AUSTRAVEL
Experts in Australia, New Zealand & South Pacific

PLEASE CALL OUR EXPERT TRAVEL DESIGNERS
FREEPHONE 0808 252 4276*
*Calls are free from landlines, mobiles and other providers’ charges may vary.

OR VISIT
AUSTRAVEL.COM

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
Mon-Thurs – 9am-7pm
Fri – Sat 9am-6pm
Sun – 10am-4pm

November 2018 Edition
G’DAY!

It is now over 40 years since Austravel first started creating extraordinary tailor-made holidays to Australia, with our expertise and passion for the land “Downunder” as fresh now as it was then.

Everyone that works at Austravel has travelled extensively around Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific, so can genuinely tailor a holiday to suit your personal requirements. All our expert Travel Designers can offer personal recommendations – from the best hotels to stay in, when to go and, most importantly, those day trips and experiences that just can’t be missed! This year’s ‘Guide to Australia’ is packed full of ideas which can be combined to create a unique holiday perfect for you, should this be your first trip to Australia, or if you are planning to return to explore somewhere different. With Australia being such a large country there are various ways to explore, so ideas on how to travel are included – such as adding an epic rail journey (p 26-27), relaxing on an escorted coach tour, or the freedom of a self-drive car or campervan trip.

Knowing that spotting the indigenous wildlife is on everyone’s ‘wish-list’ we have also highlighted some of the top experiences available across the country, ranging from watching the Little Penguins of Phillip Island venture in from the sea each evening, to swimming with the gentle giants of the sea – whale sharks (p 30 and 77).

Throughout the brochure we have also highlighted some exceptional Austravel Unique Experiences which we feel that everyone should try and include – if you can! For even more ideas, visit australiavacations.com, or speak to one of our specialist Travel Designers who are ready to help you. Enjoy your travels!

Lesley Rollo
Managing Director

Australia, New Zealand and South Pacific
YOUR TRAVEL DESIGNERS

Not sure when’s the best time to visit Australia? Want to know the best way to get around to see as much as possible? Our Travel Designers are here to help and have experienced Australia and the South Pacific first hand so they know their stuff. With their in-depth destination knowledge, they can give you the best travel advice throughout the planning process to tailor make your perfect itinerary.

Sharron
“As soon as you step off the plane in the Cook Islands, the people will be welcoming you with a smile. Although there are 15 islands, be sure to visit the main island of Rarotonga and the breathtaking lagoon of Aitutaki.”
Find out more about the Cook Islands on p.98

Laurie
“I would recommend seeing the incredible Great Barrier Reef on a helicopter tour – the views give you a totally different perspective and we even got to see turtles through the crystal clear waters below.”
Find out more about Queensland on p.40

Paul
“For some incredible wildlife, head to Kakadu and Litchfield National Parks right up in the top end. Join a guided tour in the Kakadu wetlands to witness the mighty croc hunting for its breakfast.”
Find out more about the North Territory on p.52

Julie
“Hire a car and drive from Perth to Albany where you will find a corner of Australia where two oceans collide – the Indian Ocean and Southern Ocean. There is a lovely little café here too next to the Cape Leeuwin Lighthouse.”
Find out more about Western Australia on p.72

Sharron
“As soon as you step off the plane in the Cook Islands, the people will be welcoming you with a smile. Although there are 15 islands, be sure to visit the main island of Rarotonga and the breathtaking lagoon of Aitutaki.”
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How we create your trip

1. Tell us your travel plans
   Let us know all the places you want to visit and things you want to do (or let us inspire you). We’ll then get to work creating your perfect itinerary and finding you the best deals.

2. Book with confidence
   If you’re not ready to book straight away, that’s not a problem. Once you’re 100% happy with your travel plans, simply pay your deposit and start getting excited about your trip.

3. Advice on call
   If you have any questions in the lead up, during or even after your holiday, we’re always just a call away. We hope you have an amazing holiday!

Call free on 0808 252 4276

WHY CHOOSE US

We’re the leading Australia, New Zealand and South Pacific specialist and have been creating tailor-made holidays to these incredible countries since 1977. Here’s what you can expect when you choose to travel with us...

40 years’ experience
We don’t just go there, we really know there. Whether you’re looking to discover the iconic sights of Australia, road trip around the Outback or escape to an exotic island in the South Pacific, we’ve been creating award-winning holidays to Australasia for over 40 years.

Your holiday’s in safe hands
We take care of everything from your flights, accommodation, car hire and tours, to visas and travel insurance, we can even book your airport hotels and parking before you go! We’re also ABTA, ATOL and IATA protected, meaning your money and booking is in safe hands when you travel with us.

Value for money
We are fully committed to keeping you up to date with our best holiday deals. Our special partner relationships give us significant buying power, enabling us to offer you exclusive discounts and great packages that you won’t find anywhere else.

Award winning
We’re ecstatic to have won the ‘Best Holiday Company to Australasia’ at the British Travel Awards five times in a row. There is no better endorsement of our passion, expertise and commitment than that.

Range of stopovers
Break up the long journey with a stopover en route. Choose from Hong Kong, Singapore, Dubai and many other unique cities – it’s like two holidays in one! From the dazzling beaches of Asia to the skyscrapers of the Middle East, there’s something for everyone.

Austravel.com
Make our website a must-visit destination. Not only will you discover a great range of exclusive flights and holiday offers, but you’ll learn about new places to visit and receive insider tips from our Austravel experts.

Charity Partnership
Austravel proudly supports the Penguin Foundation; protecting Phillip Island’s little penguin colony through conservation. Book with us and we will ask you to make a small donation of £2 which will be donated to the Penguin Foundation. Further your support by visiting Phillip Island’s conservation-based attractions – please see page 63 for more information or talk to your Travel Designer.

Why Choose Us
TRAVEL IN STYLE WITH AUSTRALIA AND...

The return of Singapore as a stopover destination, with onward connections to Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane and Perth, as well as flying non-stop from London Heathrow to Perth means there are now more ways to fly to Australia.

Add a Qantas Explorer pass to your booking and see more of Australia for less with savings on domestic flights.

Qantas Economy
Enjoy ergonomically designed seats with innovative footrest net. Make your way to the self-serve snack bars throughout the cabin to keep you refreshed around the clock.

Qantas Premium Economy
Check in at our dedicated Premium Economy check in desk, plus priority boarding with increased luggage allowance. Dedicated flight attendants offering a more personal experience. Innovatively designed seats which optimises leg room. Enjoy a choice of menu served with a selection of premium Australian wines.

Qantas Business
Experience our Qantas Chauffeur Drive to and from the airport and then use dedicated check in desks and Business Class lounge. Enjoy a fully flat bed at almost two metres with a spacious 80 inch seat pitch. Enjoy over 1,000 on demand entertainment option and choose a meal from our menu designed by Neil Perry.

Qantas First
14 luxurious private suites featuring spacious armchair that converts to an extra wide and extra-long bed up to 83 inches with Sheridan bedding. Watch your large 17 inch LCD Panasonic entertainment screen. Suite controller to adjust your seat, massage system, window shades, privacy dividers and reading lights.

Emirates operate 19 flights per day from a choice of 8 UK airports, offering convenient onwards connections to over 160 destinations worldwide. On-board, passengers can enjoy world-class service, regionally inspired gourmet cuisine and over 3,500 channels of award-winning entertainment – plus free WiFi connectivity on selected aircraft.

Economy Class
Enjoy your own personal seat widescreen TV with the widest selection of world movies, music to choose from. Tuck into regionally inspired multi course meals with a selection of complimentary beverages.

Business Class
In Business Class, sate your way around the world with fine dining complimented with exclusive wines and spirits. Stretch out and relax in lie-flat Business Class seats. Enjoy dedicated check in, lounge access along with priority boarding and priority baggage arrival at your destination.

First Class
Unwind in your own Private Suite. Refresh yourself in the First Class Shower Spa and savour fine dining served on demand. Before you fly enjoy a moment inspiration in an Emirates exclusive lounge with over 40 exclusive lounges available worldwide.

For First and Business Class passengers you can relax in comfort from door to door with Emirates Chauffeur drive service available in over 75 cities worldwide.

With a double daily direct service from London Heathrow’s Terminal 4 to Kuala Lumpur International Airport, Malaysia Airlines offers excellent links to Australia and New Zealand from the UK. Passengers flying from London Heathrow will experience Malaysia Airlines latest in aircraft innovation, travelling on the new A350 aircraft with onboard WiFi, upgraded inflight entertainment and 27 extra leg room seats in economy class.

You can look forward to the famous Malaysian hospitality throughout your journey with the most well regarded and recognised service teams in the skies.

Passengers can check in a maximum of two pieces of baggage with the generous 30kg, 40kg, 50kg free baggage allowance included in Economy, Business and First class respectively.

Malaysia Airlines flies direct from Kuala Lumpur to Sydney, Melbourne, Perth, Adelaide, Brisbane and Auckland. Passenger travelling to Australia & New Zealand on Malaysia Airlines will also be able to enjoy a free stopover in Penang.

Malaysia Airlines flies to Kuala Lumpur, Penang or Langkawi Terengganu. Malaysia Airlines, along with Austravel have an incredible number of unique and exclusive holiday packages to Australia at very special fares. These fantastic trips have been prepared to suit any traveller to these sensational destinations.

Etihad believe your journey should be more than just travel offering a personal experience with tailored options for every step of the way. Connecting the world with their extensive network, Etihad offer three daily flights from London Heathrow and twice daily service from Manchester to Abu Dhabi and onwards to over 90 destinations. With fast connections from Abu Dhabi they offer a double daily service to both Sydney and Melbourne and a daily flight to Brisbane. Through the partnership with Virgin Australia and Air New Zealand, Etihad are also able to offer further domestic and international connections across Australia and New Zealand.

With outstanding on-board hospitality, hundreds of hours of on-demand entertainment including live news and sports channels, excellent destination inspired meal options and some of the most luxurious seats in the sky, you will quickly learn why Etihad describes their customers as ‘Guests’ not passengers.

Experience the choice of Economy Class, stretch out in a flat-bed seat, all with extra access in Business Class, or relax in your own private suite in First Class.

Fly in Style
Singapore Airlines named ‘World’s Best Airline’ in the 2018 Skytrax Awards, operates four daily non-stop flights from London Heathrow to Singapore and five direct weekly flights from Manchester. From Singapore, passengers can experience seamless, convenient onward connections to nine gateway cities in Australia and three gateway cities in New Zealand. Singapore Airlines partnership with Virgin Australia, allows you to choose from over 45 exciting destinations spanning flight across Australia and those venturing to New Zealand can enjoy increased frequencies and connections with alliance partner Air New Zealand.

Singapore Airlines customers can now choose flights to over 80 destinations in the Air New Zealand network. The airline’s multi award winning 5* service offers an exceptional level of comfort across all classes, including three-course gourmet cuisine and extensive on demand inflight entertainment, providing personal TV screens from 11.1 - 32” dependent on your cabin class.

Etihad, the state-of-the-art and technologically-advanced aircraft.

Cathay Pacific is the perfect choice and natural gateway to Australia and New Zealand.

5 daily flights from Heathrow, a daily flight from Gatwick and a daily flight from Manchester non-stop to Hong Kong bring its passengers even closer to their destination with a 50 minutes minimum connection time.

Cathay Pacific operates Economy, Premium Economy and Business cabins on all services out of the UK, with First class cabins also available on selected flights out of London Heathrow.

The return of Singapore as a stopover destination, with onward connections to Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane and Perth, as well as flying non-stop from London Heathrow to Perth means there are now more ways to fly to Australia.
WORLDWIDE STOPOVERS

With a multitude of stopover options available on flights to Australasia, you can tailor make your holiday to include a whole host of experiences and it doesn’t just have to be for a couple of nights either. From the gleaming skyscrapers of Southeast Asian cities, to the deserts of the Arabian Gulf or the adventure playground that is California, the choice is yours. Join an escorted tour through Vietnam or explore volcanoes in Hawai‘i. Here we’ve showcased some of the most popular, but contact our Travel Designers for more destinations.

1 Middle East
Home to stunning Islamic architecture, desert landscapes, immersive bazaars and modern iconic skylines, the Middle East is like an Aladdin’s cave. With flight times around 7 hours, a stopover in Dubai, Abu Dhabi and Qatar are just a few of the destinations you can choose to visit.

2 Thailand
From wading through the busy streets of Bangkok to exploring tropical rainforests, or simply relaxing on the picturesque beaches, Thailand has lots to offer. Stop off at a street food stall for fresh fruit or local delicacies and visit ancient temples where you can immerse yourself in the countries culture.

3 Hong Kong
Explore this vibrant harbour side city where east meets west and ancient meets modern. Enjoy breathtaking harbour views after a tram ride to Victoria Peak, meander through bustling Stanley Market, and not forgetting a sunset cruise on an authentic Chinese junk.

4 USA and Canada
Why not stop half way in North America to break up your journey? Cycle the golden gate bridge in San Francisco, explore the bustling west coast seaport of Vancouver or surf the beaches of Hawaii, to name just a few of the great destinations to choose from.

5 Malaysia
With the soaring Petronas Towers in Kuala Lumpur, boasting one of the most iconic skylines in the Far East to the breathtaking views of the tea plantations in the Cameron Highlands, explore a country of beautiful architecture and fascinating history.

6 Singapore
With a lively mix of Chinese, Malay, Indian and British colonial history, Singapore is a fascinating place to break up your journey. Plus, don’t forget to try a Singapore Sling at the Long Bar in Raffles Hotel, where the famous cocktail was first created.

7 Bali
Escape the throngs and head north to Ubud, where the heart of Balinese culture beats. Pass through rice terraces to the holy spring waters at Tampaksiring for a taste of the real Bali or head south to see the crashing surf at Uluwatu.

8 South Pacific
Looking for that quintessential tropical island getaway? Then look no further. Choose from Fiji, The Cook Islands, Samoa, Tonga or the Islands of Tahiti with honeymoon hotspot, Bora Bora or combine a few for an even more memorable island-hopping adventure. See pages 86 – 109 for more details.
Singapore and Indonesia

Singapore is an exciting city with a wealth of cultural attractions and one of our most popular stopover destinations. A trip here would not be complete without soaking up the amazing views from either the Singapore Flyer or the SkyPark observation deck atop the iconic Marina Bay Sands hotel. Or why not explore beautiful beaches, historic temples and the wild green beauty of the rice terraces across the islands of Indonesia.

Where to stay: Shangri-La Singapore or Samabe Bali Suites & Villas

Opt for a refined oasis in the heart of the city at the flagship property of the Shangri-La group, or head south to Bali to a tranquil, all-inclusive beach resort.

What to do: Half day city tour Singapore

The perfect introduction for those with limited time in the city, visiting Little India, bustling Chinatown and the Botanic Gardens on a 3.5 hour tour.

Explore more: Discover the Island of Flores

Head to Indonesia and the island of Flores, located around 90 minutes west of Bali for incredible scenery and a chance to see the Komodo dragons.

Hong Kong and China

Whether you want to experience the panoramic views of Victoria Peak or the bustling markets and trams of Kowloon, Hong Kong is a vibrant metropolis that embodies a unique fusion of Chinese culture and colonial Britain and has something for everyone. Ride a rickshaw in Beijing, witness the giant pandas in Chengdu or take in the stunning scenery as you cruise down the Yangze River, China offers an experience like no other.

Where to stay: The Cordis, Hong Kong

With a stunning rooftop pool that’s perfect for a sunrise swim, indulge in wellness and rejuvenation with the benefit of the city on your doorstep.

What to do: 360 Lantau Explorer Tour

Hop into a cable car and be greeted with vistas of the distant South China Sea and rolling greens of North Lantau Country Park before panoramas of Hong Kong appear.

Explore more: Discover China Escorted Tour

Visiting the Great Wall, Xi’an’s Terracotta Warriors and the Forbidden City in Beijing, this 8 day tour is the perfect introduction to China.
THAILAND

Combine a few nights in the fascinating and chaotic Thai capital of Bangkok, visiting the exquisite Grand Palace and one of the floating markets. Then head for some relaxation on one of the many beach resorts, such as Phuket, Khao Lak, Hua Hin and Koh Samui. Sampling some of the countries delicious street food is a must; Kluay Tod (fried mini bananas) are very addictive.

Where to stay: Anantara Riverside Bangkok Resort or Centara Grand Beach Resort Hua Hin

Stay on the edge of the Chao Phraya River with a handy shuttle boat to the skytrain, or just 2 hours south, the small beach town of Hua Hin offers a property set on 7 kilometres of white, sandy beach.

What to do: Floating market in Bangkok
Visit the world famous floating market of ‘Damern Saduak’, a colourful and lively yet congested canal. It might be a tourist trap, but it’s worth a visit for the atmosphere.

Explore more: Elephant Hills Jungle Safari Camp
Help feed, clean and bathe Asian elephants in the Khao Sok National Park then stay in African inspired safari tents on this memorable two night experience.

MALAYSIA

Stopover in the capital city of Kuala Lumpur for a few nights visiting the impressive Petronas Towers, picturesque Lake Gardens and the sacred Batu Caves, home to giant, gold statues of the Hindu gods. From here you can then island hop to Penang or Langkawi and for nature lovers, be sure to travel to Borneo and visit the flame haired orang utans at the Sepilok sanctuary in Sandakan.

Where to stay: The Majestic Kuala Lumpur or Pangkor Laut Resort
Choose from colonial and sophistication right in the heart of the city, or for a truly private island escape, stay at the exclusive Pangkor Laut Resort in incredible villas built on stilts over the sea.

What to do: Enchanting Fireflies Tour
A half day tour to a small village where you will see silver leaf monkeys and the wonderful phenomena of thousands of fireflies along the river. Finish this enjoyable day with a delicious seafood dinner.

Explore more: Cameron Highlands Tour
Be dazzled by emerald green valleys on this three day tour, visiting tea plantations, rose gardens and vegetable farms. Meet local Aborigine’s and learn about blow pipe hunting techniques.

Dubai and the Middle East

Explore ancient cities, bustling souks, wander the extravagant malls, or relax on white sands. Stop off in Dubai for one of the worlds top luxury destinations, with an ever-changing skyline of cloud skimming architecture or stay overnight in the desert in a unique and luxury tented camp in Oman. The Middle East will be sure to impress.

Where to stay: Atlantis, The Palm, Dubai
Located on the Worlds largest man made island and created to suit the whole family. From water themed amusement at Aquaventure Water Park to pristine beaches and more.

