

Australia Itinerary Details May 4 – 15, 2020

4th May 2020 (Day 1) - US Domestic Flight, Dulles to Los Angeles



Your Home City flight to Los Angeles will be selected to suit the International Departure Flight to Australia.

Please allow 3 hours between arrival of your US domestic flight and departure of your International flight.

4th May (Day 1) - International Flight, Los Angeles to Sydney



Travel to Australia on your vacation. After departing from Los Angeles you will be provided with an evening meal. You can relax, have a drink, watch a movie, review your itinerary or just rest. You will be given Breakfast before landing in Sydney, Australia. (You lose one day crossing the International Date Line but don't worry you catch it up again on your return flight to the USA)

Please confirm with the airlines at Check-in that they have all your Frequent Flyer information on record.

6th May (Day 2) - Shuttle Transfer, Sydney Airport to Accommodation



Travel by shuttle transfer from the Airport to your vacation accommodation in Sydney, Australia.

6th - 9th May (Days 2 to 5) - 3 Nights Accommodation in Sydney



Travel to your Sydney Accommodation where you will stay for 3 nights.

Stay in the heart of The Rocks at your heritage-listed accommodation and enjoy spectacular "Harbour Bridge and Opera House views." Quaint cobbled streets lead you through the historic Rocks precinct to your hotel, located conveniently between some of the city's finest shops and restaurants. The 360-degree panoramas from the rooftop pool terrace take in iconic both located adjacent to the hotel. "Circular Quay", just a few minutes' walk from the hotel, you can catch a ferry across Sydney Harbour to view local and exotic wildlife at Taronga Zoo or over to Manly beach. Native plants are on show at the 30-hectare Royal Botanic Gardens, located 300 metres away and stylish boutiques in the surrounding cosmopolitan Rocks precinct. Climb the outer arch of Sydney Harbour Bridge, metres away, for stunning views across Sydney.



6th May (Day 2) - Afternoon Tour, Sydney Panoramic City Sights



See The Rocks, Opera House, Sydney business & shopping districts, historic homes, Tamarama, Bronte & Bondi Beaches (stroll the beachfront at Bondi), Dover Heights, Watsons Bay, Rose Bay, Kings Cross, Mrs Macquaries Point.

Depart your hotel for an unforgettable Panoramic Sydney half day city sights tour. On tour you'll visit the historic Rocks area and hear early convict history. Enjoy magnificent views of the Opera House and Harbour Bridge. See the shopping heart of the city, QVB, Centrepont.

Visit Sydney's trendy new district Oxford Street. Travel through elegant Paddington with its terrace houses before arriving at the Pacific Ocean. See the superb coast cliff walk around Tamarama and Bronte.

Travel on to famous Bondi Beach. Visit the beachfront promenade, enjoy a coffee or cool drink (at own cost), then continue on to Sydney's best panoramic view at Dover Heights.

Return to Sydney via Double Bay, Kings Cross and Mrs. Macquarie's Point for a final magical viewpoint over the harbour before returning to the city centre. Passengers can join our optional harbour dinner cruises or seaplane tours (additional expense). The designated harbour dinner cruise drop-off point is Darling Harbour (adjacent to the aquarium). If you do not wish to join a dinner cruise you will be returned directly to your hotel.

Inclusions: Hotel pick-up, small group touring for 3.5 hours, as per above.

Afternoon Half-Day Tour Departs at 1:00pm and Returns at 4:30pm; Alternately the Morning Half-Day Tour Departs at 7:30am.

Does not operate on: Christmas Day

Photo Credit: Tourism New South Wales



7th May (Day 3) - Day Tour, Sydney Opera House Tour (1 Hour)



On your vacation, participate in an inspiring tour of the Sydney Opera House.



This one hour tour outlines the intricate and controversial history of the Sydney Opera House along with details of the unique design of this architectural masterpiece. You will visit a number of the six performance venues, including the magnificent wood paneled Concert Hall and the Opera Theatre as well as the new Utzon room. You will also visit the glass enclosed northern foyer areas which boast spectacular views of Sydney Harbour – a perfect photo opportunity.

Upgrade to Opera House Tour & Tasting Plate Available



Optional Day Tour (Not Included) - Sydney Opera House Performance



Enjoy a Spectacular performance at the Sydney Opera House.

The Showcase package allows visitors to see a performance of choice and enjoy a drink during the interval under the sails of the Sydney Opera House.

This package also includes a voucher for a guided tour of Sydney Opera House which can be redeemed at any point during your stay.

Inclusions:

Priority access to best available performance tickets via the Tourism Reservations team, Personal meet and greet at SOH Information Desk by a member of the Tourism team, Voucher for a Guided Tour of Sydney Opera House, Drink at Interval (includes soft drinks, premium Australian wine and beer, as well as spirits and cocktails) and Exclusive Sydney Opera House value-add gift.



7th May (Day 3) - Evening Event, Starlight Dinner Cruise



Enjoy an incredible dinner cruise around Sydney with million dollar views!

Only the best for your time in Sydney. Enjoy a delicious 3 course Contemporary Australian a la carte menu while cruising Sydney Harbour. Certainly an experience to truly cherish and showcase the spectacular views of Sydney!



8th May (Day 4) - Day Tour, Hunter Valley Harvest Wine Experience



On your vacation travel by deluxe coach from Sydney to the Hunter Valley, Australia.

