



AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND TOUR

18 Days / 17 Nights

| Sydney (3N) | Auckland (1N) | Rotorua (2N) | Queenstown (4N) |
Franz Josef Glacier (1N) | Cairns (3N) | Melbourne (3N) |



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ITINERARY IN BRIEF

Day 01	Arrive in Sydney
Day 02	Sydney Sightseeing Tour and enjoy Showboat Dinner Cruise
Day 03	Blue Mountains Excursion and Bondi Beach
Day 04	Transfer to Auckland by Flight
Day 05	Auckland City tour and Waitomo Glow-worm Cave Tour Drive to Rotorua
Day 06	Visit Te Puia Thermal Wonderland and enjoy Gondola Ride to Skyline Rotorua
Day 07	Transfer to Queenstown by flight
Day 08	Milford Sound Fjord Cruise
Day 09	Drive to Franz Josef Glacier for overnight stay
Day 10	Scenic flight at Franz Josef and Drive back to Queenstown
Day 11	Lake Tekapo Tour from Queenstown
Day 12	Transfer to Cairns by flight
Day 13	Hot air Balloon and Excursion to Kuranda Rainforest
Day 14	Explore the Great Barrier Reef

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Day 15	Transfer to Melbourne
Day 16	City tour of Melbourne, Melbourne Cricket Ground and Penguin walk at Phillip Island
Day 17	Great Ocean Road tour from Melbourne
Day 18	Departure

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DAY 01: ARRIVE IN SYDNEY

On arrival at Sydney International Airport, you will be met by our local representative in Australia for a brief meet and greet. Later, proceed to your city centre hotel in Australia for check-in.



A vibrant city and Australia's financial capital, **Sydney** regularly features as one of the most liveable cities in the world. It was Sydney's fine harbour that drew Captain Philip to the shore of this city who later established this as a British Colony where British prisoners were sent to serve their sentence. The Victorian Gold Rush in Australia in 1852 transformed Sydney into a major global cultural and financial centre.

Overnight stay at the hotel in Sydney.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Arrive in Sydney and check-in at your hotel
- Explore Sydney at your own leisure

DAY 02: SYDNEY SIGHTSEEING TOUR AND SHOWBOAT CRUISE

After breakfast at the hotel, we will proceed for a sightseeing tour of Sydney.

We will begin our city tour with a visit to the **Darling Harbour**. Here, learn about Australia's beautiful aquatic animals at the **SEA-Life Aquarium** and get clicked with Australia's cutest furry animals such as Koala and Kangaroos at **Wildlife World**, and see the amazing cityscape from the tallest building in Sydney at **Sydney Tower Eye**.

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Afterwards, we will continue the city tour with a **1-hour guided tour of Opera House** - one of the world's most iconic building. During the tour, you get a chance to see exclusive areas within the building which are off-limit to the general public and capture photos from rare vantage points.



In the evening, proceed to Sydney harbour to catch a ride on the **Sydney showboats dinner cruise**. Enjoy spellbinding views of the illuminations on the beautiful Opera House and Harbour Bridge while relishing a tasty 3-course meal. A one-hour cabaret show is also performed on the cruise for your entertainment. Sailing since 1987, the old world charm of the showboat cruises are cultural legacy of Sydney.

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Overnight stay at hotel in Sydney.

HIGHLIGHTS

- See the popular sights on a sightseeing tour of Sydney
- Visit SEA-LIFE Aquarium, Sydney Tower Eye, Madam Tussaud's Museum and Wildlife World
- Tour the stunning Opera House from inside during a guided tour
- Venture into the sea on Sydney's iconic Showboat Dinner Cruise

DAY 03: BLUE MOUNTAINS EXCURSION AND BONDI BEACH

After breakfast, proceed for a full day excursion of the blue mountains.

The **Blue Mountains** region comprises of dense Eucalyptus forests, majestic waterfalls and breath taking sandstone caves which make it a perfect destination. Here, we shall visit **Scenic world** to enjoy the amazing views from various look-out points, ride the steepest train in the world and marvel at the iconic three sisters rock formation. Also, glide between cliff tops and gaze at the rainforest canopy through the glass floor of the scenic skyway

After the scenic world tour, proceed to Sydney's iconic Bondi beach to enjoy fun beach activities. Here you can enjoy sunbathing in the golden sandy beach, swim/snorkel in the open ocean or relish the cuisine served by various restaurants around the beach.