What to do: Dubai Desert Safari
Take a seat in a 4x4 Jeep and experience a thrilling ride up and over the sand dunes. Let the adrenalin subside and gaze at the stars, whilst enjoying a desert barbeque and an evening cultural show.

Explore more: Highlights of Oman
Embark on a four day adventure in the Arabian Desert on a tour that’s rich in culture. Visit a historical fort and one of the oldest souqs in Oman, taste delicious coffee and dates in a traditional Bedouin house and then switch the sand dunes for the coast and visit a turtle reserve.

USA and Canada

North America is vast, yet so different and offers something for everyone. From the skyscrapers of New York to the laid back living in California and volcanic landscapes of the Hawaiian Islands in the USA. Or why not stopover in vibrant Vancouver and discover Western Canada’s traditions and totem poles of the First Nations people, epic landscapes and incredible wildlife.

Where to stay: The Argonaut Hotel, San Francisco
This stylish, nautically-themed, boutique hotel located on Fisherman’s Wharf is the perfect spot for tasing fresh seafood, with Pier 39 and access to Alcatraz right on your doorstep.

What to do: Alcatraz Island, San Francisco
No trip to this northern Californian city is complete without a 20 minute ride in the Bay across to Alcatraz Island, one of history’s most legendary prisons.

Explore more: Hawaiian Discovery Escorted Tour
If you have a little extra time, explore four of the stunning Hawaiian Islands on this 11 day escorted tour.

Visit Volcanoes National Park, a Kona coffee plantation and a sunset cruise from K’anapali Beach, Maui to take in some of the beautiful scenery, culture and history these isolated islands have to offer.
DISCOVER NEW ZEALAND

Labelled one of the most photogenic countries in the world, New Zealand has been blessed by Mother Nature. Magnificent mountain ranges, steaming volcanoes, spectacular fiordlands, wonderful wildlife and fascinating Maori culture: there’s a reason New Zealand is voted best country in the world year after year. The added bonus is that all of this is found within a country comparable in size to the UK, and with a population of only four million, it’s also one of the world’s least crowded places. A holiday haven for those looking for tranquility and reflection, as well as a playground for thrill seekers and adventurers; New Zealand is waiting to be explored – just don’t forget your camera.

Request our New Zealand Guide with ideas for self drives, tours and unique experiences in this spectacular country.
INTRODUCTION TO AUSTRALIA

A vast country of varying landscapes; three time zones, three million square miles and twenty four million people. Discover lush tropical rainforests, the azure waters of the world’s largest and most spectacular coral reef, hard-baked red earth of the Outback and unique animal species like kangaroos and wombats; Australia is a country begging to be explored. With mystical stories of Aboriginal Dreamtime and countless white-sand beaches, it’s easy to see why so many visitors fall in love with its sophisticated cities, easy-going lifestyle, outstanding cuisine and New World wines.

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

Currency – Australian Dollar (AUD)
Time difference – GMT +7 to GMT +10 (dependent on daylight saving)
Flying time – Approx. 23 hours
Climate – A fantastic year round destination, being in the Southern Hemisphere, the seasons are opposite to those in Europe. Summers extend from December to February, with winter in June to August. Northern Australia has a tropical climate with the traditionally wetter months from November to March.
Visa – All visitors to Australia (except New Zealand citizens) require an Electronic Travel Authority (ETA). This can be organised by your Travel Designer at the time of booking.

INTRODUCTION TO AUSTRALIA

Great Barrier Reef: Snorkel, dive or even fly over the stunning Great Barrier Reef – the world’s largest living organism.
Daintree Rainforest: Venture into Queensland’s ancient tropical rainforest, the only place on earth where two World Heritage Listed areas lie side by side.
Uluru (Ayers Rock): Visit this immense and sacred monolith in the heart of the Red Centre.
Kangaroo Island: See native wildlife and rugged coastline in South Australia’s ‘zoo without fences’.
Sydney Harbour: Soak up the iconic views of the Opera House and Harbour Bridge.

TOP EXPERIENCES
Sydney, Rock and Reef
12 Day Suggested Itinerary

DAY 1: SYDNEY
Land into Sydney and check in to your central hotel. With the rest of the day to explore – why not head to Circular Quay to get your first glimpse of the world famous Opera House, and iconic Harbour Bridge, before ending the day with dinner in the historic Rocks District right under the famous Bridge.

DAY 2: CRUISE THE HARBOUR
Spend a relaxing morning exploring the Harbour aboard Captain Cook’s Harbour Story Cruise – the best way to get some great photos of the city. This afternoon why not head out to one of Sydney’s famous beaches of Bondi or Manly, it’s up to you!

DAY 3: BLUE MOUNTAINS
Venture out of Sydney to the famed Blue Mountains, where steep canyons meet lush eucalypt forests. See the magnificent Three Sisters rock formation, tour the small town of Leura and opt to take a ride on the world’s steepest scenic railway.

DAY 4: DAY AT LEISURE
A free day to explore the city and its surroundings. Take a scenic seaplane flight, climb to the top of the Harbour Bridge, picnic in the manicured Botanical Gardens, and dine in one of the sumptuous waterfront restaurants.

DAY 5: RED CENTRE - SUNSET OVER ULURU
Leave the city behind and fly into the heart of the Red Centre (additional cost). Uluru is visually stunning, and a major site of Aboriginal importance. This evening watch the sun set behind the glowing red monolith, colours changing as the light fades. A view to behold!

DAY 6: ULURU SUNRISE AND KATA TJUTA
An early start will be rewarded as the rising sun creates even more varied perspectives of Uluru. Walk part of the base of the rock, before heading to Kata Tjuta (Olgas) for a guided walk through Walpa Gorge.

DAY 7: QUEENSLAND ADVENTURE BEGINS
Fly from Ayers Rock to Cairns (additional cost), where the world heritage rainforest and Great Barrier Reef will offer yet another contrasting slice of Australia. Spend the rest of the day relaxing by the esplanade lagoon swimming pool, shopping in the famous night markets and enjoying a cold beer.

DAY 8: KURANDA AND TJAPUKAI ABORIGINAL CENTRE
Time to leave Cairns for the journey home – or maybe this is just the start! Extend your Australian adventure by visiting another state, and experience yet another side of this great and varied land.

Please see austravel.com for full details of accommodation options.
When travelling through Australia, the journey is part of the adventure. Pick up a car and explore Australia’s scenic countryside, rugged coastlines or wild Outback at your own pace. Driving in Australia is easy – and whether you need a small run-around to explore the local area when staying with family, or a 4WD to take on the Red Centre, Avis Australia will have the car for you.

To make it even easier Austravel and Avis have joined together to create some essential self drive itineraries – with all your overnight accommodation pre-booked. All these self drives come with a handy backpack containing maps, day by day driving instructions and even hints on where you should stop for photo opportunities.

Alternatively if you like a little freedom you can create your own trip – just ask our expert Travel Designers to help you plan your perfect adventure.

**TOP AUSTRALIAN SELF DRIVES**

**PACIFIC COAST EXPLORER**

Head north from Sydney towards Brisbane, exploring the wineries of the Hunter Valley, spot dolphins at Port Stephens and not forgetting laid back Byron Bay (see page 38).

**GREAT OCEAN ROAD**

One of the world’s most famed drives, along the Shipwreck Coast from Melbourne. As well as the Twelve Apostles rock formations there are beaches, bays and koalas aplenty, before heading deep into the Grampians National Park (see page 61).

**GRAND CIRCLE OF TASMANIA**

Discover the wilderness of Tasmania’s many national parks as you circumnavigate Australia’s island state. Hop out and walk one of the trails of Cradle Mountain, or relax on a vibrant destination, with reef, rainforest, Outback and wetlands all within an hour.

**QUEENSLAND CLASSIC**

9 Day Self Drive Itinerary (see page 37).

**DAY 1: BRISBANE – FRASER ISLAND** APPROX. 216 MILES

Join the Bruce Highway and drive north to River Heads to take the launch to Fraser Island. The world’s largest sand-massed island, Fraser Island is accessible for the most part by 4WD. You can park your car securely at the harbour and cross on the ferry by foot.

**DAY 2: FRASER ISLAND**

 Spend the day exploring the island – make sure to visit the Maheno Shipwreck, Eli Creek and Lake McKenzie. You can do all of this by booking a 4WD day tour, specially designed to traverse the sand dunes and every nook and cranny of the island. Alternatively, take part in a whale watching cruise between August and October.

**DAY 3: FRASER ISLAND – BARGARA** APPROX. 120 MILES

Depart Fraser Island and head north visiting the historic town of Childers before an overnight stop at Bargara, with beautiful beaches and stunning rocky coastline.

**DAY 5: ROCKHAMPTON – AIRLIE BEACH** APPROX. 216 MILES

Continue north today to Airlie Beach where 74 tropical islands make up the spectacular Whitsundays. Watch the sun set over this magnificent chain of islands.

**DAY 6: AIRLIE BEACH & THE WHITSUNDAYS**

Spend the day in the Whitsundays Islands. Ask your Travel Designer for details of available tours.

**DAY 7: THE WHITSUNDAYS – TOWNSVILLE** APPROX. 171 MILES

Travel north on the Bruce Highway towards Townsville, a bustling and vibrant destination, with reef, rainforest, Outback and wetlands all within an hour.

**DAY 8: TOWNSVILLE**

Today is free to spend at leisure, we recommend a visit out to Magnetic Island, home to the highest population of koalas in Australia. It is possible to walk around the island in its entirety in a day – make sure you take your hat, sun cream and plenty of water.

**DAY 9: TOWNSVILLE – CAIRNS** APPROX. 216 MILES

Leaving Townsville, continue north to Cairns, the gateway to Tropical North Queensland. Return your Avis car, or why not extend your Queensland adventure and explore Cape Tribulation and the Daintree. Ask your Travel Designer for extended touring options. Please see austravel.com for full itinerary details and accommodation options.
Perth and the West
14 Day Suggested Motorhome Itinerary
There’s two sides to the west coast of Australia; to the south of Perth is luscious and green, with vineyards perched perfectly in rolling countryside. Vast forests of mighty Karri trees stand close to turquoise surf beaches, and the Margaret River is still largely undiscovered and a favourite weekend getaway of the locals, with gourmet cuisine, fabulous microbrewers and wine tastings in abundance. To the north, the Coral Coast is home to vast gorges of burnt orange rock, sprawling national parks, and a marine life haven. Why not travel between the months of April and July for the migration of some of the world’s biggest fish – the whale shark.

UNMISSABLE HIGHLIGHTS:
• Walk out to the end of Busselton Jetty, stretching out into the sea for over 1 mile
• Spend the day sampling wines in the Margaret River – book a tour so someone else can drive!
• Stop off at Kalbarri National Park for a hike up to the spectacular Nature’s Window
• Jump into the sparkling Indian Ocean to take a dip with the local marine life
• Relax on the beaches of Monkey Mia with the chance to hand feed the resident dolphins

Introduction
Hiring an Apollo Motorhome allows you the space and freedom to travel at your own pace and combines your transport with accommodation. You’ll also enjoy the reliability and security of Australasia’s largest vehicle rental operator behind you, with options and services to make every adventure complete. Apollo offer an independent and affordable way to travel around Australia.

Apollo Motorhome Benefits
- Free unlimited kilometres
- 24 hour roadside assistance
- One-way rentals available (fees apply)
- Ability to combine motorhome rentals throughout Australia & New Zealand

Apollo Motorhomes feature the following:
- Fridge/freezer
- Sink
- Gas stove
- Power supply: 12/240V
- Power steering
- Kitchen equipment & bedding
- Radio/CD player
- Cold water supply

Upgrade to Apollo Inclusive Package which includes:
- The High Road liability cover with zero liability
- Unlimited windscreen and tyres cover
- Undercarriage/overhead damage* (covered for accidental damage)
- Pre-purchased gas bottle
- Camp chairs and table
- Baby/booster seats (on request)

Book Early and Save Up To 40%
For full Hire Conditions please refer to austravel.com
It is possible to book a campervan for any of the routes included in our self drive tours – ask your expert Travel Designer for details!

Upgrade with Star RV
Explore Australia in style with an upgrade to a Star RV motorhome – all vans combine a spacious, modern interior with the guarantee of all premium vehicles under 12 months old. Use the priority check-in when collecting your van, and once on your road trip enjoy travelling in luxury – some vans even have electronic drop-down beds and slide out sections with outdoor BBQs.
ESCORTED TOURING WITH APT

With a comprehensive range of escorted holiday experiences in both Australia and New Zealand, APT is a family owned company which has been operating since 1927. APT and Austravel share the same passion, experience, and unrivaled expertise for these destinations. Travelling with APT you can be sure that with any tour you choose to take, you will see not only the famous sights, but some hidden gems too.

On these pages are a small selection of APT’s tours available for Australia, but for the full range please ask for a copy of Austravel’s Touring brochure, or refer to Austravel.com.

The APT Difference:
- Experienced Guides, Drivers and Tour Directors
- Range of Touring Styles
- Sightseeing and more!
- Hand picked accommodation
- Unique dining experiences

Treasuries of Australia

15 Day Essential Escorted Tour

The ultimate introduction to Australia and new to our touring programme. Cruise the Sydney Harbour and see the iconic sights, travel north to Hamilton Island and the natural beauty of the Whitsundays and Great Barrier Reef, visit the world’s oldest living rainforest and then fly island to Australia’s epic Red Centre.

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:
- Enjoy a welcome dinner aboard a Sydney Harbour cruise
- Cruise aboard a catamaran to the outer Great Barrier Reef, where you will have the option to dive or snorkel to see the incredible colours of the reef below
- Watch the sunset over Uluru followed by the spectacular Field of Light
- Visit the School of Air and Flying Doctor Service in Alice Springs
- Stand on the large grounds of the Melbourne Cricket Ground, the largest cricket stadium in the world
- All transportation, overnight accommodation, 14 breakfasts, 2 lunches and 3 dinners

BOOK EARLY AND SAVE UP TO £1,000 PER COUPLE ON SELECTED DATES

East Coast Adventure

13 Day Essential Escorted Tour

This guided tour travels the famous East Coast of Australia, from cosmopolitan Sydney, via the reef fringed Whitsunday Islands, to the tropics of Cairns, and is a popular introduction to all things Aussie.

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:
- Sunbath and relax on the glorious beaches of The Gold Coast
- Wildlife experience at the world famous Australia Zoo as founded by Steve Irwin
- Two night stays on both Fraser and Hamilton Island
- Opportunities to snorkel the Great Barrier Reef at Whitsunven Beach
- All transportation, overnight accommodation and 12 breakfasts, 1 lunch and 7 dinners
- Shorter options from Brisbane to Cairns available, or in reverse

BOOK EARLY AND SAVE UP TO £400 PER COUPLE ON SELECTED DATES

Kimberley, Kakadu & Arnhem Land Explorer

17 Day Wilderness Adventure - Broom to Darwin

Embark on a small group, 4WD remote journey with a maximum of 20 guests through Western Australia and the Northern Territory where you will experience once-in-a-lifetime moments.

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:
- Appreciate the remoteness of this epic destination with a helicopter flight over the cascading waters of Mitchell Falls
- Explore the Bungle Bungle Range in the heart of the Purnululu National Park and watch the sun set with a refreshing drink in hand
- Admire indigenous rock art in the remote Mitchell Plateau and see ancient Gwion Gwion and Wandjina rock art styles that are hidden in caves
- Cruise on the Yellow Water Billabong and look out for all the rich wildlife within the Kakadu National Park
- Stay at incredible wilderness lodges and gain a fascinating insight into how the Binini people use the native flora and fauna to support their way of life
- All transportation, overnight accommodation, 16 breakfasts, 15 lunch and 16 dinners

BOOK EARLY AND SAVE UP TO £900 PER COUPLE ON SELECTED DATES

15 Day Essential Escorted Tour

Did you know you can maximise your time on the ground by combining both of these magnificent countries. Combine the iconic sights of Sydney and the Great Barrier Reef on the Treasures of Australia, with the New Zealand Gateway for striking landscapes and whale watching to make one incredible journey.

See our separate Touring or New Zealand brochures for more options to tour with APT or talk to your Travel Designer for more information.

BOOK EARLY AND SAVE UP TO £1,000 PER COUPLE ON SELECTED DATES

26 DAY ESSENTIAL ESCORTED TOUR

15 Day Essential Escorted Tour

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BOOK EARLY AND SAVE UP TO £1,000 PER COUPLE ON SELECTED DATES
EXPLORE AUSTRALIA BY RAIL

Australia is a vast country that takes time to explore, so we recommend you embark on an epic rail journey as part of your itinerary. Choose from the iconic Ghan that takes you from Darwin to Adelaide via Alice Springs, where you will witness stunning backdrops of rugged outback, or board the Indian Pacific between Perth and Sydney and join a tasting tour in Adelaide Central Markets. Alternatively, witness the sandy beaches of Australia’s East Coast and discover the Great Barrier Reef, Whitsundays and Queensland’s cities, Brisbane and Cairns with Queensland Rail Travel.

The Ghan
Embark on the ultimate rail adventure through the heart of Australia aboard one of the world’s greatest trains, The Ghan. From the tropics of the Top End to the ancient Red Centre and South Australia’s rich food and wine bowl, immerse yourself in the intriguing history, colourful characters and awe-inspiring vistas that embody the Australian Outback.

TIMETABLE FROM ADELAIDE:
Departing Wednesdays from Darwin and arriving on Saturdays into Adelaide. Additional services available June to August: departing Wednesdays from Darwin and arriving on Fridays into Adelaide.

TIMETABLE FROM DARWIN:
Departing Wednesdays from Darwin and arriving on Fridays into Adelaide.

Book Early and Save Up To 20%
Subject to availability. Ask your Travel Designer for full details.

The Ghan Expedition
For the ultimate Outback rail experience then The Ghan Expedition (March to October ‘19) ticks all the boxes over 4 days with extended touring off train in Alice Springs, an opportunity to upgrade to a scenic flight and base tour of Uluru (additional cost), an Outback BBQ Dinner under the stars in Alice Springs plus a visit to the quirky Opal mining town of Coober Pedy.

TIMETABLE: Departing Wednesdays from Darwin and arriving on Saturday into Adelaide. Additional services available June to August: departing Darwin on Saturdays, arriving into Adelaide on Tuesdays.

