



# Wonders of Australia and New Zealand

Departure Date: March 5, 2025

*SignalTours*   
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1237 Mall Dr., N. Chesterfield, VA 23235

# Wonders of Australia and New Zealand



Hand-feed kangaroos at the Featherdale Wildlife Park



Spend two nights in the picturesque city of Queenstown

**DAYS 1 & 2 Journey to Australia:** Depart the USA on your transpacific flight to Cairns, Australia, crossing the International Date Line en route.

**DAY 3 Cairns, Australia:** Upon arrival, you'll be met by a Mayflower Cruises & Tours representative and transferred to your hotel, with a panoramic tour en route. The remainder of the day is at leisure.

**DAY 4 Cairns:** Immersion into the "Aussie" culture begins as you board the Skyrail Rainforest Cableway and travel across the rainforest canopy. Stop for a stroll along a boardwalk through the rainforest. At the end of the Skyrail journey in Kuranda, visit the Rainforestation Nature Park, dedicated to the preservation of the the oldest surviving culture in the world. Discover ancient traditions of this indigenous Australian culture with a Pamagirri guide. See demonstrations of spear throwing and try your hand at throwing a boomerang. In the wildlife park, see native animals up-close. Upon returning to the hotel, the afternoon and evening are free of planned activities. **Meal: B**

**DAY 5 Cairns:** Discover the amazing underwater world of marine life on a full-day excursion to the Outer Barrier Reef. See colorful fish and coral through the glass bottom boat, watch a fish-feeding demonstration, snorkel, relax on the Sun Deck and enjoy a presentation about the Outer Barrier Reef by the onboard Marine Biologist. **Meals: B, L**

**DAY 6 Cairns – Sydney:** After a morning flight to Sydney, depart on a tour of this remarkable city built around one of the most spectacular harbors in the world. See the famous Bondi Beach with the sparkling ocean, white sand and casual cafés in the surrounding area. Visit Mrs. Macquarie's Chair, a well-known landmark, in the perfect location to photograph the Opera House and Harbor Bridge. After the excursion, check in to the hotel and continue exploring the city on your own. **Meal: B**

**DAY 7 Sydney:** The day begins with a guided visit of the world-famous Opera House, Sydney's most recognizable landmark. Learn about the inspiration behind the masterful architecture and see private areas inside this UNESCO World Heritage Site. After the visit, remain in the harbor area on your own to enjoy the lively atmosphere, or return to the hotel. This evening, join your Tour Manager on a stroll to the Wharf and embark the vessel for a relaxing dinner cruise of the magnificent harbor. **Meals: B, D**

**DAY 8 Blue Mountains / Featherdale Wildlife Park:** Today's excursion discovers the scenic beauty of the World Heritage-Listed Blue Mountains National Park. At Featherdale, hand-feed kangaroos and wallabies, talk with the naturalist guides throughout the park, and see the native koalas. It's the perfect place for up-close encounters with the abundant native wildlife. Transit the scenic Cliff Drive of the Blue Mountains to Echo Point and see the Three Sisters rock formation - one of the area's best-known sites and a great photo opportunity! Nearby, board the Scenic Railway for a ride on the world's steepest incline railway. Return to Sydney after an exhilarating day in the bush and mountains. **Meal: B**

**DAY 9 Sydney – Melbourne:** Depart Sydney and fly to Melbourne, a cosmopolitan yet historic city. En route to the hotel, begin your orientation of Melbourne with a panoramic tour. This afternoon is free for your independent exploration or join the optional excursion to Philip Island to see the "penguin parade." **Meal: B**

**DAY 10 Melbourne:** The morning and early afternoon are left free of planned activities for you to do as you please. Visit a museum or the beautiful parks and gardens; wander through the historic Queen Victoria Market – the largest open-air market in the southern hemisphere – with plenty of opportunity for souvenir shopping! Stop by Federation Square, a lively cultural district with art, museums and restaurants or take a cruise along the scenic Yarra River, through the heart of the city.