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Overnight stay at the hotel in Sydney.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore the natural beauty of the world famous Blue Mountains

DAY 04: TRANSFER TO AUCKLAND AND CITY TOUR

After breakfast, check out from the hotel and transfer to Sydney International airport to catch a flight to Auckland. On arrival at Auckland International Airport, you will be met by our local representative in New Zealand for a brief meet and greet. Later, proceed to your city centre hotel in Auckland for check-in.

Auckland is New Zealand's largest and most populous city with a population of just 15 lakh people (2019). While Wellington is the country's political capital, the city of Auckland is the main financial and commercial centre. One of the most expensive cities in the world, it is also considered as one of the most liveable. A highly cosmopolitan city, people from all over the world now call this city their home

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Overnight stay at the hotel in Auckland

HIGHLIGHTS

- Arrive at Auckland International Airport

DAY 05 : VISIT SKY TOWER, WAITOMO CAVES AND TRANSFER TO ROTOURUA

After breakfast, check-out from the hotel and visit Auckland's most popular and tallest building - **Sky Tower** and enjoy glamorous views of the city from its 51st floor observatory deck. Here, you can also enjoy a sky walk – where you can walk at the outer side of the building while being safely tied to a harness.



Afterwards, proceed to Rotorua. En-route we shall enjoy a visit to Waitomo Caves. **Waitomo Caves** are a world-famous natural attraction of New Zealand. Millions of indigenous glow worms thrive in these caves and illuminate its ceiling. As you cross an underground river running through these caves on a boat, the guide explains to you the history of these fantastic caves. Apart from a regular

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guided tour, you can also indulge in adventure activities like black-water rafting and abseiling.



After the tour, continue your journey onwards towards Rotorua. Upon arrival, check-in at your hotel there.



Named after a lake by the same name, **Rotorua** has been a principal base of Maori culture since 14th century who constitute a significant portion of the region's population. Due to

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its location in the heart of North Island's geothermal belt, the city of Rotorua is popular for its wide array of bubbling mud pools, surging geysers and thermal spa resorts.

Overnight stay at the hotel in Rotorua.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Visit Waitomo Caves that are lit up by millions of glow worms
- Arrive in Rotorua and check-in at the hotel

DAY 06: VISIT TE PUIA AND ENJOY GONDOLA RIDE TO SKYLINE ROTORUA

After breakfast at the hotel, we will proceed for a tour of Te Puia Thermal Wonderland.



The best place to enjoy spectacular geothermal elements, **Te Puia** features colourful landscapes, powerful geysers and bubbling mud pools. These reliefs were sculpted as a result of thousands of years of volcanic activity in the region. The **Pohutu geyser** is the largest geyser in the Southern Hemisphere and can reach a height of about 30 metres.

In the afternoon, we will take a **gondola ride** up Mount Ngongotaha to **Skyline Rotorua**. Apart from offering stunning views of the Rotorua lake and the surrounding region, it is a hub of fantastic adventure activities such as zipline, luge ride and a crazy 50m tall giant swing. Apart from adventure and



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stunning views, the skyline is populated with fantastic cafes where you can satiate your tastebuds.

Overnight stay at the hotel in Rotorua.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Marvel at geysers and coloured mud pools at Wai-O-Tapu Thermal wonderland
- Take a Gondola ride to Skyline Rotorua and enjoy adventure activities on top

DAY 07: TRANSFER TO QUEENSTOWN

After breakfast at the hotel, we will check-out from the hotel and proceed to Auckland Airport to catch a flight to **Queenstown**. Upon arriving, we will check-in at our city centre hotel there.



The adventure capital of the world, **Queenstown** is a region carved out by glaciers, lakes and rivers. People come from all over the world to enjoy the beauty of its unique landscape and participate in the adrenaline pumping activities available in this resort town. Built around Lake Wakatipu, the longest lake in New Zealand, it serves as a base for nearby vineyards and mining towns.

Overnight stay at the hotel in Queenstown.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Fly to Queenstown and check-in at the hotel

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DAY 08: FJORD CRUISE ON MILFORD SOUND

After breakfast at the hotel, we will proceed for one of the most stunning road trips in the world between Queenstown and Milford Sound.