Queensland Rail Travel
Along the East Coast, the Spirit Train – an Australian speed record holder – is a trouble-free way of travelling. Reaching up to 160 miles per hour, it gets its name from gently tilting whilst taking curves at speed. The Spirit of Queensland journeys from Brisbane to Cairns and offers revolutionary Railbeds, a first for rail in Australia alongside state of the art personal entertainment systems. Queensland Rail Travel flexible Explorer Passes are also available for those with time on their side (either one or two month durations), allowing for unlimited travel on the majority of services throughout Queensland.

Inclusive Off Train Excursions and Outback Experiences
While the comfort of train travel is unmatched on board the Indian Pacific and The Ghan, the epic journey continues well beyond the tracks. Inclusive for Platinum and Gold Service Guests, a range of handpicked Off Train Excursions and Outback Experiences designed to excite, explore and allow you to immerse yourself in the culture and this breathtakingly beautiful destination.

Indian Pacific
From the shores of the Indian Ocean to the Pacific coast, the Indian Pacific takes you on a transcontinental adventure like no other. Explore the vastness of the Nullarbor Plain, lush southern valleys and majestic Blue Mountains, as you cross Australia on one of the world’s most epic rail journeys.

TIMETABLE FROM SYDNEY:
Departing Wednesdays from Sydney and arriving on Saturdays into Perth.

TIMETABLE FROM PERTH:
Departing Sundays from Perth and arriving on Wednesdays into Sydney.

Please visit austravel.com or speak to one of our Travel Designers for further information.
Introduction

LUXURY AUSTRALIA

With secluded island getaways, stylish outback retreats and spectacular wilderness lodges, Australia boasts world-class accommodation in some of the most spectacular locations on the planet. From a homestead with wildlife right on your doorstep to a stay within Frontier Aboriginal lands, Austravel highly recommends adding any of these hand-picked properties to your itinerary for that little bit of extra indulgence, or combine several for a journey of a lifetime.

Southern Ocean Lodge
KANGAROO ISLAND, SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Exclusive and award-winning, this world-class lodge on Kangaroo Island offers an unforgettable blend of contemporary luxury and pure nature. Twenty-one luxurious suites welcome panoramic views of the great Southern Ocean and boundless coastal wilderness, and feature custom furnishings, lavish lounge and sleeping areas, glass-surround ensuites and private outdoor terraces. Naturalist guides lead guests to a first-hand experience of the abundant wildlife on ‘Australia’s Galapagos’, whilst the Southern Spa features signature treatments with Kangaroo Island botanicals designed to relax and rejuvenate.

Spicers Peak Lodge
NEAR MARYVALE, QUEENSLAND

Perched on the top of Queensland’s Scenic Rim, stay in one of the sumptuous suites, or in a private lodge dotted throughout the beautiful estate. At Australia’s highest non-alpine lodge, there are activities galore, from bush walking, 4WD tours, guided hikes or mountain biking tours. Alternatively sit back in Spa Anise for one of the signature treatments, before enjoying fresh, local produce and regional wines in The Peak restaurant, all just a two hour drive from Brisbane.

Wolgan Valley Resort & Spa
BLUE MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK, NEW SOUTH WALES

Nestled in the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage region the resort lies within its own 7,200 acre private conservation and wildlife reserve and is the first carbon neutral resort in the world. This One&Only luxury resort comprises of 40 individual suites, each with its own swimming pool and are complemented by a main homestead offering distinctive dining, luxury facilities and the stand-alone One&Only Spa.

Lizard Island Resort
GREAT BARRIER REEF, NORTHERN QUEENSLAND

Lizard Island is located right on the Great Barrier Reef, accessible by short flight from Cairns, fringed with coral reefs and 24 powdery white beaches. With spectacular diving and snorkelling opportunities, discover secluded, pristine beaches by foot or by motorised dinghy with a gourmet picnic just for two. All meals and non-alcoholic drinks are included during your stay, as well as use of stand up paddle boards, kayaks and snorkelling equipment for use during your stay.

Longitude 131
ULURU – KATA TJUTA, NORTHERN TERRITORY

Simply one of the best wilderness hotels in the world in Australia’s spirited heartland. Stay in one of sixteen tented sanctuaries, enjoying panoramic, uninterrupted views of Uluru and the surrounding desert landscape. With floor to ceiling windows, you can observe the fascinating sights of the outback or relax on the outdoor deck and gaze up at the blanket of stars above. For a welcome retreat after a day exploring, relax in Spa Kinara with a signature menu of treatments to choose from.

COMO The Treasury
PERTH, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Occupying state buildings dating from the 19th century and packed full of heritage features, the 48 elegant guest rooms at the COMO offer contemporary luxury in the heart of the city. With heated floors, deep bathtubs and motorised window shades, you’ll never want to leave! Take a swim in the indoor pool and pamper yourself at the COMO Shambala Spa before enjoying dinner at Wildflower – an elegant rooftop restaurant with sweeping views over the Swan River.

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WALKS, WILDLIFE AND ADVENTURE

When you think of Australia you might envisage beaches, reefs and the Outback, but it is renowned for its unique wildlife and no trip would be complete without taking the time to get up close and personal with some of its most famous residents. Australia is also home to some spectacular walking trails; from short hikes to epic treks, there’s something for every level of adventure.

Penguins at Phillip Island
Experience Victoria’s wildlife island featuring spectacular scenery, charming heritage and an abundance of Australian wildlife including one of the largest Little Penguin colonies in the world - each day at sunset they emerge from the sea and waddle across the beach to their sand dune burrows.

Kangaroo Island
Easily accessible from Adelaide is South Australia’s Kangaroo Island, a haven for wildlife lovers who want an intimate experience with Australia’s beautiful native animals. Take time to explore while wallabies, echidnas, 267 species of birds, penguins, koalas and of course kangaroos relax in their natural environment.

Oceanic Walks
Swim with whales, dugongs and rays in the waters of Ningaloo Reef on a day snorkelling with the largest of the ocean, and cruise for dolphins, turtles, fish in the ocean – up to 18m long! Snorkel with these gentle giants of the ocean, and cruise the waters of Ningaloo Reef on the West Australian coastline, searching for dolphins, turtles, rays and dugongs.

Tasmanian Devil
With accessible wilderness and plenty of wildlife sanctuaries, Tasmania is the ideal destination to get up close with native Australian animals. It’s also the one place on earth you’ll find a Tasmanian devil in the wild. Take a visit to Bonorong Wildlife sanctuary and join one of the unique and in-depth guided tours.

Great Ocean Road – Koala Spotting
Stretching from Geelong to Portland in South West Victoria the landscape along the Great Ocean Road is rich and diverse. Take a day tour from Melbourne if you’re short on time, search for koalas in the wild and see the spectacular sea stacks of the Twelve Apostles.

Twelve Apostles Walk
The remote wilderness of this walk is located just two and a half hours from Melbourne, covering 55km of rugged coastline and dedicated walking trails, ending at the iconic Twelve Apostles with a helicopter flight included. There are marine sanctuaries to discover, remote beaches and stories of shipwrecks, with the promise of fantastic regional food and Victoria’s best wines at the end of each day.

Quokka – Rottnest Island
Meet some of the 10,000 Quokkas that reside on the picturesque island of Rottnest, located just offshore from the city of Perth. With no natural predators, these adorable marsupials are often referred to as ‘the happiest animals on earth’.

Margaret River – Cape to Cape
Begin at the northern tip of the Margaret River by Cape Naturaliste, before spending four days exploring the coastline of the Margaret River, home to pristine beaches and ancient forests. Your home for two of the nights is Injidup Spa Retreat, where you can relax after a day’s walking in your private plunge pool, before enjoying gourmet local produce.

Scenic Rim Trail by Spicers
Graded: Easy to Moderate 4 Day Walk
Inland from the beaches and bustle of the Gold Coast lies south east Queensland’s Main Range National Park, an area of ancient lands, volcanic plateaus and spectacular luxury retreats. Begin in the foothills of Mt Ossa – the highest peak, plus temperate rainforests and alpine meadows.

Cradle Mountain Huts
Graded: Moderate to Hard 6 Day Walk
Explore the Cradle Mountain National Park in the heart of wilderness Tasmania on this 6 day trek. Your nightly stay is in eco-huts – the only private accommodation on the track, where your experienced guides will prepare a three course dinner each evening. Walks include the option to tackle Mt Ossa – Tasmania’s highest peak, plus temperate rainforests and alpine meadows.
With one of the most famous cities in the world as its gateway, New South Wales is on everyone’s bucket list. However, Sydney’s iconic Harbour Bridge and Opera House are only tasters of what the state has to offer. Leave the city and explore the vast dramatic landscape of the Blue Mountains, sample fine wines in the Hunter Valley, or chill out on some of the most beautiful beaches in the world around Byron Bay in the north, or Jervis Bay to the south.

FACT FILE
Climate: New South Wales enjoys a warm climate with seasons opposite to those of the UK. Spring starts in September, summer in December, autumn in March and winter in June.
Flying time to Sydney: 22 hours + 1 stop
Driving times:
Sydney to Blue Mountains or Hunter Valley – 2 hours
Sydney to Coffs Harbour – 6 hours 30 minutes
Sydney to Jervis Bay – 3 hours
GMT: +10 hours

TOP EXPERIENCES
• Take a harbour cruise for the best views of Sydney’s iconic sights.
• Marvel at the Three Sisters rock formation in the Blue Mountains.
• Sample the delicious semillon and shiraz of the Hunter Valley wine region.
• Watch the sunrise from the white-sand beaches of Jervis Bay.

SYDNEY
With its glittering harbour, the Harbour Bridge and the iconic sails of the Opera House, you cannot fail to be impressed with this vibrant city. Take time to explore The Rocks historic district – home to award-winning seafood restaurants and bustling bars – or relax on the famous beaches of Manly and Bondi. Cruise the harbour, or make the exhilarating climb to the top of the Harbour Bridge for the best views across Sydney and beyond.

NEW SOUTH WALES

DAY TOURS

Captain Cook Premium Harbour Story Cruise
Sydney is just one of those cities that needs to be seen from the water! This essential cruise includes a fun and informative commentary as well as a plated morning tea as you sail past the iconic Opera House, Harbour Bridge and Fort Denison before sailing the magnificent upper reaches past exclusive waterfront homes. Alternatively a 3 day pass allows you to explore all the sights surrounding the harbour, whilst a Dinner cruise showcases Sydney Harbour by night.

The Sydney Opera House Tour
Designed by Danish Architect Jørn Utzon and opened in 1973, the Sydney Opera House is a famous silhouette on the city skyline. Discover the history, stories and magic on an incredible guided tour taking you beneath the world famous sails. Upgrade your experience to include a gourmet tasting platter overlooking the harbour waters.

Blue Mountains High Country
This fantastic small group eco tour starts in the Rocks area of Sydney before heading west to the Great Dividing Range and the Blue Mountains National Park. Drop into a hidden valley and search for kangaroos and view the Three Sisters from Eagle Hawk lookout before enjoying the local cuisine and wines.

BridgeClimb
BridgeClimb is the ultimate experience in Sydney, offering fully guided tours to the summit of Sydney Harbour Bridge. You don’t need to be an expert to give this a go – anyone over 10 years old can climb. You will be given a ‘BridgeSuit’ to wear, full training, and a harness linked to a static line throughout. Choose from Dawn, Day, Twilight and Night climbs.
WHERE TO STAY IN SYDNEY

Many central hotels in Sydney are within walking distance to the major attractions of the Harbour Bridge, Opera House, The Rocks and Circular Quay. For the ultimate Sydney experience, upgrade to a harbour view room for a stay you’ll never forget!

**Holiday Inn Old Sydney**
Nested under the Harbour Bridge in the historic Rocks area, rooms are based around a central atrium, and the hotel boasts a rooftop pool and terrace with amazing views across the harbour.

**FREE NIGHTS ON SELECTED DATES**

**Park Hyatt**
With a coveted harbour front location between the world-famous Opera House and Sydney Harbour Bridge, spacious guest rooms feature floor to ceiling glass doors that open onto private balconies, and contemporary interiors. A dedicated team of butlers provide around-the-clock, personalised service.

**Amora Jamison**
With recently refurbished guest rooms and a short walk from Circular Quay, The Rocks and Wynyard train station, this 5 star hotel is the perfect location for your Sydney stay. Pamper yourself in the spa and dine at the hotel’s restaurant, Craft.

**FREE NIGHTS ON SELECTED DATES**

**Four Seasons Sydney**
Overlooking Sydney Harbour in the historic precinct of The Rocks, featuring 531 stylish rooms and suites. Enjoy exclusive Lounge 32 with harbour views (Club Rooms), new Mode Kitchen & Bar, Gran craft beer, whisky and cocktail bar, day spa and outdoor heated pool.

**Pretty Beach House**
This small boutique guesthouse is located just 90 minutes drive north of Sydney on the beautiful Central Coast. Surrounded by wild eucalyptus forest with views out to the sparkling waters of the Bouddi Peninsula, it is home to just four private pavilions with luxury facilities.

**Lord Howe Island**
A 2 hour flight from Sydney takes you to Lord Howe, and with only 400 visitors allowed at any time, and just 300 permanent residents, the pace of life on the island is relaxing and unhurried. Encircled by the world’s southern-most coral reef, you can snorkel straight off the sand at Ned’s Beach where you can hand-feed the fish or cast off at Blinky Beach for Australian salmon. Stay at Capella Lodge for the ultimate island experience.
6 Day Self Drive Itinerary

DAY 1: SYDNEY – BLUE MOUNTAINS
Approx. 62 miles
Head out of Sydney towards the Blue Mountains, one of Australia’s most popular National Parks. Being only just over an hour out of the city means that there is plenty of time today to explore the region.

DAY 2: BLUE MOUNTAINS
Today is at leisure to allow you more time to ensure that all the highlights of the region are covered – visit Scenic World to take a ride on the famous railway or Skyway (own expense) or simply take in the incredible views on offer such as the Three Sisters.

DAY 3: BLUE MOUNTAINS – HUNTER VALLEY
Approx. 153 miles
Pass through Brisbane Water and Wollemi National Parks before arriving at your accommodation in the Hunter Valley.

DAY 4: HUNTER VALLEY
Another day to spend at leisure! The Hunter Valley is New South Wales’ most famous wine region, and with over eighty wineries on offer you will be sure to sample some classic tastes!

DAY 5: HUNTER VALLEY – PORT STEPHENS
Approx. 62 miles
Drive through the scenic Lemon Tree Passage to reach Port Stephens, known for the bottlenose dolphins that play in the bay. Indulge in the fabulous seafood and enjoy diving right off the beach at Nelson Bay.

DAY 6: PORT STEPHENS – SYDNEY
Approx. 128 miles
Leave Port Stephens and travel south along the Pacific Highway through Newcastle and past Lake Macquarie. Make your way back into Sydney over the majestic Harbour Bridge.

Please see australand.com for full itinerary details and accommodation options.
New South Wales | Australia

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**DAY TOUR**

**Dolphin Kayak Tour: Cape Byron Kayaks**

Paddle alongside the marine wildlife that inhabits the calm waters of Byron Bay, with dolphins, turtles and whales to be spotted! Whether you’re an experienced paddler or a novice, this protected and sheltered bay is a great place to get on the water.

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### THE PACIFIC COAST

The coastline of New South Wales is home to a diverse range of beaches, bays and laid back towns. To the south, Jervis Bay boasts crystal clear waters, whale watching and inland national parks, along with the famous white sands of Hyams Beach. Travel north from Sydney to Port Stephens, enclosed by volcanic headlands, and on to Byron Bay, with a strong café culture, quirky bars and surf shops.

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### TOURING

**Pacific Coast Explorer**

6 Day Self Drive Itinerary (6)

**DAY 1: SYDNEY – HUNTER VALLEY APPROX. 204 MILES**

Travel north across the world-famous Sydney Harbour Bridge. Call into Wollombi, a town famous for its convict history and Aboriginal legends. Pass through the town of Millfield into Cessnock before reaching the Hunter Valley.

**DAY 2: HUNTER VALLEY – PORT STEPHENS APPROX. 62 MILES**

Leave the Hunter Valley and travel northeast to Port Stephens, a natural bay twice the size of Sydney Harbour and almost enclosed by two dormant volcanic headlands. Bottlenose dolphins frequent the bay and there is fabulous seafood and great scuba diving from the beach.

**DAY 3: PORT STEPHENS – COFFS HARBOUR APPROX. 259 MILES**

Journey along the Pacific Highway and travel north to Port Macquarie, the mid-way point between Sydney and Brisbane. ‘Port’ as it is known, is one of the oldest towns in the State. Continue to Coffs Harbour – a tourist resort in the centre of a tropical fruit growing area.

**DAY 4: COFFS HARBOUR – BYRON BAY APPROX. 150 MILES**

This northern stretch of New South Wales contains some of the most beautiful natural areas in Australia. Travel north to Byron Bay, the most easterly point in Australia, or explore further afield on the 70km of beaches on the Gold Coast.

**DAY 5: BYRON BAY**

Today is free to spend at your leisure. Enjoy the restaurants and cafés, take a surfing lesson or simply relax on the beach.

**DAY 6: BYRON BAY – BRISBANE APPROX. 102 MILES**

Leaving the Gold Coast Highway, join the Pacific Highway northbound to Brisbane where you will return your Avis car.

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Please see [austravel.com](http://austravel.com) for full details and accommodation options.
Queensland is Australia's 'Sunshine State' – home to some of the world's most remarkable beaches, coral reefs and ancient rainforest. Southern Queensland is a diverse mix of surfing hotspots, buzzing entertainment and pretty beach towns. Heading north, you can sail the Whitsunday Islands, snorkel or dive the Great Barrier Reef – the world's largest living organism. Queensland really does have something for everyone.

FACT FILE
Climate: Queensland's climate is tropical with two seasons – the dry and the wet. In the north, from December to February the summers are hot and very humid with slightly milder conditions in the south. The winters from June to August are warm and dry across the state.

Flying time to Brisbane or Cairns: 21 hours + 1 stop
Driving times:
Brisbane to Hervey Bay – 4 hours
Hervey Bay to Airlie Beach – 10 hours
Airlie Beach to Cairns – 7 hours 30 minutes
Cairns to Port Douglas – 1 hour
GMT: +10 hours

BRISBANE & GOLD COAST

Brisbane is the biggest city in Southern Queensland and the gateway to the Gold Coast. Wander over to South Bank, a lifestyle precinct of cafes, restaurants, boutiques and cultural centres or enjoy The Queen Street Mall. Explore the Gold Coasts glorious beaches and entertainment capital, Surfers Paradise with its impressive skyline. For a quieter alternative, Broadbeach is home to boutique shops and popular restaurants. Inland you’ll find Lamington National Park with its natural beauty and waterfalls, a perfect escape from this energetic beach city.