This evening, enjoy amazing views of the city as you ascend to the 88th floor of the Eureka Tower to visit their observation deck, followed by dinner at a local restaurant. **Meals: B, D**

**DAY 11 Melbourne – Queenstown, New Zealand:** This morning it's time to leave Australia and head to New Zealand. After your flight to Queenstown, enjoy an orientation tour of the city, situated on the shores of Lake Wakatipu and surrounded by majestic mountains. The remainder of the day is at leisure. **Meal: B**

**DAY 12 Queenstown:** Today's adventure is a narrated cruise through the beautiful Milford Sound. As you traverse this awe-inspiring fjord, see the breathtaking drama of sheer cliffs, massive waterfalls, glaciers and rainforest as you keep an eye out for local wildlife... seals basking in the sun on the rocks or dolphins frolicking in the water. Lunch is included during the excursion. **Meals: B, L**

**DAY 13 Queenstown:** What better way to see the snow-capped mountains, picturesque bays and scenic splendor than on an included cruise aboard the historic *TSS Earnslaw*. Witness nature's majesty while cruising along Lake Wakatipu on this coal-fired vintage steamship. Having crossed the lake, visit Walter Peak Farm where you explore the grounds, see the gardens, and watch a farm demonstration by your host. Enjoy lunch at the Colonel's Homestead before returning to the hotel. **Meals: B, L**

**DAY 14 Queenstown – Christchurch:** Departing Queenstown, journey by coach to Christchurch. En route, stop for views of Mt. Cook – the highest mountain in New Zealand. Continue to scenic Lake Tekapo with its amazing turquoise color and surrounding stunning landscapes. During your free time, stop by the Church of the Good Shepherd in its beautiful setting, see the town's "sheepdog statue", and enjoy lunch on your own in one of the cafés. Travel through the Canterbury Plains and upon arrival in Christchurch, check in to the hotel and enjoy an included dinner. **Meals: B, D**

**DAY 15 Christchurch:** The final day in New Zealand begins with a panoramic orientation tour. Once familiar with the surroundings, enjoy an afternoon at leisure in this vibrant city. The day concludes as you join your fellow travelers and Tour Manager for your farewell dinner at a local restaurant. **Meals: B, D**

**DAY 16 Christchurch / USA:** It's time to bid "g'day" to the lands "down under" as you depart for the Christchurch Airport. Memories of the sites and experiences you encountered, along with the hospitable "Aussies" and "Kiwis" you met along the way, will be cherished for a lifetime. **Meal: B**

Itinerary subject to change.



## Tour Highlights

- 20 Meals: 13 breakfasts, 3 lunches and 4 dinners
- Airport transfers on tour dates when air is provided by Mayflower Cruises & Tours
- Enjoy an aerial view of the rainforest canopy
- Experience cultural and craft demonstrations and hands-on activities at the Rainforestation Nature Park
- Cruise and snorkel on Australia's Outer Barrier Reef
- Tour Sydney's famed Opera House
- Experience the beauty and majesty of the Blue Mountains
- Ride on the world's steepest incline railway
- Encounter native animals at Featherdale Wildlife Park
- Relax on a dinner cruise in Sydney Harbor
- Ascend the Eureka Tower for fantastic views of Melbourne
- Witness the magnificent scenery and wildlife of Milford Sound
- Cruise aboard the historic *TSS Earnslaw* in Queenstown

## HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

**Days 3 through 5** – Pacific Hotel, Cairns, Australia

**Days 6 through 8** – Parkroyal Darling Harbour, Sydney, Australia

**Day 9 and 10** – Savoy Hotel on Little Collins, Melbourne, Australia

**Days 11 through 13** – Copthorne Lakefront, Queenstown, New Zealand

**Days 14 and 15** – Distinction Hotel or similar, Christchurch, New Zealand



## Post-trip North Island Optional Extension

Continue your Kiwi experience on New Zealand's North Island

**DAY 16:** Depart Christchurch airport for Rotorua. Upon arrival, discovery begins with a visit to Te Puia, center for Maori culture and geothermal wonders. Experience local culture with demonstrations of stone and wood carving and weaving by students of the Maori Arts & Crafts Institute. See huts and meeting houses, important components of local architectural heritage. The largest active geyser in the southern hemisphere also resides in the park. After the visit, check in to the hotel.