Milford Sound is a beautiful fiord located deep within Fiordland National Park. Many consider it to be New Zealand's most beautiful natural attraction. The best way to soak in the natural beauty of the region is by taking a **cruise along the fiord**, surrounded by stunning waterfalls falling down over sheer cliffs of the southern Alps. After the cruise, we will take the scenic route back to Queenstown.



Overnight stay at the hotel in Queenstown.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Enjoy the beautiful journey from Queenstown to Milford sound
- Take a cruise on the fiord to bask in the stunning scenery

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DAY 09: TRANSFER TO FRANZ JOSEF GLACIER

After breakfast, we will check-out from the hotel and proceed to the Fox Glacier and Franz Josef Glacier.



The journey from Queenstown to the glacier region located on the west coast of New Zealand is another spectacular drive across the beautiful country. As you cross the **Haast Pass** and travel through the **Westland National Park**, you get to drive past snowy mountains and serene lakes. Upon arriving in **Franz Josef Town**, we will check-in at our hotel there.

Overnight stay at the hotel in Franz Josef Town.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Enjoy a scenic ride to Franz Josef town and see magnificent glaciers

DAY 10: SCENIC FLIGHT AND RETURN TO QUEENSTOWN

After breakfast, enjoy a unique adventure in New Zealand **Scenic flight of the Franz Josef Glacier**. During the tour, you will take a helicopter to enjoy the views from the top. The helicopter lands at a makeshift place directly on the glacier where you enjoy pristine glacier snow, spectacular ice formations and fresh air. Afterwards, the helicopter returns back to the departure location.

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Afterwards, check out from the hotel and return to Queenstown. Upon arrival, check-in at your hotel there. Rest of the day is free for your leisure. You can choose to spend the day by participating in a number of adventure activities in Queenstown such as bungee jumping, luge ride or jetboat riding down the Shot over river canyon.



Overnight stay at the hotel in Queenstown

HIGHLIGHTS

- Enjoy 20 min scenic flight of Franz Josef Glacier
- Drive back to Queenstown

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DAY 11: LAKE TEKAPO TOUR FROM QUEENSTOWN

After breakfast at the hotel, proceed for a scenic drive to Lake Tekapo and enjoy a city tour there.



A group of three wonderful lakes are located in the northern edge of the Mackenzie Basin. As you travel from Christchurch to Queenstown, you will encounter two of them along your way - **Lake Pukaki** and **Lake Tekapo**. The beauty of the crystal clear water and amazing scenery around these lakes is amplified by the mountain backdrop, including Mt Cook. A small charming stone cottage, **Church of the Good Shepherd** sits on a picturesque location by Lake Tekapo and is a popular stop among tourists. Because of the clear, dry and dark sky in the region, the area is perfect for skygazing and has been awarded the status of UNESCO dark sky reserve.

After the tour, return to Queenstown for overnight stay.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Visit Lake Tekapo and Church of the Good Shepherd

DAY 12: TRANSFER TO CAIRNS

After breakfast, check out from the hotel and transfer to Queenstown airport to catch a flight to **Cairns**.

Originally a mangrove swamp home to Aboriginal Australian tribes, **Cairns** has evolved into a world-famous tourist town, serving as the gateway to two UNESCO world heritage sites – The Great Barrier Reef and Wet Tropics.

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A favourite destination for adrenaline junkies, you can enjoy fantastic scuba diving experience here.



Overnight stay at city centre hotel in Cairns.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Catch a flight to Cairns and check-in at the hotels

DAY 13: EXPLORE THE GREAT BARRIER REEF

After breakfast at the hotel, we will take a cruise to The Great Barrier Reef, the largest coral system in the world.

A combination of 2500 coral reefs and 900 islands of various sizes, The **Great Barrier Reef** is the only living structure on Earth that is visible from space. The rich and complex natural ecosystem below the ocean surface comprising of naturally shaped corals and beautiful fishes boast of splendid colours, unique species and spell-binding scenery. Here you can explore the underwater world either by diving or snorkelling. Those who wouldn't like to get wet won't miss out as they can go on a underwater tour in a semi-submersible. You can also chose to do a helicopter tour to get a magnificent view of the magnificent Green Islands.

Overnight stay at the hotel in Cairns.

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HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore the beautiful life under-water at The Great Barrier Reef

DAY 14: HOT AIR BALLOON AND EXCURSION TO KURANDA RAINFOREST

Wake up early morning to catch your transfer to Tablelands where your colourful balloons await. Enjoy a fabulous sunrise as your **hot-air balloon** operator setups the balloon and informs you how the hot-air balloon works. Once ready, glide up in the air and enjoy amazing views of the Tablelands. Afterwards, enjoy a celebratory glass of champagne and return to the city.