TOURING

Gold Coast and Lamington National Park
5 Day Suggested Self Drive Itinerary
Explore the beaches and the bustling Gold Coast, plus national park and hinterland with this suggested self drive itinerary. This can be adapted to suit your preferences, or time limitations, talk to your Travel Designer for help in planning your perfect trip.

HIGHLIGHTS:
• Spend a few days in Brisbane
• Surfers Paradise, the main hub of the Gold Coast
• Head inland along the winding roads towards the sub-tropical Lamington National Park for a stay at O’Reilly’s Rainforest Retreat.
• Immerse yourself in the rainforest surroundings, with plenty of wildlife to spot, plus bush walking, picturesque waterfalls and a boutique vineyard with fine food and wine.
• Tamborine National Park, Queensland’s first national park, before returning to Brisbane for your onward journey.

TOURING

Hot Air Ballooning - Gold Coast
An early morning start is well worth it for the photos you’ll capture! Float over the Gold Coast Hinterland on a 30 minute journey, followed by a hot breakfast and Champagne at O’Reilly’s Vineyard. Talk to your Travel Designer for an upgrade to a 60 minute flight to enjoy more of this stunning region from above.
AUSTRALIA’S NATURE COAST
Starting north of Brisbane, this coastline is home to a pristine stretch of beaches, with chilled-out coastal towns and national parks overlooking the Pacific Ocean. You can’t miss the spectacular volcanic peaks of the Glass House Mountains rising from the hinterland, while further north the beach towns of Maroochydore, Mooloolaba and Noosa are a haven for surfers and beach lovers. Fraser Island – the largest sand island in the world, easily reached by a short ferry ride.

DAY TOUR

Whale Watching Cruise
Glide through the tranquil waters of the Queensland coastline at Hervey Bay with Tasmann Ventures, before heading towards Fraser Island, home to a vast array of marine and land animals. Whale watch season runs from July to October, when you may find yourself in the middle of large pods of these fascinating creatures. This tour includes morning or afternoon tea.

Peppers Noosa Resort & Villas
Eco-conscious sustainability, premium resort with solar energy and water irrigation. Choose from any penthouses or apartments in the centre of the resort or for a little more space, choose a Noosa villa. Located just a short walk to stylish Hastings Street for shopping, people watching and al fresco dining.

FREE NIGHTS ON SELECTED DATES

TOURING

Rainforest and Reef Discovery
5 Day Fraser Island and Lady Elliot Island package
DAY 1: Fly from Hervey Bay out to the heart of the Great Barrier Reef at Lady Elliot Island for your stay in this marine paradise. Soak in the natural island atmosphere, wander to a deserted beach or snorkel in the tropical waters.

DAY 2: Head out on guided island activities and take a glass bottom boat tour and snorkel – if you’re lucky enough you may spot one of the resident manta rays, which can grow up to an enormous 7 metres in wingspan, as they majestically swim by. From June to October you may also spot whales passing as they migrate north.

DAY 3: Fly back to Hervey Bay to catch the catamaran out to Fraser Island – the largest sand island in the world. Spend the afternoon with a range of guided walks and nature talks.

DAY 4: Take an adventure across the island with a guided Beauty Spot tour, swimming in the crystal clear waters of Lake McKenzie, and walking the banks of Wanggoolba Creek as it flows silently through the rainforest. Cool off at the fresh waters of Eli Creek and marvel at the coloured sands of the Pinnacles, before heading back to Kingfisher Bay Resort.

DAY 5: Travel back to Hervey Bay to continue your journey through Queensland, or ask our expert Travel Designers about extending your adventure.

Please note: Itinerary includes 2 nights at Lady Elliot in a Reef Unit with return flights, and 2 nights at Kingfisher Bay in a Resort Room with catamaran transfers.

Lady Elliot Island Eco Resort
Stop straight off the beach to swim on an island teeming with an array of marine life. Stay in reef and garden units, or safari-style eco huts at this small, 43 room resort, set in tropical gardens. Accessible by a 42 minute flight from Hervey Bay, includes breakfast and dinner.

FREE NIGHTS ON SELECTED DATES

Kingfisher Bay Resort
Located amongst nature on Fraser island, accommodation is in Queenlander-style rooms and villas. Austravel recommends a two night adventure, which includes a 4WD tour to allow you to explore the islands main attractions including Seventy-Five Mile Beach and ancient rainforests.

FREE NIGHTS ON SELECTED DATES

The Glass House Mountains
Inland from the Sunshine Coast, the Glass House Mountains and surrounding countryside are home to spectacular wildlife and stunning native rainforest. The sharp, pointed peak of Mount Beerwah is the highest volcanic hill in the range and can be viewed from the lookout at Beerburrum State Forest. Austravel recommends Narrewa Escape, the base from which you explore this hidden jewel of Queensland.

FREE NIGHTS ON SELECTED DATES
THE WHITSUNDAYS

Situated in the aptly named ‘Coral Sea’, the Whitsunday Islands are the perfect place to unwind and discover the best of Queensland’s tropical sights. Home to secluded talcum-white beaches, warm waters full of diverse marine wildlife, and abundant rainforests, you can choose to relax at a beautiful island retreat, or spend your days sailing around hidden bays and exploring multi-coloured reefs. Hamilton Island can be easily reached by ferry from Airlie Beach, or its own domestic airport.

Daydream Island Resort and Spa

Daydream Island offers refurbished modern rooms and suites just 30 minutes by ferry from Airlie Beach. Feed sharks and stingrays at the world’s largest outdoor aquarium and explore the incredibly blue waters of the Whitsundays.

BREAKFAST INCLUDED
FREE NIGHTS ON SELECTED DATES

Panorama Flight with Air Whitsundays

Take to the skies over the turquoise waters of the Whitsunday Islands National Park and the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park on this half day experience. Fly from Airlie Beach and after a scenic flight over Whitehaven Beach, land on the water to spend 2 hours coral viewing, swimming and snorkelling. On the way home enjoy an hour at Whitehaven Beach – with some of the whitest sands in the world.

Reefsleep: Overnight Great Barrier Reef Experience

2 Day Adventure
Located out at Hardy Reef, one of the most spectacular stretches of the Great Barrier Reef, your home for the night is the unique pontoon. Travel onboard the high speed boat from Airlie Beach or Hamilton Island and spend the day snorkeling, swimming with the marine life or catching some sunshine on the deck. Once the day visitors have left, the pontoon is home to just 9 guests, with accommodation available in either a swag under the stars, or a private double room. Watch the sunset over this famous reef with a cocktail in hand, before a sumptuous three course meal on the deck.

Next morning rise with the sun as the marine life wakes around you, with day guests arriving at 11am. Spend the rest of the day at leisure before your transfer back to Airlie Beach or Hamilton Island.

Whitehaven Beach

Stretching for more than four miles, this pristine stretch of pure white sand at Whitehaven Beach and the shallow turquoise waters of Hill Inlet have to be seen to be believed. Sink your feet into the brilliant white silica sand and walk on the warm waters, you can experience this picture perfect beach in several ways. Enjoy a day cruise with a BBQ lunch, stand hop around the Whitsundays, or for the ultimate experience take a scenic flight above sparkling waters, watching out for rays and turtles.
HAMILTON ISLAND
Surrounded by idyllic coral fringed beaches, Hamilton Island is a tropical paradise of unspoilt beauty right on the edge of the Great Barrier Reef. Easily accessed with its own airport, or by ferry from Airlie Beach; there’s a fantastic range of restaurants, bars and activities on offer. Hamilton has something for everyone – from couples to families, and the ultimate in luxury at qualia.

Reef View
Directly opposite the beautiful Catseye Beach, rooms have private balconies most facing the sea, allowing you to experience the spectacular sunrises and sunsets over the surrounding Whitsunday Islands.

Beach Club, Hamilton Island
Set in landscaped gardens, this adults only oasis boasts an infinity edge pool overlooking Catseye Beach, and all rooms have their own private courtyard or balcony.

qualia, Hamilton Island
Nestled neatly into the northern most tip of Hamilton Island, surrounded by the unsurpassed beauty of the Great Barrier Reef. All of the luxurious hillside pavilions boast postcard views.

Great Barrier Reef Adventure
Cruise through the Whitsunday Islands National Park en-route to the outer Great Barrier Reef, one of the world’s most stunning natural attractions. Enjoy a range of activities and facilities at one of our two spacious reef pontoons including an underwater viewing chamber, snorkelling and semi-submersible boat rides. Whatever way you choose to explore the underwater wonderland, you’ll be held in awe by the magnificent corals and abundance of fish and marine life. Optional activities include scenic helicopter flights and introductory or certified diving.
CAIRNS AND TROPICAL NORTH

Often referred to as the gateway to the Great Barrier Reef, Cairns provides the perfect location for exploring Tropical North Queensland. Alternatively, if you are looking for somewhere quieter you can choose from a selection of seaside villages within a 30 minute drive and a rainforest retreat nestled in the heart of the Atherton Tablelands.

TOURING

Cruising the Great Barrier Reef with Coral Expeditions

3, 4 and 7 Night Cruises available Join Coral Expeditions on a small ship cruise, exploring the hidden gems of the UNESCO World Heritage listed, Great Barrier Reef. Swim, snorkel and dive in the clear tropical waters, join a marine biologist on a glass-bottom boat and visit tropical islands and ancient rainforests. With a maximum of 44 passengers on board, this is a personalised and unique way to experience the underwater wonderland of the reef. Please visit australiavacation.com for full details or speak to a travel designer.

ALL CRUISES INCLUDE:

• All meals prepared using locally sourced ingredients, morning and afternoon teas, and soft drinks from the soda fountain
• Use of snorkelling equipment, masks and fins
• Guided glass bottom coral viewing and snorkelling excursions, plus island and rainforest walks
• Introductory SCUBA diving session for first time divers on the outer reef

Please note: Cruises depart Monday and Fridays, boarding at Trinity Wharf. (Cruise to Port Douglas and Scotts Head on the first and last itinerary). Prices are quoted in USD and are subject to change of 10% per person payable on board.

DAY TOURS

Rainforest and Reef Helicopter Flight

Travel with Great Barrier Reef Helis on this scenic flight which showcases the best of the reef and the rainforest. The scale and beauty of the reef is something that can only be fully appreciated from the air. Combined with a flight over the Barron Gorge, Kuranda and Redlynch Valley, this is an experience you'll never forget. Ask your Travel Designer for 30 minute flights to the Reef or Rainforest only.

Visit Kuranda

Take a trip to Tjupaka Aboriginal Cultural Park and let an indigenous guide teach you about culture and history; also learn how to throw a boomerang! Next, experience World Heritage rainforest with Skyrail Rainforest Cableway including 2 stations where you can take a ranger guided boardwalk and view the Barron Falls. On arrival at Kuranda village there's time to explore the shops, before boarding the Kuranda Scenic Train at Freshwater Station. Upgrade to the Gold Class for preferential seating, morning or afternoon tea and welcome drinks.

Explore the reef with Quicksilver

Experience the dramatic beauty of the iconic Great Barrier Reef with Quicksilver Cruises. Whether you are adventurous and confident in the water or prefer to stay dry and observe, you can depart from Cairns or Port Douglas and choose from half day and full day tours. Book the Wavedancer Low Isles Cruise for a sailing trip on a 30 metre Cataramaran that includes a guided snorkelling tour, nature walk with a marine biologist, glass bottom boat tour and lunch. Alternatively, book the Quicksilver Outer Reef Cruise for a day of discovery at the stunning Agincourt Reef. From the floating platform, it is perfect for swimmers and non-swimmers with a wide range of experiences.

Quicksilver Crusing the Great Barrier Reef

Wavedancer Low Isles

With stunning 180 degree ocean views of the Coral Sea, looking out towards the Great Barrier Reef, stay in one, two and three bedroom apartments with full kitchen facilities. Relax with a morning coffee on the balcony before a refreshing swim in the pool or strolling Trinity Beach.

Pullman Palm Cove Sea Temple Resort

Located on a white sandy beachfront, this hotel offers the ultimate in sophisticated accommodation with apartments surrounding a lagoon pool. Hire a bike and explore the area then dine at the Temple of Tastes restaurant and enjoy fresh seasonal produce.

Rose Gums Wilderness Retreat

Set in 192 acres of tropical rainforest adjoining the Wooroomoran National Park, approximately 90 minutes from Cairns. Stay in one of the treehouses within this rainforest canopy - a truly remarkable guest experience.

FREE NIGHTS AVAILABLE ON SELECTED DATES

Fitzroy Island

One of the most unspoilt islands of the Great Barrier Reef, Fitzroy is located 29 kilometres to the south east of Cairns, boasting tropical pristine rainforested and coral beaches. Rooms are affordably priced and perfect for couples or families.

Getting there: Travel by boat from Cairns in just 45 minutes.
PORT DOUGLAS AND CAPE TRIBULATION

Heading into northern Queensland the road hugs the coastline, delve deeper into the ancient forests of the Daintree National Park, the deserted beaches of Cape Tribulation, or the marina boardwalks of laid back Port Douglas. With resorts catering for families, great apartment options, or luxury rainforest lodges, there’s somewhere for everyone.

Meridian Port Douglas

Ideally situated in the heart of Port Douglas offering a peaceful and relaxing getaway within a short walking distance from the bars and restaurants of Macrossan Street and only 200m from the famous Four Mile Beach.

Pullman Port Douglas Sea Temple Resort and Spa

This spacious retreat just a few miles from the centre of town, features studio rooms and elegant apartments as well as an expansive lagoon style pool. Dine at ALUCO for incredible seafood cuisine.

Mandalay Luxury Apartments

With exclusive walkway access to magnificent Four Mile Beach, these spacious, fully equipped apartments reflect beach style and relaxed elegance. Hire a bike, use the BBQ facilities or take a swim in one of the two pools.

Walkabout Cultural Adventures Half Day Tour

Choose between morning and afternoon options, where a local Kuku Yalanji Aboriginal guide will take you to coastal habitats to learn about the environment, and natural foods and medicines. Sample bush tucker and try your hand at spear fishing. Visit the rainforest and complete your adventure with a swim in one of the pristine freshwater streams.

Cape Tribulation, Daintree and Mossman Gorge

Explore the World Heritage Rainforest and amazing landscapes of the Daintree and Cape Tribulation National Park. Begin with a croc spotting cruise on the Daintree River, before winding back through the rainforest for views from Alexandra Lookout. After a tropical lunch wander along the beach at Cape Tribulation, named by Captain Cook on his voyage of discovery in 1770. Our next stop is Mossman Gorge, enjoy an interpretive rainforest walk to learn more about this ancient rainforest first hand.

Daintree Eco Lodge

A true rainforest experience, with quality accommodation, cuisine with a native twist and authentic Aboriginal culture. It is home to just 15 rainforest bungalows nestled in natural surroundings.

Silky Oaks Lodge

This is the Daintree’s ultimate rainforest retreat, with treehouse luxury accommodation, fine dining and the Healing Waters Spa, a first class rainforest experience. Breakfast, yoga and a guided rainforest walk is included in your stay.

Thala Beach Nature Reserve

Unwind at this eco retreat located on a private beach and surrounded by 145 acres of native forest with breathtaking ocean views, a 15 minute drive south of Port Douglas. Enjoy complimentary activities such as guided nature walks, indigenous experiences and stargazing.

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TOURING

The Great Barrier Reef Drive

7 Day Self Drive Itinerary

The spectacular coastline between Cairns and Cape Tribulation hugs two World Heritage areas; the Great Barrier Reef and the Wet Tropics rainforest. Pass by the laid back beachside towns of Trinity Beach, Palm Cove and Ellis Beach before exploring Mossman Gorge, the Daintree National Park and the iconic Reef.

DAY 1: CAIRNS
DAY 2: CAIRNS – PORT DOUGLAS APPROX. 61 MILES
DAY 3: PORT DOUGLAS
DAY 4: PORT DOUGLAS – CAPE TRIBULATION APPROX. 52 MILES
DAY 5: CAPE TRIBULATION – PALM COVE APPROX. 72 MILES
DAY 6: PALM COVE
DAY 7: PALM COVE – CAIRNS APPROX. 20 MILES

Please see austraload.com for full details of accommodation options.
NORTHERN TERRITORY

TOP EXPERIENCES
- See the sunset, sunrise and changing colours over Uluru and Kata Tjuta.
- Swim in the beautiful waterfalls of Litchfield and Kakadu National Parks.
- Camp under the stars in a swag, or a luxury tent, for a true Outback experience.
- Spend the evening under a starry sky at the sensational Sounds of Silence dinner.

FACT FILE
Climate: The Northern Territory’s climate is tropical with two seasons – the Dry and the Green (Wet). The Dry season starts around May, and the Green around November.

Flying time to Darwin: 19 hours + 1 stop
Driving times:
Uluru to Alice Springs – 5 hours 30 minutes
Alice Springs to Kings Canyon – 6 hours
Darwin to Kakadu – 3 hours 30 minutes
Darwin to Katherine – 4 hours
King Canyon to Uluru – 4 hours
GMT: +9.5 hours

The Northern Territory is a state of two distinctly different halves. The Top End is a steamy, green wonderland encompassing Kakadu’s lush wetlands and the gushing waterfalls of Litchfield National Park. In contrast, the Red Centre is Australia’s arid Outback desert. A sacred place, where Uluru (Ayers Rock) and Kata Tjuta (The Olgas) brood over the fiery-coloured landscape, and where dingoes, wallabies and emus call home.

The Red Centre

RED CENTRE
The Red Centre’s immense monolith of Uluru is not only visually stunning, but a major site of Aboriginal cultural importance. Its scale and beauty really has to be seen to be believed. Nearby is the other, if not more sacred site, of Kata Tjuta. With its 36 colossal domes, you can walk through the Valley of the Winds to experience their magnificence before watching both Kata Tjuta and Uluru turn a bright orange at sunset. Slightly further afield is Kings Canyon with the impressive rim walk – best completed on a cooler morning.

