

## **Australia and New Zealand (Group Tour)**

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DATES: November 5 – 17, 2024 (tentative)

13 Days

Cost: \$5207 pay payson (based on double economy)

Cost: \$5297 per person (based on double occupancy)
\*\$995 for single supplement if you require a private single room

Includes: all international flights, nightly 3-star accommodations, shuttle service from West Michigan to the O'Hare airport, all ground transportation in Australia and New Zealand, 2 full time travel directors, & all listed admissions & tours. Other expenses not included are: most meals, checked baggage, optional excursions, and travel insurance.

Travel Insurance available through our affiliate program at World Nomads. More information at https://percussive.org/insurance

Signup Deadline: July 5, 2024 - checks made payable to Percussive, LLC – Cash, Venmo (@percussive), & Credit Card also accepted. 3.95% processing fee added to all credit card transactions

# DAYS 1 & 2, Tuesday, November 5 & Wednesday, November 6 - Fly to Australia

This morning, we will meet in West Michigan and our private coach will transfer us to the Chicago O'Hare airport for our flight across the Pacific to Australia!

Our flight will include all meals, beverages, and entertainment.

**Overnight:** Airplane

# DAY 3, Thursday, November 7 – Arrive to Sydney, Australia

This morning, we will arrive to Australia's largest city of Sydney!

After we clear customs and collect our baggage, our private coach will escort us to our centrally-located hotel in Sydney. After we check-into our hotel, there will be time to relax and freshen up before our walking tour.

Next, we will meet our local tour guide for a 2.5-hour "walkabout" tour of Sydney. A walking tour is a great way to learn about the history and culture of Australia. We will see sites such as:

- The Sydney Opera House
- Sydney Harbour Bridge
- Cadman's Cottage
- Garrison Church
- And so much more!

Afterwards, our guide can give us excellent recommendations of nearby shopping, attractions, and restaurants in the area.

**Overnight:** Sydney

## DAY 4, Friday, November 8 – Free Day in Sydney

Enjoy free time to explore the city on your own or join us on one of our optional excursions!

#### **OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS**

## Sydney Opera House Tour

There is no building as iconic as the towering sails of the Sydney Opera House! Explore the theatre and learn about the state-of-the-art architecture, unbelievable stories, and compelling anecdotes of this concert hall.

## • Harbour Bridge Climb Experience

Follow your experienced guide up the walkway on the outer arches of the bridge, soaking in panoramic views of the city around you. Enjoy great photo ops from the summit, which sits at 440 feet (134 meters). Learn about the iconic bridge's history and savor the accomplishment of completing your 3.5-hour BridgeClimb. Choose either the daytime or nighttime option for the once-in-a-lifetime climb.

### Gourmet Food Tour

Taste the best of Australian cuisine on this guided food tour!
Take to the streets for a walking tour of Sydney's cafés,
markets, delicatessens, and street food haunts. We will follow
our private food-expert as we uncover the secrets of the city's
culinary heritage and ways they are pushing-the-envelope in
cuisine. Along the way, we will stop to sample local treats like,
Pavlova, Barramundi, Vegemite on toast, and more!

**Overnight:** Sydney

### **DAY 5, Saturday, November 9 – Free Day in Sydney**

Today is a free day to relax and enjoy the amazing things that Sydney has to offer or join us for one of these awesome excursions!

### **OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS:**

## • Surf Lesson on Bondi Beach

Ready to hang ten? Learn to surf on the iconic Bondi Beach. In this 2-hour surfing lesson our coach will show how to ride the waves like a pro!

## Full Day Blue Mountains and Wildlife Park Tour

Experience the majesty of the Blue Mountains on this full day tour! We will start our day at the Featherdale Wild Life Park. In this sanctuary, you will see kangaroos, koalas, and beautiful native birds. Next, hike across Echo Point Katoomba, for a view of the "The Three Sisters". These stunning natural rock formations are a key representation of aboriginal folklore.

After, enjoy panoramic views of the Blue Mountains by cable car! As you soar over you can view the Katoomba Falls, Orphan Rock, and so much more!

## Sydney Bike Tour

Pedal along the harbor and see the best sites in the city by bike! Pedal past the Sydney Opera house, Harbour Bridge, the Royal Botanic Garden, and much more. From time to time, we will be able to stop for pictures and learn about the history of Sydney.

**Overnight:** Sydney

## DAY 6, Sunday, November 10 – Transfer to Cairns

Today, our private coach will meet us outside of our hotel to transfer us back to the airport, where we will board our plane for the coastal city of Cairns! Cairns is home to the Wet Tropics World Heritage Rainforest and it is an iconic launching point for exploration in the Great Barrier Reef!

When we arrive, our private coach will transfer us to our centrally located hotel near the Esplanade Lagoon.

After we check-in to our hotel, choose swim in the pool or head over to the nearby Cairns Night Market for food and shopping.