**DAY 17:** Begin the day with a visit to the Agrodome to attend a "sheep show" and see the sheep dogs at work, watch a sheep-shearing demonstration, and pet baby farm animals. This afternoon, visit the Kiwi Hatchery Aotearoa to learn about New Zealand's national icon and endangered species, the Kiwi. The guided visit

explores egg incubation systems, hatching techniques and chick rearing. Travel to this evening's included dinner via aerial gondola to the restaurant perched atop Mount Ngongotaha. A unique venue, locally grown food, and spectacular views await! **Meals: B, D**

**DAY 18:** Depart Rotorua by coach to Auckland. En-route, visit Hobbiton for a real-life Middle Earth experience from *Lord of the Rings* and *The Hobbit* films. See the famous movie set and where Frodo's adventure began. Continue to Auckland with the remainder of the day at leisure. **Meal: B**

**DAY 19:** Begin the day with a city tour as your driver/guide shows you the highlights of this cosmopolitan city. Enjoy a sail on a tall-mast ship as you cruise around the harbor and view

the city from a different perspective. Join your companions for a farewell dinner this evening. **Meals: B, D**

**DAY 20:** Depart the hotel for the transfer to the airport and your flight home. **Meal: B**

Order of itinerary is subject to change.

### HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

**Days 16 and 17** – Millennium Hotel, Rotorua  
**Days 18 and 19** – Grand Millennium, Auckland

**\$2,049 per person twin**  
**Single Room add \$869**

Please add \$350 for airfare from Christchurch to Rotorua.  
Minimum number of participants needed to operate

Tour Departure	Per Person Twin	Single Room add
March 5, 2025	\$8,249	+ \$2,299

### Pricing includes air and land.

Additional cost for flights from Cairns to Sydney, Sydney to Melbourne and Melbourne to Queenstown, to be booked by Mayflower.

*Air itineraries may not be available until documents are received. Air seats are assigned by the airline for the entire group. Seat changes can only be attempted upon receipt of tickets and documents at which time availability may be limited. If specific seat assignments are vital to your reservation, we recommend individual air reservations rather than booking air with the group.*

### Travelers Protection Plan (TPP) – \$499 per person

This nonrefundable fee waives all cancellation fees when we are notified of cancellation one day before the tour departs. If you must leave the tour early due to personal illness, illness or death of a member of your immediate family, TPP guarantees full refund for any unused services after the departure of the tour. Other benefits include medical expenses for illness and injury, emergency transportation, 24 hour hot line, and lost or stolen baggage assistance. Return air transportation is included ONLY if your air tickets were provided by Mayflower Cruises & Tours. If you purchase the optional Travelers Protection Plan (TPP), you will be refunded all payments, including deposit amount, less the TPP premium amount.

### Cancellation Charges Without Traveler's Protection Plan (TPP)

- |  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| • 91 days or more                          | Deposit Amount    |
| • 90 to 45 days prior                      | 20% of tour cost  |
| • 44 to 15 day prior                       | 30% of tour cost  |
| • 14 to 1 day prior                        | 50% of tour cost  |
| • Day 1 of departure                       | 100% of tour cost |
| or early departure from tour               |                   |
| • No refund on unused portions of the tour |                   |

Exclusions: Mayflower Cruises & Tours reserves the right to alter its refund and cancellation policy when a substantial amount of cancellation or postponement of travel is attributable to: conditions resulting from act of God, natural or man-made disaster, fire, government action, civil disorder, war, hostilities between nations, or unavailability of transportation through no fault of Mayflower Cruises & Tours.

### Optional Excursion\*

Philip Island: \$150 per person

\*Note: minimum number of participants needed to operate



Visas required on this program.



FOR RESERVATIONS OR INFORMATION CONTACT:

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