Field of Light:
As darkness falls and Uluru is thrown into silhouette, Field of Light illuminates. One of the most ambitious art installations of its kind, the Field of Light by internationally acclaimed artist Bruce Munro, will illuminate Uluru with 50,000 slender stems powered by solar energy.

upgrade to the Star Pass, which allows you access to the Field of Light – including a raised viewing area for sunset – whilst you enjoy Australian sparkling wine and canapés while you take in this magnificent sight.

The installation will be available to visit until 31 Dec ‘20.

Uluru Sunrise and Kata Tjuta
Rise early to see the morning rays light up Uluru in the heart of the Outback. After sunrise travel round the base of Uluru to the Mardjku Waterhole to view Aboriginal Art and learn about the history and culture of this area. Following this, visit the Uluru-Kata Tjuta Cultural Centre to see locally made arts and crafts on this half day tour.
Explore the Red Centre

6 Day Self Drive Itinerary

DAY 1: ALICE SPRINGS
Spend today exploring the sights of the bustling Outback township of Alice Springs. Highlights include the School of the Air and the Royal Flying Doctor Service museum.

DAY 2: ALICE SPRINGS – GLEN HELEN
Approx. 83 miles
Head west from Alice Springs and follow the spectacular MacDonnell Ranges. Closer to Glen Helen make a detour to Ormiston and Glen Helen Gorges.

DAY 3: GLEN HELEN – KINGS CANYON
Approx. 146 miles
Departing Glen Helen this morning, head along the Mereenie Loop road, through the Gardiner Range, and arrive into Watarrka National Park via the northern entrance.

DAY 4: KINGS CANYON – AYERS ROCK
Approx. 201 miles
Take an early morning walk through the Canyon, with magnificent views of the rim and the lush greenery of the ‘Garden of Eden’. This afternoon set off towards Australia’s most famous icon - Uluru. Visit Kata Tjuta for a stroll amongst the cluster of weathered red domes.

Touring

DAY 5: AYERS ROCK
Start the day early to watch the ever changing colours of Uluru as the sun rises. Next you could walk the base of Uluru, or visit the Cultural Centre. End the day witnessing the breathtaking sunset - with a suggested glass of wine!

DAY 6: AYERS ROCK
Return your car to Ayers Rock airport for your onward journey.

Please see austravel.com for full details and accommodation options.

Northern Territory | Australia

DISCOVER THE RED CENTRE

With a number of incredible natural sights on the road from Alice Springs to Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park, spending a few days exploring this area is essential. Embark on the ultimate Outback road trip across red-scorched earth, passing stunning gorges and ranges. Alternatively, learn about the Aboriginal culture and history by taking an escorted tour through the Red Centre. A snapshot tour takes the stress out of travelling and lets you sit back, as you visit the highlights of this unique landscape with an experienced and knowledgeable guide at the helm.

The Red Centre Experience

3 Day Escorted Tour with AAT Kings

DAY 1: ALICE SPRINGS – ULURU (AYERS ROCK)
BASE TOUR & SUNSET
Depart early from Alice Springs, stopping at a camel farm on route south to the Ayres Rock Resort. Drive around the base of Uluru and then onto the Kuniya Walk, where you will be guided to the Mutitjulu Waterhole, see Aboriginal rock art and hear about the history of the area. Witness the striking colour changes of the iconic rock at sunset, while enjoying nibbles and sparkling wine.

DAY 2: ULURU – KATA TJUTA – SOUNDS OF SILENCE DINNER
Rise early for a sunrise viewing of Uluru then continue onto Kata Tjuta (also known as the Olgas) to walk through Walpa Gorge, a trail that follows the natural creek bed between two of the tallest domes of this ancient rock formation.

DAY 3: FAREWELL FROM ULURU (AYERS ROCK)
Your short break concludes this morning. Speak to your Travel Designer to help plan the rest of your trip from here.

Please see austravel.com for more information and accommodation details.

Sounds of Silence

This really is an experience like no other. Enjoy a glass of sparkling wine as the sun slowly sets over Kata Tjuta and Uluru. Dine on a gourmet buffet of authentic Australian delicacies complemented by some of Australia’s finest wines. Attention then turns to some of the world’s best stargazing, as the resident astronomer takes you on an unforgettable tour of the southern night sky.

AUSTRAVEL.COM | 0808 252 4276
**DARWIN AND THE TOP END**

Darwin is the tropical hub of the Northern Territory and gateway to the Kakadu and Katherine regions. In Australia’s smallest capital city, visit Darwin’s vibrant beach markets, bar-lined streets and sunset harbour cruises or for nature lovers, be astounded by the extraordinary diversity of Kakadu National Park, teeming with mammals, birds, insects and of course, saltwater crocs! South of Darwin lies the town of Katherine and the magnificent Katherine Gorge - take a cruise or canoe to appreciate the sheer size of this natural wonder.

**Kakadu National Park Explorer**

Travel south down the Arnhem Highway, across the Adelaide River and into the Marrakai Plains, before a walk to view the ancient Aboriginal rock art at Nourlangie Rock. After lunch cruise the Yellow Water Billabong to spot the saltwater crocs and colourful billabongs. Finish your day at the Warradjan Aboriginal Cultural Centre to learn of the traditions of the Aboriginal people in Kakadu.

**Litchfield National Park Waterfalls**

Travel past lush monsoon forests, termite mounds, unusual rock formations, and waterfalls, as you journey into the Litchfield National Park. The Park encircles much of the Tabletop Range, a sandstone plateau home to the Wagait Aboriginal people. Swim in the plunge pools of Florence Falls and Wang Falls on this full day tour including lunch.

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**TOURING**

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**Top End Discovery 6 Day Self Drive Itinerary**

**DAY 1: DARWIN – KAKADU APPROX. 111 MILES**

Leave Darwin and head along the Arnhem Highway towards the Kakadu National Park, taking time to stop off at the “Window on the Wetlands” Visitor centre en-route, or take a cruise on the Adelaide River to see the famous jumping crocodiles.

**DAY 2: KAKADU**

Start the day with a visit to Yellow Waters, and join a cruise watching the early morning sun over the billabong. Spend the rest of day at leisure - you could visit the ancient Aboriginal rock art sites at Nourlangie or Ubirr.

**DAY 3: KAKADU – KATHERINE APPROX. 212 MILES**

Head towards the gold-mining town of Pine Creek, before joining the Stuart Highway towards Katherine, home of the renowned Katherine Gorge, where the river flows between the towering walls of colour.

**DAY 4: KATHERINE**

Join the four hour morning cruise of this incredible gorge – the best way to see its amazing size and colours. Look out for the crocs and an abundance of wildlife. The afternoon is free to explore the area more – take an opportunity to visit the Matarakia Thermal Pools which have a constant 34ºC.

**DAY 5: KATHERINE – LITCHFIELD NATIONAL PARK AND LAKE BENNETT APPROX. 159 MILES**

Leave Katherine and return north towards the Litchfield National Park - the Top End’s most accessible natural attraction. There’s safe swimming and spectacular waterfalls at Buley Rockhole and Florence Falls, or alternatively take a bushwalk. Your overnight stay is at scenic Lake Bennett.

**DAY 6: LITCHFIELD NATIONAL PARK – DARWIN APPROX. 172 MILES**

After a morning in the National Park continue on the Stuart Highway north back up to Darwin.

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**DAY TOURS**

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**Kakadu & Katherine Gorge National Parks**

3 Day Escorted Tour with AAT Kings (DG525 Nov-Apr/DG425 May-Oct)

**DAY 1: DARWIN – KAKADU NATIONAL PARK**

Set off from Darwin early to make the most of your first day, travelling along the Arnhem Highway and into Kakadu National Park. This huge, biodiverse nature reserve, home to more than 2,000 species of flora and fauna, including saltwater crocodiles, flatback turtles and an abundance of bird species. See Aboriginal rock art, dating back thousands of years, join a local guide on a cruise of Yellow Water Billabong and visit the Warradjan Cultural Centre to learn about the traditions of the Aboriginal people in Kakadu.

**DAY 2: KAKADU – DARWIN**

Explore a Rock Art Site believed to be 20,000 years old in the morning, then in the afternoon you will join a jumping crocodile cruise, where you will witness these magnificent creatures launch themselves out of the water for food. Visit Yellow Water Wetlands Visitor Centre for spectacular views over the Marrakai Plains, then stop at Fogg Dam Nature Reserve on your way back to Darwin.

**DAY 3: DARWIN – KATHERINE GORGE – DARWIN**

Travel south this morning; there is a chance for a refreshing swim at Edith Falls before arriving in Katherine Gorge for a scenic 2 hour cruise. This stunning network of thirteen gorges, carved from billion year old sandstone, flows from the Katherine River and offers some of the most amazing scenery in the Northern Territory. Look out for freshwater crocodiles and wonderful birdlife.

Please see australtravel.com for more information and accommodation details.

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**AURSTRAVEL.COM | 0808 252 4726**
Australia's southernmost mainland state is full of contrasts, from alpine countryside and snow-capped mountains, to semi-arid desert and scorching summer heat. The state capital of Melbourne provides a perfect base from which to explore it all. Visit the wineries of the Yarra Valley or encounter the wildlife on Phillip Island. Voted one of the best coastal drives in the world, definitely spend a few days exploring the Great Ocean Road. Then head further north to the Grampians National Park, home to wonderful hiking trails and spectacular scenery.

**TOP EXPERIENCES**

- Drive or tour the Great Ocean Road, one of the world’s most spectacular coastlines.
- Head to Phillip Island to see the ‘Penguin Parade’ – little penguins waddling across the beaches at dusk.
- Discover the art laneways and arcades of Melbourne, home to fabulous boutiques and quaint cafes.
- Go bushwalking in the Grampians and marvel at the views across these vast rocky ranges.

**FACT FILE**

**Climate**
Victoria enjoys a temperate climate with seasons opposite to those of the UK. Spring starts in September; summer in December; autumn in March; and winter in June.

**Flying time to Melbourne:** 23 hours + 1 stop
**Driving times:**
- Melbourne to Yarra Valley – 1 hour
- Melbourne to Mornington Peninsula – 1 hour 30 minutes
- Melbourne to Apollo Bay – 2 hours 30 minutes
- Melbourne to Adelaide – 9 hours

**GMT:** +10 hours

**MELBOURNE**

Renowned for being one of the world’s most liveable cities, Melbourne relishes its reputation as Australia’s most stylish and cosmopolitan centre. The city offers visitors chic boutiques, trendy eateries and cutting-edge culture, yet maintains the links to its historical past with some of Australia's best museums, parklands and 19th century gold rush architecture. Ride the free tram around the city – or head to nearby St Kilda to chill on the beach.

**DAY TOURS**

**Phillip Island Ultimate**
This memorable experience takes you to Phillip Island to visit some of Victoria’s best nature and wildlife, wander the surf beaches, and see koalas in their natural habitat. Enjoy spectacular views over Phillip Island, before arriving at Summerland beach in time to view the Little Penguins make their way ashore at dusk.

**Yarra Valley Wine Experience**
Taking in some of Victoria’s best wineries, the Yarra Valley is just one hour from the centre of Melbourne. Learn how to taste wine like a pro on this small group tour, before tastings at four premium wineries, plus a superb lunch in the magnificent Victorian countryside. Your guides will show you the magic of making some of Australia’s best drops.

**Crown Metropol ★★★★★**
A luxury hotel on the banks of the Yarra River, everything you require is on your doorstep within the Crown Entertainment Complex. Discover the iconic shopping and bars as well as an impressive pool.

**Rendezvous Hotel Melbourne ★★★★★**
Located on Flinders Street and overlooking the Yarra River, this hotel is in a prime location to explore the city. Featuring 340 stylish guest rooms; upgrade to a heritage room for ornate decoration.

**Intercontinental the Rialto ★★★★★**
In a historic building in the heart of Collins Street, this contemporary luxury hotel boasts 253 beautiful rooms and suites. Admire the stunning atrium reception and indulge at the Alluvial restaurant.

**FREE NIGHTS ON SELECTED DATES**

**FREE BREAKFAST ON SELECTED DATES**

**VICTORIA | Australia**

AUSTRAVEL.COM | 0808 252 4276
THE GREAT OCEAN ROAD

Voted one of the best coastal drives in the world, the Great Ocean Road is undoubtedly one of Australia’s most popular and scenic self-drive routes. Jaw-dropping scenery makes for a thrilling 150 mile drive along Victoria's south-western coastline. Key stops off include the pretty coastal towns of Lorne and Port Fairy, the koala-filled forests of Otway Ranges and of course, the famous Twelve Apostles.

If you’re limited for time why not take a guided tour; which will let you see all the highlights of this stunning coastline and spectacular national park scenery, with an expert guide at the helm.

DAY 1: Head out from Melbourne and past the famous surf at Bells Beach, stop at the seaside resort of Lorne for a lunch break, before continuing to Great Otway National Park to take a guided walk through a cool temperate rainforest gully. Stay for the night in the foothills of the Grampians with an evening campfire.

DAY 2: After breakfast take in the Bay of Islands, Bay of Martyrs and Boat Bay before our journey turns inland and travels through open farmland towards the Grampians National Park, learning about Aboriginal heritage at the Brambuk Cultural Centre. Stay for the night in the foothills of the Grampians with an evening campfire.

DAY 3: Wake up at the breathtaking Wilderness Retreat before a scenic walk and a cool off in the majestic Mackenzie Falls. Spot native birds and wildlife before continuing back to Melbourne. Ask your Travel Designer for details on connecting through to Adelaide.

Please Note: Tour departs Tuesdays and Fridays from Melbourne at 7.15am. Includes 2 breakfasts, 1 lunch and 1 dinner, accommodation and all park entrance fees.

Please see austravel.com for full details or talk to your Travel Designer.

Great Ocean Road & The Grampians

5 Day Self Drive Itinerary

DAY 1: MELBOURNE – APOLLO BAY APPROX. 124 MILES

From Melbourne, journey along the Surf Coast Highway to Torquay, Australia’s surf capital, and the start of the spectacular Great Ocean Road. Continue to beautiful Lorne and Apollo Bay where you’ll stay tonight, a short drive from Otway National Park.

DAY 2: APOLLO BAY – PORT FAIRY APPROX. 116 MILES

Head inland into the rugged Shipwreck Coast region, returning to the coast at Princetown where the Port Campbell National Park begins to unfold with spectacular natural features, including the renowned Twelve Apostles. Drive onwards to Warrnambool, Tower Hill and Port Fairy.

DAY 3: PORT FAIRY – HALLS GAP APPROX. 97 MILES

Journey north, through rich rural regions, to the Grampians National Park. The road from Dunkeld takes you on a spectacular journey of waterfalls, valleys and wildlife, across the ranges to Cavendish and on to Halls Gap.

DAY 4: HALLS GAP – BALLARAT APPROX. 88 MILES

Travel to Ballarat and Sovereign Hill where you’ll revisit the 1850s gold rush at a live working museum with underground mine tours and a spectacular ‘Blood on the Southern Cross’ show, the story of the 1854 uprising.

DAY 5: BALLARAT – MELBOURNE APPROX. 73 MILES

Leave Ballarat and follow the Western Freeway back to Melbourne.

Please see austravel.com for full details and accommodation options.

Captains at the Bay

Just a stroll away from the Apollo Bay beach and restaurants. With smart, contemporary interiors, and splashes of luxury, Captains is a good base from which to explore the area.

FREE BREAKFAST ON SELECTED DATES

Oscars Waterfront, Port Fairy

This magnificent two-storey waterfront property features six individually decorated king-size rooms, and one suite, all with stunning views.

FREE BREAKFAST ON SELECTED DATES

FREE BREAKFAST ON SELECTED DATES
EXPLORING VICTORIA

Victoria is a diverse landscape of mountain ranges, wildlife parks and seaside villages with golden beaches. Phillip Island is home to the famous `Penguin Parade` where you can watch these extraordinary creatures march up the beach to their burrows every evening. Further west explore the Grampians National Park with its sandstone ridges, craggy slopes and spectacular scenery and then head to south to witness the abundant wildlife of Wilsons Promontory.

Victoria’s Hidden Gems
7 Day Escorted Tour

From trendy landscapes in Melbourne to quaint seaside villages, the scenic coastal drive of the Great Ocean Road, including the famed 12 Apostles and The Grampians, Victoria’s natural beauty is revealed on this Inspiring Journey. With a maximum of 20 guests per journey, you will enjoy access to unique locations that cannot be reached by larger groups.

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:
• Experience a Welcome to Country ceremony with Indigenous people in the Grampians
• Browse the Australian National Surfing Museum in Torquay
• Indulge in a relaxing mineral bath at the historic Hepburn Bathhouse & Spa
• Book an optional, but incredible, helicopter flight over the Twelve Apostles

DAY 1: Melbourne
DAY 2: Melbourne - Daylesford
DAY 3: Daylesford - Dunkeld
DAY 4: Dunkeld - Warrnambool
DAY 5: Warrnambool - Lorne
DAY 6: Lorne - Mornington Peninsula
DAY 7: Mornington Peninsula - Melbourne

TOURING

Victoria is a diverse landscape of mountain ranges, wildlife parks and seaside villages with golden beaches. Phillip Island is home to the famous ‘Penguin Parade’ where you can watch these extraordinary creatures march up the beach to their burrows every evening. Further west explore the Grampians National Park with its sandstone ridges, craggy slopes and spectacular scenery and then head to south to witness the abundant wildlife of Wilsons Promontory.

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WHAT OUR EXPERTS SAY...

“Take a step back in time and visit Sovereign Hill to experience Ballarat during the height of the gold rush, you can even learn how to pan for gold yourself.”

VICKI, TRAVEL DESIGNER

Philip Island

With quintessential Australian surf beaches, rugged coastlines, gourmet eateries, the Grand Prix Circuit and incredible wildlife viewing opportunities, Phillip Island is just waiting to be explored.

The real highlight happens at Summerland Beach around dusk, known as The Penguin Parade, when up to 6000 little penguins come ashore to find their nests. Upgrade to Penguin Plus for up-close viewing of these fascinating flightless birds, or for something extra special, join a ranger for a VIP Tour.

For those travelling independently and with a little more time, book the Phillip Island Four Parks Pass and you can fully immerse yourself in this wildlife haven. As well as Penguin Parade, meet the friendly koalas at the Conservation Centre, discover the Antarctic journey and visit Churchill Island Heritage Farm. Upgrade to the Five Parks Pass to include a boat trip to Australia’s largest Seal colony.

