. The afternoon will then be spent amongst the vineyards and wineries that make this area so popular and famous around the world. This afternoon will be created to suit your palate. Whether you prefer the red or white, dry or sweet, our guide will discuss with everyone what they prefer and visit wineries appropriate to your taste. Finish the day with a stop to view the most famous of all premium Australian wine, Grange.

**Day 14**  
(B)

**Sydney City Tour**

This morning you will transfer to Adelaide airport. Upon arrival in Sydney, you will be transferred to your Sydney accommodation.

Enjoy a half day Sydney City Tour this afternoon that captures all of the highlights of this amazing harbor city, including the historic Rocks precinct, Darling Harbour, Macquaire's Chair and Bondi Beach to name a few.

Accommodation: The Grace Hotel, Superior Room – 4 Nights

**Day 15**  
(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 16**  
(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 17**      **Sydney at Leisure**

Today is free to explore Sydney at your own pace.

**Day 18**      **Depart Sydney**

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

**Cost Per Person including GST (Valid 1 May 2010 – 31 March 2011) based on double occupancy from USD\$5,874.00**

**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 including 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

Adelaide

- Roundtrip private sedan transfers airport/hotel
- One nights accommodation Buxton Manor Apartments in a One Bedroom Apartment including full breakfast
- Two Day/ One Night Kangaroo Island 4WD Tour including accommodation, meals and touring as noted
- Roundtrip private sedan transfers airport/hotel
- Two nights accommodation Buxton Manor Apartments in a One Bedroom Apartment including full breakfast
- Full day Barossa Valley Experience including lunch

Sydney

- Roundtrip private sedan transfers airport/hotel
- Four nights accommodation Grace Hotel in a superior room
- Half Day Sydney city sightseeing tour
- 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.*