Afterwards, we will proceed for a full day tour of Kuranda rainforest which is a part of Wet Tropics of Queensland. Wet Tropics are one of the oldest continuously existing rainforest in the world, that has been in existence since 550 Million years ago, preceding even the dinosaurs. Both the koalas and Kangaroos trace their origin to this region.

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We will start the action-packed tour with a spectacular journey on the **Skyrail Rainforest Cableway** that flies above the forests canopy giving magnificent views of the surroundings.



There are a variety of activities you can indulge in during this excursion at your own cost. Hop on to an amphibious vehicle from world war II called '**Army Duck**' that takes you on a journey of exploration through the stunning rainforest both over land and water. Learn about the traditions and culture of the aboriginal people of Australia who have been living in these forests since ages. Watch a live folk-dance performance at **Rainforestation Nature Park** by traditionally-clothed forest dwellers with fabulous body-tattoos. Or learn how to throw weapons used by the Pamagirri Aboriginal people such as boomerang and spear.

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Finally return to Cairns on the **scenic railway** and overnight stay at the hotel in Cairns.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Spend a day full of adventure and scenic beauty at Kuranda Rainforest.

DAY 15: TRANSFER TO MELBOURNE

After breakfast at the hotel, we will transfer to Cairns airport to catch a flight to Melbourne. Upon Arrival, we will proceed to our city centre hotel in Melbourne for Check-in.

Declared capital of the British colony of Victoria in 1851, **Melbourne** is today recognised as one of the most liveable cities in the world. A prominent financial centre and Australia's cultural capital, much of the city's growth and wealth is attributed to the gold rush that happened in Victoria in the 1850s. The residents refer to themselves as 'Melburnians' and are extremely fond of sports and love to leisure around local artisan cafes which sell freshly brewed coffee.

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Overnight stay at the hotel in Melnourne.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Arrive at Melbourne International Airport

DAY 16: CITY TOUR OF MELBOURNE AND PHILLIP ISLANDS

After breakfast, we will proceed for a sight-seeing tour of Melbourne.



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During the tour, we will visit the most popular attractions in the city including the **Parliament House**, **Queen Victoria Market** and **Princess theatre**. Also part of the tour is a visit to the **Federation square** - an open air venue built over a railway junction that is surrounded by world class art galleries and museums.



Afterwards, we will proceed for a **1-hr guided visit to the MCG**. During the tour, you will get a chance to see behind-the-scenes of this iconic stadium - visit the MCG Long room, the iconic player's changing rooms and walk down the world-famous arena. In the evening, we will proceed to **Philips Island** to watch little penguins return to their burrows on the sand shore during sunset, after completing their marine adventure for the day.



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Overnight stay at the hotel in Melbourne.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Visit the most popular places in Melbourne on a full-day sight-seeing tour
- Enjoy 1 hr guided tour of Melbourne Cricket Ground
- Watch little Penguins walk down the shore at Philips Island

DAY 17 : GREAT OCEAN ROAD TOUR FROM MELBOURNE

After breakfast at the hotel, proceed for a tour of the Great Ocean Road.

The world's largest war memorial, the **Great Ocean Road** is a scenic drive hugging the coast line and provides fantastic views of the Antarctic Ocean and the bizarrely shaped limestone cliffs. During the scenic drive, we shall first stop at the most famous attraction on Great Ocean Road **12 apostles**, where beautiful limestone structures formed due to the destructive force of wind and water stand tall at sea. Next we will travel to **Shipwreck coast**, also called Loch Ard Gorge, named after a ship by the same name that crash landed here with just two survivors who managed to tell the tale. Finally, enjoy watching the surfers tackle the waves at one of the best surfing destinations, **Bells Beach**



Overnight stay at hotel in Melbourne

HIGHLIGHTS

- Tour the most scenic coastal drive in the world at Great Ocean Road

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DAY 18: DEPARTURE

After breakfast at the hotel, we will transfer to Auckland international airport to catch our flight back to India.

Arrive home with pleasant memories of your New Zealand tour organised by State Express Global Voyages, which we are sure you will treasure for a lifetime.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Board flight for your next destination



“TOUR END”

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