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WHAT OUR EXPERTS SAY...

“Take a step back in time and visit Sovereign Hill to experience Ballarat during the height of the gold rush, you can even learn how to pan for gold yourself.”

VICKI, TRAVEL DESIGNER
From the brilliant white beaches of the Limestone Coast, Australia’s longest river; the Murray and the vast expanse of the Nullarbor to the world-famous wineries of the Barossa Valley, South Australia has 12 unique regions waiting to be explored and is definitely a destination for those with a taste for the finer things in life. Its elegant capital city, Adelaide, is a convenient base to explore from, and due south of the city lies Kangaroo Island, a microcosm of exotic flora and fauna.

FACT FILE
Climate: South Australia enjoys a warm climate with seasons opposite to those of the UK. Spring starts in September, summer in December, autumn in March and winter in June.
Flying time to Adelaide: 22 hours + 1 stop
Driving times:
Adelaide to Barossa Valley – 1 hour 30 minutes
Adelaide to Finders Ranges – 5 hours
Adelaide to Coober Pedy – 9 hours
GMT: +9.5 hours

TOP EXPERIENCES
• See kangaroos, koalas, seals, sea lions, penguins and much more on Kangaroo Island.
• Visit some of the world’s best wineries around the Barossa Valley and Clare Valley.
• Indulge in Adelaide’s robust food culture and dine on the freshest produce from around the state.
• Journey into the outback to the rugged scenery of Flinders Ranges and spectacular Wilpena Pound.

ADelaide
Fringed by green parklands and the hills of the Mount Lofty Ranges, Adelaide sits on the eastern side of the Gulf St Vincent. Arguably one of the nation’s most livable capital cities, Adelaide is a compact grid of art venues, markets and relaxed restaurants. The broad tree-lined North Terrace is home to many of the historical and cultural centres. Alternatively, there is serious retail therapy available on Rundle Street, or the opportunity to relax on charming Glenelg Beach, just 20 minutes’ drive out of the city or a short tram ride away.

DAy TOUrs

Barossa Food and Wine Experience
Head to South Australia’s premium wine region and sample some of the finest wines; your first stop will be TeAro Estate with morning tea in the tasting room. Travel to Kellermeister, a mud brick cellar with beautiful views over the Barossa Ranges. Visit Maggie Beer’s Farm Shop to pick up fresh produce, before a delicious lunch at Saltram Wine Estate. Your final tasting is at Pindarie, a multi award winning cellar door.

Flerieu Explorer
Travel south from Adelaide by 4WD with Off Piste Tours through the rolling Southern Mount Lofty Ranges to the acclaimed wine region of McLaren Vale, exploring beautiful landscapes, and world-class vineyards. A gourmet lunch is served at a secret location overlooking incredible scenery. Your guide will share Aboriginal stories of the Indigenous Australians of the Flerieu Peninsula, whilst you explore the sublime beaches and the vastness of the coastline of the Southern Ocean.
KANGAROO ISLAND
If you’re a nature lover, then Kangaroo Island is an absolute must! This island has it all; kangaroos, koalas, seals, penguins and echidnas are found in abundance. From the unusual Remarkable Rocks, to a stroll down the beach to watch the seals laze in the sun, take the time to explore the island fully and you’re sure to feel welcomed by this big-hearted farming community. Kangaroo Island also boasts Southern Ocean Lodge, one of Australia’s most exclusive, luxury hotels.

WHAT OUR EXPERTS SAY

“What make sure you visit the island’s Seal Bay Conservation Park, where you can walk along the sandy beaches with seals metres from your feet”
Chris, Commercial Executive.

TOURING

4WD Highlights of Kangaroo Island
2 Day Escorted Tour with Kangaroo Island Odysseys
Travel in small, personalised groups on this 4WD adventure for close-up nature experiences. Knowledgeable guides take you off the beaten track and include comprehensive touring to all the famous landmarks of Kangaroo Island.

DAY 1: Take the early morning ferry from Adelaide to meet your guide. Highlights include a guided walk at Seal Bay and a bush walk where koalas and kangaroos may be spotted, before an overnight stay close to Flinders Chase National Park.

DAY 2: Discover the natural wonders of Flinders Chase National Park and see the New Zealand fur seals that inhabit these waters. View the unique geological formation of Admiral’s Arch, a spectacular archway formed by the sea, followed by some time to wander amid the delicately balanced granite domes of the Remarkable Rocks. Enjoy a picnic lunch in a beautiful bush setting and then explore the Rocky River region to see yet more wildlife.

At Hanson Bay Sanctuary, search for koalas and enter the Kelly Hill Conservation Park to watch wild kangaroos and Tamar wallabies graze on the open plains. The ferry departs Kangaroo Island at 7.30pm for your return to Adelaide.

Upgrade to return flights for the ultimate experience – ask your Travel Designer for further details.

Please see australian.com for full details and a choice of standard, first class and boutique accommodation options to choose from.

Explore Kangaroo Island
3 Day Suggested Self Drive Itinerary
For the more independent traveller, either catch a coach connection from Adelaide then cross by Sealink Ferry to Kangaroo Island to pick up a hire car. Alternatively you can drive from Adelaide and take your car aboard the ferry. You are then free to explore the island at your leisure. Some roads are gravel and need particular care taken when driving and remember that there are wild animals out after dusk.

DAY 1: Board the Sealink Ferry to the quaint town of Penneshaw, with the freedom to explore Kangaroo Island at your own pace. Drive past Baudin and Island Beach to Pennington Bay, with a fantastic photo opportunity of some of the island’s spectacular coastal landscapes. Sample homemade honey at Clifford’s Farm, view the sea lions at Seal Bay, and explore Kelly Hill Caves Conservation Park.

DAY 2: Head to Flinders Chase National Park to view some of the island’s most incredible natural formations; the justifiably named Remarkable Rocks, historic Weirs Cove, and Admirals Arch. Continue to Kingscote to visit some of the local producers, with cheese factories and sampling of boutique liqueurs. A 20 minute drive from here is Emu Bay, one of Kangaroo Island’s best beaches.

DAY 3: Make time for a final stop at one of the local wineries for a tasting plate and some fabulous wines, before your journey back to the ferry and to Adelaide.

Talk to your Travel Designer for more information and alternative options.
Eyre Peninsula

A short flight across the Spencer Gulf or a road trip via Port Augusta brings you to the Eyre Peninsula, a triangular area of land bordered to the north by the Gawler Ranges National Park and to the south by the rolling Southern Ocean. Take to the calm waters near Port Lincoln to swim with the local sea lions, or for those after an adrenaline rush, join great white sharks in their natural habitat. You’re in for an adventure.

Port Lincoln Hotel

On the foreshore of Boston Bay, upgrade to an Ocean View Room for private balconies and views overlooking the spectacular Southern Ocean. After a day’s exploring, have dinner at Sarin’s Restaurant.

BONUS OFFERS AVAILABLE ON SELECTED DATES

TOURING

Port Lincoln and Coffin Bay Highlights

2 Day Escorted Tour with Goin’ Off Safaris

Experience remarkable coastal scenery on this 2 day tour showcasing the highlights of this untouched region of South Australia. Travel in small, personalised groups on this 4WD adventure as Goin’ Off Safaris take you to the hidden gems of Port Lincoln and Coffin Bay.

The Eyre Peninsula is home to native wildlife, fabulous fresh seafood, and vast, pristine free beaches; and the best way to discover it is with a local in the driving seat. Over 2 days you’ll visit National Parks where you can spot kangaroos and koalas in their natural habitats, watch the local fisherman bring in hauls of fresh oysters and hike the coastal cliffs of the Southern Ocean. The tour includes a nights’ accommodation at the award-winning Port Lincoln hotel, and there’s the opportunity to upgrade to a 3 day tour to give you the chance to swim with Australian sea lions.

Please note: Tour departs four days per week at 9am and includes breakfast, lunch and park entrance fees.

Please see austravel.com for full details or speak to your Travel Designer.

Gawler Ranges Wilderness Safaris

4 Day Escorted Tour Outback to the Sea

This small group tour offers an adventure into the Gawler Ranges, departing from Port Lincoln on the Eyre Peninsula. Visit wild koala colonies, spot kangaroos and emus, and take sunset drinks at Kolya Mirica Rocks with its fascinating organ pipe formations, all before your first night at Kangaluna Camp.

On your second day you’ll visit Lake Gardiner, a glittering white salt pan surrounded by red dunes, which appears to go on infinitely. The third day allows time for bush walks, before exploring the National Park and a walk on Lake Stuart to see the array of colours and patterns on the bed of the old lake.

Your final day is a highlight, and includes the unforgettable wildlife experience of watching wild bottlenose dolphins, before jumping in the water to swim face to face with rare Australian sea lions. After a final lunch on the beach, enjoy the coastal scenery on your journey back to Port Lincoln.

Please see austravel.com for full details or talk to your Travel Designer.

DAY TOURS

Swim with the Sea Lions

This half day tour takes you to Seal Cove, where in the calm, crystal clear waters just off the coastline, sea lions and their pups love interacting. These gentle mammals are incredibly inquisitive, and you’ll see them leap and twist out of the water in unmitigable excitement as you snorkel alongside. An enchanting and unique experience!

Swim with the Great White Shark

Always wanted to tick this off your bucket list? This is Australia’s first advanced eco-certified shark cage diving experience, where you’ll have the opportunity to be in the ocean with these majestic creatures. Sightings cannot be guaranteed, however tours are available year round and historically May to July and December to February are popular times to visit.
DAY TOUR

Flinders Range 4WD Experience
4 Day Self Drive Itinerary…

DAY 1: ADELAIDE – WILPENA POUND APPROX. 283 MILES
Depart Adelaide, and travel north past Port Pirie and on to Quorn; which is known for its heritage steam train journeys to Port Augusta Carry on to the Yourambulla Caves and view the ancient Aboriginal rock art, before arriving in Wilpena Pound. This afternoon includes a 20 minute scenic flight, giving the opportunity to gain a bird’s eye view of the region.

DAY 2: WILPENA POUND
Today enjoy a half day WD Mountain Tops spectacular tour including lunch and South Australian wine. This tour will enable you to view one of the most extraordinary formations in the Flinders Ranges off the beaten track with expert guides. Your two night stay will be spent at the Wilpena Pound Resort; the only accommodation located within the Ikara Flinders Ranges National Park.

DAY 3: WILPENA POUND – CLARE VALLEY APPROX. 182 MILES
Travel south to the Clare Valley Wine Region, situated in the beautiful northern Mount Lofty Ranges. Nearby are the historic towns of Burra, Kapunda, and also the oldest winery in the area – the historic Sevenhill Cellars established in 1851.

DAY 4: CLARE VALLEY – ADELAIDE APPROX. 87 MILES
Depart the Clare Valley and travel south to Adelaide. Speak to your Travel Designer to discuss what you can do next; stay in South Australia and explore further or fly onwards to another great destination in Australia.

Please see australand.com.au for full details of accommodation options.

TOURING

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN WINELANDS
A scenic, one-hour drive from Adelaide you arrive in the major wine producing region of the Barossa Valley with its rolling hills, flagship wineries and gourmet local produce. If you enjoy a good glass of wine, venture north from Adelaide to sample the world-class rieslings of the Clare Valley.

FLINDERS RANGES AND OUTBACK
Travel approx. 300 miles north from Adelaide and you’ll find yourself amongst the ragged mountains, spectacular gorges and sheltered creeks of the Flinders Ranges. A highlight of this area is the natural amphitheatre of Wilpena Pound. This huge flat plain surrounded by jagged hills is undoubtedly best viewed from the air for full impact.

Jacob’s Creek Master Class and Lunch
Join an expert to take a master class in the fine wines produced on this famous estate, and sample a selection of wines accompanied by a tasting platter. Learn how to match your food and wine perfectly, before a four course lunch from a seasonal menu.

The Louise Barossa Valley
A luxury vineyard retreat with just 15 suites offering private terraces and spacious rooms; acclaimed restaurant Appellation offers seasonal cuisine. FREE BREAKFAST ON SELECTED DATES

Clare Country Club
Nestled in tumbling hills overlooking the heart of the Clare Valley, this picturesque resort is home to a popular restaurant and offers boutique accommodation.

Novotel Barossa Valley Resort
Located an hour out of Adelaide, boasting panoramic views across the Barossa Ranges and Jacob’s Creek vineyards, all apartments offer private balconies.

The Louise Barossa Valley

South Australia | Australia

TOURING

Wilpena Pound Flight
Discover Wilpena Pound from the air with a magnificent 20 minute flight over the rugged ranges of this unique area. Your pilot will point out the Elder Range, Edowie Gorge, Lake Torrens and St Mary’s Peak and provide you with some sensational photo opportunities! Please ask for upgrades to 30-minute and one hour flights.

Rawnsley Park Station
With a spectacular view of Wilpena Pound, upgrade to eco villas which have a retractable ceiling for stargazing at night from the comfort of your bed or sit out on your private verandah and take in the breathtaking views. FREE BREAKFAST OFFER AVAILABLE ON SELECTED DATES

AUSTRAVEL.COM | 0808 252 4276
Western Australia

Crown Towers Perth

A five minute drive from the city, this luxury hotel offers spacious rooms with panoramic city views. Upgrade to the Executive Club Rooms for exclusive benefits.

FREE BREAKFAST, ROOM UPGRADES AND FREE NIGHTS AVAILABLE ON SELECTED DATES

Pan Pacific Perth

With the picturesque Swan River and Kings Park just minutes away, this luxury hotel offers spacious rooms with panoramic city views. Upgrade to the Executive Club Rooms for exclusive benefits.

FREE BREAKFAST AVAILABLE ON SELECTED DATES

Rendezvous Hotel Perth Scarborough

The golden sands of Scarborough beach are located just 20 minutes north of the city, and all stylish rooms at this hotel offer fabulous views. Take a dip in the lagoon-style pool or get pampered at Vanilla face + body spa.

FREE BREAKFAST AVAILABLE ON SELECTED DATES

As Australia’s largest state, Western Australia offers far greater diversity than most give it credit for. The relaxed state capital of Perth is the ideal launch pad to the historic town of Fremantle, stunning Rottnest Island and the wineries of Swan Valley. The state’s southwest offers ancient karri-tree forests and the picturesque Margaret River region. Up the coast is Coral Bay and Monkey Mia where you can have close encounters with dugongs and whale sharks, while further north lies the genuine Outback experience of the Gibb River Road and the Kimberley – an area of unparalleled beauty.

FACT FILE

Climate: There are two main seasons in Western Australia. In the south, there’s a warm climate with seasons opposite to those of the UK. The north has a tropical climate with two seasons – the dry and the wet. The dry season starts around May and the wet season begins around November.

Flying time to Perth: 17 hours

Driving times:
Perth to Margaret River – 3 hours 30 minutes
Perth to Monkey Mia – 9 hours 30 minutes
Perth to Exmouth – 14 hours

GMT: +8 hours

Discover Rottnest Island

Depart from central Perth on a 40 minute ferry out to Rottnest Island, home to beautiful beaches, bays, reefs and resident quokkas (small marsupials found only in Western Australia). Discover the island with a discovery coach tour around this picturesque island. After a lodge lunch, stroll along the boardwalk at the majestic look out point at West End, before returning back into Perth.
Journey south from Perth and you’ll discover the seaside town of Mandurah where you can see blue manna crabs and dolphins right off the beach. Further south the area of Margaret River boasts majestic forests, spectacular caves and a host of popular wineries. Then travel through Warren National Park to Albany, with magnificent coastal scenery and the chance to spot migrating humpback whales during whale season (June to November).

**MARGARET RIVER AND THE SOUTH WEST**

**DAY TOURS**

**Full Day Wine Tour**
Travel with this award winning company – Top Drop Tours – on a full day exploring some of the hidden gems of the Margaret River. Indulge in a winery lunch with contemporary, fresh and local food, as well as visiting some outstanding wineries for a day of tastings.

**Ngilgi Cave and Cultural Tour**
Take a guided bushwalk to forage for native foods, plants and medicines whilst hearing about their traditional uses from your knowledgeable guide. Discover the art of traditional fire lighting and tool making before entering the Ngilgi Cave to be captivated by a live didgeridoo performance.

**Margaret River Overnight Tours**
2 Day Escorted Tour with Adams Pinnacle Tours
Perfect for those looking to visit the spectacular Margaret River wine region who may be short on time. Adams will take you to the best local wineries.

For those with more time on their hands, ask about a 3 day option.

**DAY 1:** Travel south from Perth stopping for morning tea at Busselton with its iconic jetty, before arriving into Margaret River and enjoying some outstanding wineries for a day of tastings. Join Top Drop for a day around the region, including a delicious platter for lunch and visits to 5 guided tastings. Learn just how these famous wines are produced, and go behind closed doors to hear the tricks of the trade. Head back north to Perth and stopping for dinner on the way.

**DAY 3:** Join Top Drop for a day around the region, including a delicious platter for lunch and visits to 5 guided tastings. Learn just how these famous wines are produced, and go behind closed doors to hear the tricks of the trade. Head back north to Perth and stopping for dinner on the way. Please see aussietravel.com for full details or speak to your Travel Designer.

**TOURING**

**Great Southern Getaway**
7 Day Self Drive Itinerary

**DAY 1:** PERTH – ALBANY APPROX. 340 MILES
Head south out of Perth, you may choose to stop off and visit the Stirling Range National Park, which is the only Alpine area in Western Australia. Spend a day of leisure around Albany. Head out on one of the coastal walking tracks, visit Whaleworld, the only whaling museum created from an operational whaling station, or perhaps spend some time at the National ANZAC Centre.

**DAY 3:** ALBANY – PERTH APPROX. 260 MILES
Travel south from Albany, home to the Koombana Bay dolphins. Here you can take a Dolphin Watch Eco Cruise, before continuing on to Perth.

**DAY 4:** DENMARK – PERTH APPROX. 167 MILES
Make your way from Denmark and take a stroll along the Valley of the Giants Tree Top walk (at own expense) set 40 metres above the ground through the canopy of 400 year old trees. Before your arrival in Pemberton, make sure you stop off en-route at Northcliffe’s famous forest sculpture walk.

**DAY 5:** PEMBERTON – MARGARET RIVER APPROX. 44 MILES
Drive through the Greater Beedelup National Park before heading west to the coast near Augusta. At Hamelin Bay make sure you pop to the beach where friendly giant stingrays swim over your feet in the shallows!