#### **OPTIONAL EXCURSION:**

#### • Gourmet Dinner Cruise

Experience stunning views of Cairns city and enjoy the best in gourmet cuisine. We will board a luxurious catamaran and watch the sunset as we sail across calm waters, taking in the sights and sounds of this tropical port city. Enjoy a complimentary drink on arrival and an indulgent 3-course buffet dinner.

**Overnight:** Cairns

## DAY 7, Monday, November 11 - Great Barrier Reef

This morning, we will walk over to the pier from our hotel and meet our guide for an exciting day of snorkeling in the Great Barrier Reef! We will climb aboard our yacht and set sail for the open sea. Receive full training and gear to explore the reef for about 2 hours. Next, enjoy a delicious lunch prepared by the crew on the yacht. Afterwards, you will head to a new location in the reef for more snorkeling. Upon your return, relax with a cup of tea, glass of wine, or snacks as you proceed back to shore.

**Overnight:** Cairns

## **DAY 8, Tuesday, November 12 – Cairns**

Today is a free day to take at your own pace or choose one of our optional excursions!

#### OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS

# • Rainforest River Tubing

Amble down the Mulgrave River on a wet and wild adventure! Soak up the scenery as you flow through the rainforest and speed over thrilling rapids on this 4-hour tour.

## Tropical Wildlife Full Day Tour

Immerse yourself in Aboriginal tradition! First, we will visit the indigenous Kuku Yalanji people of the Mossman Gorge and partake in a traditional smoke ceremony. Next, we will cruise along the Daintree River. Bring your binoculars to view the native wildlife and crocs along the way. Afterwards, we will stop at Cape Tribulation and enjoy a nice lunch. Following lunch, we will have a walkabout in Daintree National Park. Lastly, we will enjoy spectacular panoramic views from Mount Alexandra.

## <u>Discover Scuba Diving</u>

Dive deeper into the Great Barrier Reef on this fun scuba diving adventure. No need to be certified; your expert dive instructor will teach you everything you need to know before heading out to the reef. View spectacular fish, wildlife, and corals deeper into the iconic reef.

**Overnight:** Cairns

## DAY 9, Wednesday, November 13 – Fly to New Zealand

Today, we will transfer back to the airport and head to New Zealand! After landing in Auckland, our private coach will transfer us to Rotorua, southeast of Auckland. After we check-in to our resort, enjoy free time to explore at your own pace.

**OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS** 

## Mountain Luge and Sky Gondola

Fly up to the top of the mountain in a gentle sky gondola ride with panoramic views of the surrounding countryside. Next, careen down the winding path on a wheeled luge sled on this thrilling adventure down the mountain.

Overnight: Rotorua

## Day 10, Thursday, November 14 – Rotorua Tour

Today, we will explore Waimangu Volcanic Valley in Rotorua! This treacherous landscape is filled with bubbling mud pools, sulfuric lakes, and geysers. The Pohutu Geyser is estimated to shoot up to 100' high!

Our group will also visit Maori Arts and Crafts Institute in Te Puia and watch a traditional demonstration on carving, weaving, and other traditional arts.

**Overnight:** Rotorua

## Day 11, Friday, November 15 – Explore Rotorua

Today is a free day to relax at the resort or jump into this amazing optional excursion!

#### OPTIONAL EXCURSION

# Hobbiton Movie Set Tour & Waitomo Glowworm Caves

Today, visit two iconic attractions of the amazing northern New Zealand landscape. First, we will head to the fantastical world of Lord of the Rings and view the utopian Hobbiton village. Peak into precious little Hobbit Holes and frolic through the Shire on this guided tour of Middle-earth. In the afternoon, see the magic of bioluminescence in Waitomo Cave. Discover a galaxy of tiny glowworms lighting our way as we travel by boat through delicate cave formation.

**Overnight:** Rotorua

## Day 12, Saturday, November 16 – Rotorua Free Day

Enjoy a free day at your own pace, or join an awesome optional excursion! Later this evening, transfer to Auckland.

#### OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS

## Wine and Dine Full Day Tour

Visit New Zealand's finest wineries! Sip along the Kumeu Wine Trail with your local sommelier as you learn about which grape varieties grow best in New Zealand vineyards and other wine fermentation facts. Between the vineyards enjoy a delicious 3-course lunch.

## • Lake Taupō Voyager Full Day Tour

Board a sailboat and voyage on New Zealand's largest freshwater lake, Lake Taupō! View the incredible landscape of snowcapped mountains, steaming mud pools, the Huka waterfall, the historic Māori Rock Carvings of Mine Bay and more on this amazing full day adventure.

**Overnight:** Auckland

## Day 13, Sunday, November 17 – Auckland

This morning, enjoy a guided walking tour of New Zealand's largest city, including sights such as:

Ferry Building

- Sky Tower
- Albert Park
- Auckland University
- Auckland Art Gallery

After the tour, enjoy free time and later head to the airport for our flight home.

\*Percussive Tours reserves the right to modify this itinerary if certain activities become unavailable