**DAY 6:** MARGARET RIVER
Today is free for you to explore the Margaret River area at your leisure, visit local vineyards and sample gourmet foods. Book a Top Drop full day tour to experience the best of this beautiful region.

**DAY 7:** MARGARET RIVER – PERTH APPROX. 147 MILES
Head north Bunbury, home to the Koombana Bay dolphins. Here you can take a Dolphin Watch Eco Cruise, before continuing on to Perth.

Please see aussietravel.com for full details of accommodation options.
CORAL COAST HIGHLIGHTS

Ningaloo Reef is one of the closest fringing reefs to shore anywhere in the world and a UNESCO World Heritage Area. Simply stroll into the water from the beach and you’ll find an abundance of marine life. Ningaloo is also home to the world’s biggest fish; the whale shark, which visit these parts between April and July each year to feed on krill. The Coral Coast is one of the few places in the world where you can swim with these graceful creatures.

**MONKEY MIA, KALBARRI & THE PINNACLES**

**7 Day Self Drive Itinerary**

**DAY 1: PERTH - GERALDTON**

Approx. 260 Miles

Head north from Perth towards Geraldton, spending some time enroute at the historic coastal towns of Dongara and Port Denison.

**DAY 2: GERALDTON - MONKEY MIA**

Approx. 268 Miles

Travel up towards Shark Bay and Monkey Mia - famous for its dolphins, beautiful scenery and sparkling blue waters. Near Shark Bay visit Hamelin Pool, with its living marine stromatolites.

**DAY 3: MONKEY MIA**

A day free for you to explore the Shark Bay region including plentiful wildlife and empty beaches. An option today would be to take a boat trip from Monkey Mia to spot the reclusive dugongs.

**DAY 4: MONKEY MIA – KALBARRI**

Approx. 242 Miles

Travel south towards Kalbarri, an ideal place for the nature lover as it includes 180,000 acres of some of the richest wildflower bushland.

**DAY 5: KALBARRI**

Visit the Kalbarri National Park with its gorges, rock formations, bushland and walking trails.

**DAY 6: KALBARRI - CERVANTES**

Approx. 235 Miles

An absolute must today is a visit to Namburg National Park to see the mystical Pinnacles rock formations.

**DAY 7: CERVANTES – PERTH**

Approx. 124 Miles

Return to Perth, taking time to relax on some of the beautiful beaches in the area.

Please see australian.com for full itinerary details and accommodation options.

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**MONKEY MIA DOLPHIN RESORT ★★★★★

Sharks Bay World Heritage Area is one of the world’s best natural dolphin sighting areas. Dolphins swim up to the beach daily, with seven or eight regulars. Upgrade to a beach view room for prime position.

**MANTARAYS NINGALOO RESORT ★★★★★

Located on Sunrise Beach, part of Exmouth’s new marina, wonderfully located for exploring the region, with Ningaloo Reef and its resident marine life just a short drive away.

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**SAL SALIS LUXURY CAMP ★★★★★

With just 15 tented safari-style tents, this is the only accommodation in the Cape Range National Park adjacent to Ningaloo Reef. Nestled within the sandy dunes, keep an eye out for red kangaroos, goannas, echidnas and over 100 bird species.

**FULL BOARD OFFER AVAILABLE ON SELECTED DATES**

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**TOP OF THE RANGE SAFARI TOUR**

Journey to the top of Cape Range National Park to view the stunning scenery of Charles Knife Gorge. Enjoy a refreshing swim at one of the lagoons before stopping at Osprey Bay for lunch. After a visit to Yardie Creek visit Ningaloo Marine Park with sparkling blue waters of Turquoise Bay where there is the opportunity to swim and snorkel on the reef. Conclude the day with a visit to Vlamingh Head Lighthouse.

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**SNIKEL WITH WHALE SHARKS**

Experience an incredible day snorkelling with the largest fish in the ocean - up to 18m long! Snorkel with these gentle giants, and cruise the waters of Ningaloo Reef searching for dolphins, turtles, rays and dugongs. A gourmet buffet lunch is served and drinks are also supplied. Snorkel equipment is provided free of charge.

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**DIDGERIDOON DREAMING EVENING TOUR**

A fascinating evening under the stars, sit by the roarin campfire and learn traditional Aboriginal cooking skills, enjoying fresh bushtucker. Hear stories of the local culture and history, while you are carried away by the ancient sounds of the Didgeridoo. A unique experience during your stay at Monkey Mia.

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**MONKEY MIA & THE PINNACLES**

- Day 1: Perth - Geraldton: Approx. 260 miles
- Day 2: Geraldton - Monkey Mia: Approx. 268 miles
- Day 3: Monkey Mia
- Day 4: Monkey Mia – Kalbarri: Approx. 242 miles
- Day 5: Kalbarri
- Day 6: Kalbarri - Cervantes: Approx. 235 miles
- Day 7: Cervantes – Perth: Approx. 124 miles

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**TOURING**

**AUSRAVEL.COM | 0808 252 4276**

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**MONKEY MIA, KALBARRI & THE PINNACLES**

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**TOURING**

**AUSRAVEL.COM | 0808 252 4276**
**BROOME AND THE KIMBERLEY**

The pearling town of Broome is home to 14 miles of white sand lapped by warm, crystal-clear waters, and boasts some of the most spectacular sunsets in Australia. Travelling east takes you through the heart of one of Australia’s last wilderness frontiers, the Gibb River Road. Winding through the spectacular Bungle Bungles and the glowing Kimberley region, this epic road trip is best taken during the dry season from May until September.

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**TOURING**

**Gibb River Road**

9 Day Self Drive Itinerary

Explore the vast but amazing wilderness of the heart of the Kimberley along this 400 mile track. Drive through intensely coloured ranges, dramatic gorges and tranquil waterfalls.

- **DAY 1: BROOME - MT HART** APPROX. 275 MILES
- **DAY 2: MT HART - MT ELIZABETH STATION** APPROX. 90 MILES
- **DAY 3: MT ELIZABETH STATION - EL QUESTRO** APPROX. 195 MILES
- **DAY 4: EL QUESTRO WILDERNESS PARK**
- **DAY 5: EL QUESTRO WILDERNESS PARK - KUNUNURRA** APPROX. 50 MILES
- **DAY 6: KUNUNURRA - KATHERINE** APPROX. 320 MILES
- **DAY 7: KATHERINE - KAKADU NATIONAL PARK** APPROX. 193 MILES
- **DAY 8: KAKADU NATIONAL PARK**
- **DAY 9: KAKADU NATIONAL PARK – DARWIN** APPROX. 130 MILES

Please see australiav.com for full details of accommodation options.

Please note:
- When car hire is rented from Broome, Kununurra or Darwin, PFAR (Group W) may be driven on the Gibb River Road (Kimberley) May to October, subject to satisfactory road & weather conditions, please ask your Travel Designer for more information.

**Broome to The Bungles**

6 Day Small Group Wilderness Adventure

Start your small group adventure in the pearling town of Broome, before heading east towards the searing gorges and cliffs of the Gibb River Road. The stunning striped domes of the Purnululu National Park – otherwise known as the Bungle Bungles – are the highlight of the trip, where there is a three night stay at APT’s tented cabins at the Wilderness Lodge.

**HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:**
- Explore Tunnel Creek, a 750-metre-long natural tunnel carved through the Napier Range
- Enjoy drinks as the sun sets over striking beehive domes
- Rise early for an optional helicopter flight over the Bungle Bungle Range (own expense)
- Cruise the stunning Geikie Gorge, learning about the flora and fauna of the region

All transportation in custom-designed 4WD vehicle, overnight accommodation, 16 meals and national park fees

Please see australiav.com for full details of accommodation options and speak to your Travel Designer for more Wilderness Adventures.

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**TOURING**

**Luxury Adventure Cruises**

Join a wilderness expedition cruise along the stunning Kimberley coast. Explore untouched river systems, view ancient Aboriginal rock art and fish the tidal creeks, as well as discovering rugged cliffs, caves, waterfalls and gorges, spotting wildlife, taking refreshing dips in secluded waterholes, and much more.

Please see australiav.com for full details of cruise options.

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Ramada Eco Beach Resort

★ ★ ★ ★

A multi award-winning eco resort located an hour south of Broome, home to Eco Villas linked by elevated boardwalks, and luxurious safari style Eco Tents. HONEYMOON OFFERS AND FREE NIGHTS AVAILABLE ON SELECTED DATES

Cable Beach Club Resort & Spa ★★★★★

Situated along tranquil gardens with facilities including an adults only swimming pool, stay in bungalows, apartments and suites or upgrade to romantic villas that are furnished with private courtyards and plunge pools.

El Questro Wilderness Park ★★★★★

Situated along the eastern perimeter of the Kimberley, one of the world's last unspoilt frontiers. El Questro offers different accommodation to suit style and budget. The Homestead is an exclusive retreat with extraordinary views and includes meals daily, while Emma Gorge offers safari style tented cabins, each with their own private facilities. REDUCED RATES AVAILABLE ON SELECTED DATES
Located directly on the waterfront at Ocean Pier, this luxury hotel has a concept of storytelling, with each of the 114 modern rooms and suites reflecting on Tasmanian characters and history. Upgrade to a waterfront suite with private deck, fireplace and MACq01 Butler Service for unrivalled service.

The Henry Jones Art Hotel
Standing on the harbourfront, in one of Hobart’s oldest warehouses, history and art collide at this former jam factory. Transformed with stylish suites and over 500 original artworks lining the hotel’s walls, Henry Jones represents a fusion of old and new.

As Australia’s only island state, Tasmania’s raw wilderness, wildlife and colonial legacy have been superbly preserved. There’s an astonishingly diverse geography, from the alpine forests and waterfalls of Cradle Mountain, to the pure white arc of Wineglass Bay on the Freycinet Peninsula. The landscape is awash with natural treasures, a trove of mountains, lakes, granite cliffs and vast valleys – a real hiker’s delight. A fifth of the island is also designated World Heritage Area, protecting the native habitats of the echidnas, kangaroos, and of course, the Tasmanian devils, that thrive there.

The Bruny Island Long Weekend
3 Day Luxury Guided Tour
With a maximum of eight guests, this luxury small group walking tour will allow you to experience the true natural beauty of Tasmania, with lots of delicious food and wine along the way. Stay in luxury tented accommodation while your guide will prepare locally sourced food in stunning surroundings.

DAY 1: Depart Hobart and cruise by private catamaran exploring the River Derwent on the way to Bruny Island. Enjoy the coastal walk to Cape Queen Elizabeth and cool off in the crystal clear waters of Great Bay to harvest your own oysters. Enjoy a glass of wine before dinner and a nights rest in your luxury tent.

DAY 2: Walk to East Cloudy Head (12km return) for views of the rugged South Coast before a well earned rest sampling wine at Australia’s southern-most vineyard. As darkness descends on camp, watch as the nocturnal wildlife emerges.

DAY 3: Enjoy a short walk through the rainforest to learn of the unique flora and fauna, before a wilderness and wildlife cruise with the chance to see seals, dolphins, whales and albatross before returning to Hobart.

FACT FILE
Climate: Tasmania enjoys a temperate climate with seasons opposite to those of the UK. Spring starts in September, summer in December, autumn in March and winter in June.

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Driving times:
Hobart to Freycinet – 2 hours 30 minutes
Hobart to Launceston – 3 hours
Hobart to Cradle Mountain – 4 hours
Hobart to Cradle Mountain Lodge – 3 hours
GMT: +10 hours

Please Note: Includes two nights accommodation in a luxury tent, return boat transfers to Bruny Island, plus food and drinks. Departs selected dates. Please ask your expert Travel Designer for details.

Day Tours

HOBART
The small city of Hobart – the second oldest in Australia – sits between the sheltering arms of Mount Wellington and the banks of the Derwent River estuary. In its heyday, Hobart's whalers and ship builders enjoyed a thriving trade from the handsome Georgian warehouses that decorate the harbour. Today, the harbour fills with yachts for the annual Royal Hobart Regatta, and the sandstone warehouses at Salamanca Place house boutiques, cafés and galleries.

TOP EXPERIENCES
- Visit Salamanca Market every Saturday in Hobart.
- Walk or kayak around Freycinet National Park and discover world-famous Wineglass Bay.
- Explore Cradle Mountain National Park and stay at Cradle Mountain Lodge with its wonderful alpine spa.
- Travel back in time for an insight into the tumultuous convict history at Port Arthur.

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Discover Tasman Island
The rugged coastline around Tasman Island is home to a wide variety of native wildlife, from pods of dolphins, migrating whales, seals and sea birds. Travel with Pennicott Wilderness Journeys on a 3-hour cruise to Australia’s highest sea cliffs, exploring the waterfalls, deep sea caves and rock formations of this untouched part of Tasmania.

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Port Arthur Experience
A fantastic addition to your Tasmania adventure, and easy to add on to your self drive from Hobart (please ask your Travel Designer for tours which include transfers from Hobart). The historic former convict settlement is one of Australia’s best preserved heritage areas and open air museums. The entry pass includes a harbour cruise, walking tour, and access to explore the museum and gallery.

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FREYCEINET AND EAST COAST

Up the east coast from Hobart you’ll find the famous Freycinet National Park, home to the postcard-perfect, moon-shaped curve of Wineglass Bay. A trip up to the bay’s lookout is well worth the trek! The Bay of Fires is home to ochre-strewn rocks along spectacular coastline, while Launceston is Tassie’s second major city, home to the remarkable Cataract Gorge.

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**TOURING**

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**Expedition Cruise of Tasmania**

8 Day Cruise Itinerary

Join Coral Expeditions on a coastal cruise from Hobart, showcasing the wild beauty and remarkable heritage of Australia’s only island state. From the wilderness landscapes and beaches of Freycinet National Park to the history and mysteries of the Port Arthur convict site, Tasmania is bursting with natural beauty. This small ship expedition caters for just 72 guests and mealtimes are an outstanding menu of Tasmanian produce and local specialties.

**UNMISSABLE HIGHLIGHTS:**
- Spend two days exploring the untouched Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage area at Port Davey and Bathurst Harbour
- Taste local produce at a family run cheesery, and freshly shucked Tasmanian oysters from a renowned local farm
- Be guided by the resident archaeologist on an exclusive ‘behind the scenes’ tour of Port Arthur Historical Site – visiting buildings not generally open to the public
- Paddle a kayak through Bathurst Harbour
- Visit Maria Island and tour the UNESCO listed Darlington township

Please note: Cruise operates between January and March; please ask your Travel Designer for details of departure dates. Itinerary may be modified due to sea/weather conditions.

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**TOURING**

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**Day Tour**

**Kayak with Freycinet Adventures**

Paddle around the calm waters off the Freycinet Peninsula, with spectacular views of the Hazards mountain range, a host of marine wildlife, and long white sandy beaches. This trip is ideal for kayakers of all abilities, with double and single kayaks on offer, stop off at a peaceful beach for morning or afternoon tea while you catch up with your fellow paddlers.

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**FREYCINET AND EAST COAST**

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**DAY TOUR**

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**Day Tour**

**Freyceinet Lodge★★★★★**

Located inside the Freycinet National Park, just past Coles Bay, cabins nestle in a 14 acre secluded bush setting, just minutes away from sandy beaches and local wineries. A perfect place to relax in an amazing natural environment.

**FREE BREAKFAST ON SELECTED DATES**

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**Sebel Launceston★★★★★**

Offering stylish and spacious suite and apartment accommodation in one of Tasmania’s most historic areas. The Sebel is within walking distance of the vibrant dining district of Seaport and the spectacular Cataract Gorge.

**REDUCED RATES ON SELECTED DATES**

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**Grand Circle**

10 Day Self Drive Itinerary

**DAY 1: HOBART**

Spend the day exploring the Royal Botanical Gardens, Constitution Dock, Sandy Bay, Salamanca Place and Battery Point.

**DAY 2: HOBART – STRAHAN APPROX. 186 MILES**

Head out of Hobart and travel through the heart of Tassie towards Strahan, on the West Coast. En-route stop off and enjoy one of the short walks that lead off from the highway.

**DAY 3: STRAHAN – CRADLE MOUNTAIN APPROX. 85 MILES**

This morning you may want to take an optional cruise along the Gordon River before heading north to Zeehan, previously a booming mining town in the early 1900’s.

**DAY 4: CRADLE MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK**

A day at leisure to explore the Cradle Mountain National Park, including the many walks.

**DAY 5: CRADLE MOUNTAIN – LAUNCESTON APPROX. 87 MILES**

Set off eastwards from Cradle Mountain to Launceston, nestled in the hills. Just 10 minutes from the city centre is the magnificent Cataract Gorge.

**DAY 6: LAUNCESTON – ST HELENS APPROX. 100 MILES**

Depart Launceston and travel northeast, to the small bayside town of St Helens, well known for its seafood.

**DAY 7: ST HELENS – FREYCINET NATIONAL PARK APPROX. 67 MILES**

Head south from St Helens, through the towns of Scamander and St Mary’s, before stopping for pancakes at Elephant Pass. The small resort town of Bicheno is also worth a visit.

**DAY 8: FREYCINET NATIONAL PARK**

Explore all that the Freycinet National Park has to offer, including spectacular beaches.

**DAY 9: FREYCINET NATIONAL PARK – HOBART APPROX. 115 MILES**

Make an early start to enable you to spend some time at Port Arthur, one of Australia’s best known historic sites, complete with the well-preserved convict settlement. Travel back to Hobart via the historic village of Richmond.

**DAY 10: HOBART**

Return your vehicle and depart Hobart.

Please see austravel.com for full details and accommodation options.

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**TOURING**

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**Day Tour**

**Dining With the Locals**

Afternoon tea at a family run cheesery in Coles Bay.

**Sebel Launceston★★★★★**

Offering stylish and spacious suite and apartment accommodation in one of Tasmania’s most historic areas. The Sebel is within walking distance of the vibrant dining district of Seaport and the spectacular Cataract Gorge.

**REDUCED RATES ON SELECTED DATES**

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**Day Tour**

**FREYCINET**

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**REDUCED RATES ON SELECTED DATES**

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Cradle Mountain Huts Walk

Hidden in forest along the Overland Track, the Cradle Mountain Huts are the only private huts allowed in the area and offer a wilderness retreat along one of the world’s greatest walks. Trek through extensively glaciated landscapes with a profusion of threatened and rare endemic plants on this 6 day journey you’ll never forget.

Please Note:
Includes return transfers from Launceston to the walk base, 5 nights accommodation at Cradle Huts, and 2 qualified guides for the duration of the walk. Departs daily between October and April.

TOURING

Day Tours

Cradle Mountain Huts Walk
6 Day Walk
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DAY TOURS

Gordon River Cruise
Glide past waterfalls and the magnificent mirrored reflections of the Gordon River before stepping ashore at Heritage Landing. Walk the ancient rainforests before visiting Hells Gate where the harbour opens to the ocean, Tasmania’s world-renowned salmon farms, and notorious Sarah Island penal settlement.

Strahan Village
Strahan Village offers a choice of accommodation from Waterfront Cottages which reflect the history of the region, to Hilltop Rooms overlooking the magnificent harbour. This is the perfect place from which to explore the Gordon River.

Reduced rates on selected dates

Cradle Mountain Hotel
Nestled within breathtaking alpine forest in the Tasmanian wilderness, this is a great base from which to explore the beauty of Cradle Mountain National Park.

Reduced rates on selected dates

Peppers Cradle Mountain Lodge
With log fires in the cabins, wildlife all around and some of the most spectacular scenery in the world, this hotel provides a great feel of the outdoors in a stunning location.

Free breakfast on selected dates

Devils at Cradle: After Dark Feeding tour
A unique experience with the endangered Tasmanian Devil – join the keeper as you have the opportunity to visit the interpretation centre, before getting up close to a Devil and watching a group feeding – a spectacular sight.

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Discover a tropical island getaway with picture perfect, idyllic beaches and landscapes and a friendly local culture. You can get married under the swaying palm trees with the sand in your toes in Fiji and stay in honeymoon hotspot Bora Bora in a luxurious overwater bungalow where you can enter the crystal clear waters from your own private deck. Immerse yourself in the Cook Islands local culture or sail away aboard a luxurious catamaran for an island-hopping dream holiday around The Islands of Tahiti. Talk to your Travel Designer to help create your perfect trip.
CRUISE THE SOUTH PACIFIC

With hundreds of islands and beaches to explore, you may feel spoilt for choice in the South Pacific. Make the most of your time with a cruise, hopping from island to atoll via vibrant coral reefs and palm-fringed bays. From small ship cruising, sailing around on a luxury catamaran or staying aboard an upscale cargo-combined-passenger vessel to venture off the beaten path. Talk to your Travel Designer today to help you choose the right journey for you.

--- TOURING ---

**Paul Gauguin Cruises**

Designed specifically to sail the shallow seas of the Islands of Tahiti visiting small ports and beautiful beaches, Paul Gauguin now offers a range of destinations to discover. Cruise around the Cook Islands and visit Tonga or even sail from Fiji to Bali on a choice of durations from seven to fourteen nights.

**WHAT’S INCLUDED:**
- All meals aboard the ship, in your choice of venues
- Complimentary beverages, including select wines, beers and soft drinks
- Complimentary 24-hour room service
- On board entertainment, including Polynesian performers and live music
- Watersports, including kayaking and paddleboarding

Optional shore excursions can be booked and paid for locally. Premium liquors and specialty wines incur an additional charge.

--- TOURING ---

**Aranui Cruises**

For a unique experience like no other, stay aboard a custom built cargo vessel, known as the ‘Freighter to Paradise’ – with a limited number of passengers – to travel to the remote Marquesas Islands, located nearly 1,000 miles to the Northeast of Tahiti. Witness what Tahiti looked like 50 years ago on this 14 day, extraordinary, journey of a lifetime.

**WHAT’S INCLUDED:**
- Full board – buffet breakfast, lunch and dinner will vary dependant on local ingredients available
- Complimentary wine at both lunch and dinner for 4 persons taken on-board
- Excursions and shore visits
- Snorkelling equipment

Optional activities, such as scuba diving and para-sailing are available at some ports for an additional fee paid locally.

--- TOURING ---

**Archipel Cruises, Dream Yacht Charters**

Cruise through the glistening waters and lagoons of the Islands of Tahiti aboard a luxury catamaran. Designed to accommodate up to eight guests, you will be able to sail closer to the shore than on larger vessels. You can also opt for a private yacht, complete with your own crew.

**WHAT’S INCLUDED:**
- Full board including water, tea/coffee and juices with breakfast
- One skipper and one hostess/cook
- Snorkelling equipment and kayak
- Beach and bath towels

Optional extras such as guided island tours, barbecue lunch on a private motu, local Polynesian show as well as drinks are all payable locally.

--- TOURING ---

**Cruise | South Pacific**

TOURING | CRUISE THE SOUTH PACIFIC

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THE ISLANDS OF TAHITI

With just over a hundred islands and atolls to discover in this Pacific gem, island hopping is a must. There are five groups of islands to explore; the Austral, Gambier, Marquesas, Society and Tuamotu archipelagos. The capital city and international gateway is Papeete, found on the largest island, Tahiti, but we recommend travelling to the Society Islands. Pick between Moorea with its dramatic volcanic landscape and Bora Bora with its secluded beaches and overwater bungalows floating above turquoise waters – truly a couple’s paradise and the ultimate romantic retreat.

MOOREA

Just off the coast of Tahiti, Moorea sits in a shallow lagoon surrounded by coral reefs and translucent waters. Dominated by eight mountain peaks where waterfalls tumble down fern-softened cliffs and pastel-coloured houses nestle in tranquil meadows, Moorea – meaning ‘yellow lizard’ – is said to be the inspiration behind the award-winning book Tales of the South Pacific.
Le Taha’a Island Resort *****
Offering refined cuisine and tailor-made service of the highest quality; this Tahitian hideaway is set in a stunningly beautiful location, a 5 minute boat ride from the island of Raiatea. The ultimate way to get here is by a 14 minute helicopter flight from Bora Bora, where you will witness the pure beauty of the stunning lagoon below.
FREE NIGHTS ON SELECTED DATES
BORA BORA

Taking its name from the ancient phrase Pora Pora, meaning ‘first born’, Bora Bora is said to be the first of the French Polynesian islands to be discovered. An island that can only be described as paradise on Earth, where Mount Otemanu overlooks the inviting lagoon and the cascading green vegetation contrasts perfectly with the cobalt sea. Imagine brilliant white beaches, a profusion of marine life and intricate coral reefs, and you’ll be somewhat close to picturing this idyllic island.

Malai Bora Bora ★★★★☆
Located in lush tropical gardens, this friendly hotel is the perfect destination for an affordable beachfront stay.
FREE NIGHTS ON SELECTED DATES

Bora Bora Pearl Beach Resort & Spa ★★★★★
Located on a small islet just ten minutes from the main island. For that extra special stay, the Overwater Bungalows are a must!
FREE NIGHTS ON SELECTED DATES

St Regis Bora Bora ★★★★★
 Offering exclusive luxury accommodation, the St Regis Bora Bora gives picture postcard views of Mount Otemanu. Stay in an overwater villa with your own private swimming deck.
FREE NIGHTS ON SELECTED DATES

Intercontinental Thalasso Spa ★★★★★
Situated on Motu Pita Aau, ‘two hearts’ in Tahitian. This resort offers spectacular views, combining traditional Polynesia with modern interior decor, making your stay unique.
FREE NIGHTS ON SELECTED DATES

Four Seasons Bora Bora ★★★★★
Wrapped by majestic views, this is surrounded by sand-fringed islets on an outer coral reef that enclose a turquoise lagoon. Steep yourself in the island’s traditions, activities, and authentic cuisine.
FREE NIGHTS ON SELECTED DATES

Le Meridien Bora Bora ★★★★☆
Situated on a magnificent islet overlooking the stunning Mount Otemanu, Le Meridien Bora Bora boasts contemporary and modern accommodation in a paradise location.
FREE NIGHTS ON SELECTED DATES

Maitai Bora Bora ★★★★☆
Located in lush tropical gardens, this friendly hotel is the perfect destination for an affordable beachfront stay.
FREE NIGHTS ON SELECTED DATES

The Islands of Tahiti | South Pacific
The Brando, Tetiaroa Private Island ★★★★★

The ultimate in South Pacific luxury, the Brando is exclusively located on the atoll of Tetiaroa, a 20 minute flight to the north of Tahiti. Formerly the private retreat of the late Marlon Brando, this luxury property is now home to 35 villas, each with a private pool just a few steps from the beautifully sparkling waters and a stunning white sand beach.
COOK ISLANDS

A place of warm smiles and friendly locals, the atmosphere and glorious beaches of the Cook Islands are unforgettable. Combine the idyllic islands of Rarotonga and Aitutaki for a taste of traditional Polynesian culture and some of the best island hopping in the South Pacific.

— DAY TOURS —

Captain Tama’s Lagoon Cruise
Join a tour of the inner lagoon of Rarotonga with Captain Tama, where you will be snorkelling with thousands of colourful reef fish and viewing magnificent coral. Head to the island of Koromiri for a BBQ fish lunch on the beach and plenty of time to relax on the beautiful white sands!

Te Vara Nui Cultural Village
Enjoy a full tour of the cultural village before the overwater show with dinner where Rarotonga’s finest dancers and musicians perform to ‘The Legend of Tongati’ – learning about the culture, history and local traditions of the Cook Islands.

Nautilus Resort Rarotonga
Set in beautiful gardens on Muri Beach, Rarotonga’s finest white-sand beach, all villas at this luxury resort boast an individual plunge pool.

Pacific Resort Rarotonga
Superbly situated on over 5 acres of manicured beachfront. An ideal option for those travelling with younger families due to a kids’ club.

Ikurangi Eco Retreat
Nestled inland in Matavera amongst lush tropical gardens sits the Cook Islands’ first purpose-built eco tents and glamping site. All rooms feature a balcony with either mountain or garden views.

Little Polynesian
With just 14 well-appointed Are’s, this private resort boasts individual verandahs and facilities that offers views of romance and untouched horizons.

FREE NIGHTS ON SELECTED DATES
Aitutaki Day Tour

If you’ve not got time for a stay in Aitutaki, a day tour is a must! Take a 50 minute flight over this spectacular turquoise blue lagoon and visit the main township of Arutanga. Board a traditional catamaran and slowly make your way past offshore motus and sandbars. After a BBQ lunch on One Foot Island, enjoy swimming and snorkelling in the crystal clear waters before a late afternoon flight back to Rarotonga.
Island Hopping Essentials
8 Day Suggested Itinerary

DAY 1: Transfer from the airport to your chosen Rarotonga hotel. Watch out for Papa Jake who serenades all arriving flights with his local songs!

DAYS 2 AND 3: Explore the island of Rarotonga. Spend the day relaxing on the beach, cruise around the lagoon with Captain Tama or discover more of Rarotonga with a scenic 4WD tour. Alternatively jump on the clockwise or anti-clockwise bus to see the island with the locals, we recommend jumping off at the Punanga Nui Cultural market which runs from Monday to Friday to pick up some souvenirs.

DAY 4: Catch a flight to Aitutaki and enjoy a panoramic view over the island (flight cost additional). Check in at your chosen hotel.

DAYS 5 - 7: Now you’ve really found paradise. With 3 whole days, there is plenty of time for a lagoon cruise – which includes lunch at famous One Foot Island, fabulous fresh food, and snorkelling in the clear, warm waters. Choose to ‘while away your time’ on the beach, or head inland on a cultural tour to discover some of the ancient cultures and traditions of the Cook Islanders.

DAY 8: Fly back to Rarotonga – if time permits why not head to the cultural evening show and dinner at Te Vara Nui before your onward flight.

Talk to your Travel Designer for more island hopping suggestions.

AITUTAKI
Surrounded by powder-white sands and the bluest lagoon you’ll ever see, this island is a breathtaking holiday haven. First discovered by Captain Bligh on 11 April 1789, this exquisite atoll is arguably the most beautiful in the world.

Tamanu Beach Village ★★★★
Located on the western coast of Aitutaki, with stunning sunset views. This family operated hotel features 23 traditional Cook Island style thatched roofs and each bungalow is just steps from the stunning lagoon. Enjoy free use of paddle boards, kayaks and snorkel gear and enjoy a traditional fire and dance show ‘Takurua’, performed once a week.

FREE NIGHTS AND RESORT CREDIT ON SELECTED DATES

Pacific Resort, Aitutaki ★★★★★
The resort is home to only 27 rooms, all units are individual buildings conveniently located to maximise privacy and the best views. The spacious rooms are colonial in ambience with polished wooden floors, thatched roofs and expansive cool verandas.

FREE NIGHTS ON SELECTED DATES

Aitutaki Lagoon Cruise
Cruise one of the world’s most beautiful lagoons with the crew from The Vaka Cruise who know the history of this unspoilt wonder and are happy to share it with you. Journey on a Polynesian style vessel – known as a Vaka Titia Tonga – then snorkel and swim in the clear turquoise waters looking for rays, bonefish and turtles beneath. Relax on the idyllic sands and soak up the gorgeous sunshine, before a fresh BBQ lunch of ocean seafood.

** TOURS **

** DAY TOUR **
Cruise through paradise
Specialising in small ship sailing with 100% Fijian crew, choose from 3, 4 and 7 night cruise itineraries and discover the magical Fijian islands in a wonderfully relaxed style with Blue Lagoon Cruises. With a maximum of 4 hours cruising per day, there is more time for exploring onshore. Discover remote island villages, immerse yourself in ancient Fijian culture, admire the breathtakingly beautiful private beach on Nanuya Lailai Island and stop off at the Sacred Islands and Sawa-i-Lau Caves. There are also complimentary inclusions on every cruise, with a range of excursions and activities, all meals, use of snorkelling equipment and traditional Fijian entertainment; you will not want to leave.

Please visit austravel.com for further details or speak to one of our travel designers.

Book early and save 25%

FIJI

Bula, welcome to Fiji. With over 300 tropical islands to discover, Fiji is the ideal island-hopping destination. The main island of Viti Levu offers a combination of beach resorts surrounded by lush mountain scenery. Or for a true ‘cast away’ experience, head to one of the outer islands of the Mamanucas or Yasawas to enjoy some of the best snorkelling and diving in the world.
MAMANUCA ISLANDS

Fiji’s main island of Viti Levu is home to lush rainforest and home to beautiful Coral Coast. However, to truly experience the magic of Fiji, combine your stay with a visit to the paradise islands of the Mamanucas. With porcelain-white beaches and stunning reefs just offshore, these are a must-visit and easily accessible from the main island.

Musket Cove Island Resort ★★★★★
This island sanctuary is just 50 minutes from Viti Levu, all spacious rooms have spectacular ocean views, and private balcony overlooking tropical gardens.
FREE NIGHTS AVAILABLE ON SELECTED DATES

Malolo Island Resort ★★★★★
An idyllic island where you can escape the stress of modern living and bask in total peace and serenity on your own rustic island paradise. Stay in plantation-style duplex bure, have fun with the array of water sports, indulge in the rainforest spa or simply unwind and do nothing at all.
FREE NIGHTS AVAILABLE ON SELECTED DATES

Tokoriki Island Resort ★★★★★
A boutique resort on the most northern of the Mamanuca Islands. All rooms are ‘stand alone’ ocean-facing, with private outdoor decks. Travel 10 minutes by helicopter or 1 hour by private water taxi.
FREE RESORT CREDIT AVAILABLE ON SELECTED DATES

Matamanoa Island Resort ★★★★★
Found in the Mamanuca Group, less than 20 miles from the main island of Viti Levu, this small and boutique, adults only resort offers spacious bure opening onto patios overlooking the ocean. Travel: 10 minutes by helicopter or 1 hour by private water taxi.
HONEYMOON AND ANNIVERSARY OFFERS

Likuliku Lagoon Resort ★★★★★
Offering Fiji’s first over-water bure whilst capturing the true essence of the ancient culture. Choose to relax in the Spa or snorkel from the beach.
FREE NIGHTS AVAILABLE ON SELECTED DATES
**YASAWA ISLANDS AND NORTHERN FIJI**

Best reached by seaplane, the Yasawa Islands are an ultimate Robinson Crusoe experience. For remote resorts with untouched beaches, abundant wildlife and eco-friendly nature reserves, head to Vanua Levu and Taveuni in northern Fiji, where the diving and snorkeling is world famous.

- **Nanuya Island Resort ★★★☆☆**
  Nestled in the pristine Yasawa Group, with a laid-back island feel, fringed by palms and azure waters. Stay in Tree Top bures up on the hilslide with bay views of the beautiful blue lagoon or Deluxe Villas dotted through the tropical gardens.

- **Jean-Michel Cousteau ★★★★★**
  An oasis of clear water, unspoilt reef and tropical gardens alongside the calm waters of Savusavu Bay. Renowned for gourmet cuisine and first class diving.

- **Paradise Taveuni ★★★★☆**
  A 90 minute flight from Nadi will take you to the island of Taveuni, accommodation is in bures plus new Oceanfront vales with outdoor showers and Jacuzzis. **BONUS AND HONEYMOON OFFERS AVAILABLE ON SELECTED DATES INCLUDING FREE SPA TREATMENTS**

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**EXPLORE MORE OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC**

Say a warm Malo e lelei, talofa and halo (hello) to Tonga, Samoa and Vanuatu and sidestep flashy resorts for a more unpolished, yet fantastically authentic, South Pacific island paradise.

Life here ticks along at its own pace. Visit cascading waterfalls and jade jungles, kayak above fringed reefs, snorkel or dive amongst the colourful corals, be in awe at active volcanoes amidst the Asia Pacific ‘Ring of Fire’ or simply relax on gorgeous, untouched beaches. Talk to your Travel Designer about accommodation options and how you can visit these magical islands.
Bookings made directly with us. To pay your final balance, amend your booking or discuss any other aspect of your holiday, you must contact your nearest Travelmood office at least 21 days before your departure, and will not be issued unless payment of the due balance has been received. However, please note that travel arrangements are not always purchased in local currency and some apparent savings on your holiday arrangements may not apply, or may have been eroded by exchange rate movements. We reserve the right to make changes in the event of a major change in your holiday arrangements, which will have no effect on your holiday. If this occurs, any changes in taxes, entry fees and/or charges that we collect at net cost will be added to your holiday arrangements. If, after our Booking Confirmation has been issued, you (i) make a change to your existing booking, we will charge an amendment fee of £5 per person. However, please note that travel arrangements are not always purchased in local currency and some apparent savings on your holiday arrangements may not apply, or may have been eroded by exchange rate movements.

1. How to Book

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