Spend a full day discovering the beautiful Hunter Valley and sampling award-winning regional wines of New South Wales, Australia. Cross the famous Sydney Harbour Bridge and view the magnificent Hawkesbury River. First stop is Drayton's Wines, one of the Hunter Valley's pioneering wine-making companies that is still family-owned and operated. You'll taste their award-winning wines and experience over 150 years of wine-making excellence.

Take a fully guided tour of McWilliams Mt Pleasant Estate, founded in 1921, before enjoying a delicious luncheon complimented by specially chosen wines. Delight your taste buds with further wine tasting at Mc Guigan's Winery and view the only underground cask hall in the Hunter Valley Cellars. Finally stop at the lovely Hunter Valley Gardens to enjoy over 25 hectares of spectacular international display gardens (own expense) or browse through this quaint township. (Vegetarian meals available). Return to Sydney late afternoon. Evening Free.

Note: Tour operates on Tuesday, Friday, and Sunday

Depart approximately 8:00 AM, return at approximately 6:45 PM.

Upgrade to small group touring available – please inquire

Photo Credit: Destination New South Wales



Insider's Tip: Australian Opals

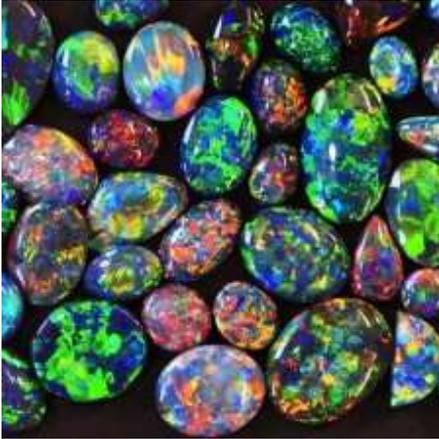


View the world famous black opal, the 'Aurora Australis', valued at 1 Million Dollars; with the opportunity to bring home the colors of Australia with a beautiful piece of opal jewelry.

Australia is known as the country of origin for this splendid stone with 95% of the world's precious gem opal found exclusively in Australia. Australian opal displays all the colors of the rainbow and holds a spectrum of colors found in nature, fire, the ocean and more. It is these contrasts that make opals a truly fascinating and unique gemstone with no two opals appearing exactly the same. In the Middle Ages the Romans considered opal a stone that could provide great luck, as it was believed to possess all the virtues of Emeralds, Sapphires and Rubies.

Share this unique experience and be educated about Australian Opal at Altmann & Cherny. Established in 1948 with hopes of sharing this unique gemstone with the world, they have built a reputation of excellence with 3 generations actively involved the families are considered leading opal experts. Please visit them at:

18 Pitt Street
Sydney, NSW
Telephone: 61 2 9251 9477



9th May (Day 5) - Shuttle Transfer, Sydney Accommodation to Airport



Travel by shuttle from your vacation accommodation in Sydney, Australia, to the Airport.

9th May (Day 5) - Australian Domestic Flight, Sydney to Cairns



Travel within Australia by domestic air from Sydney to the gateway of the Great Barrier Reef, Cairns.

9th May (Day 5) - Shuttle Transfer, Cairns Airport to Accommodation



Travel by shuttle from the Cairns Airport to your vacation accommodation in Cairns, Australia.

Luggage restrictions apply as per standard economy Australian domestic flights of 2 standard bags under 30kg (66 lbs) per passenger. If traveling with excess baggage please advise the shuttle company upon reservation confirmation so appropriate trailer size is available.

Departures occur approximately 30 minutes after aircraft arrival-time for domestic flights. For international flights this will be considerably longer because of customs and other formalities.

9th - 12th May (Days 5 to 8) - 3 Nights Accommodation in Cairns



Travel to your accommodation Cairns, Australia, where you will be staying whilst on vacation for 3 nights.

Your 4.5 star accommodation combines contemporary decor with a tropical ambience. The magnificent location of this 176 room hotel is perfect for exploring the Great Barrier Reef, the Daintree Rainforest or Kuranda and the Atherton Tablelands. Other nearby highlights include: Cairns Casino, Marlin Jetty, the Esplanade and the Night Markets. Unwind with a cocktail by the pool or bar followed by a sumptuous meal at the award winning Bushfire Flame Grill.

All rooms and suites have individual balconies, individually controlled air conditioning, refrigerator, television, broadband internet access, hair dryer, iron and ironing board, along with tea and coffee making facilities. Facilities include: 24 hr reception, tour desk, wireless internet, Bushfire Flame Grill, bar, pool, business services on request, coin operated laundry on four floors, room service, laundry & dry cleaning.



10th May (Day 6) - Day Tour, Great Barrier Reef Cruise to Frankland Island



Today you will experience Great Barrier Reef diving amongst the coral and marine life in the shallow protected waters close to the island, or for certified divers, jump on-board the dive tender for a transfer to our fringing reef and coral garden bommies.

After an informative guided coach transfer through World Heritage rainforest mountains and fields of Queensland sugar cane, the day begins with a leisurely cruise down the magnificent Mulgrave River. Soak in the beauty of the surrounding rainforest, as you keep an eye out for crocodiles and water birds along the mangrove edge.

At the mouth of the river, the Frankland Islands archipelago slowly comes into view and it is only a short open water crossing to our destination for the day.

After disembarking, you will spend your day snorkelling over the amazing variety of corals and marine life that inhabit the area, including an abundance of colourful fish, sea turtles and octopus. The guided snorkelling tour offers a chance to discover and interact with the reef under the guidance of the marine naturalists.

Alternatively, guests can choose to stay dry and join a coral viewing tour from the semi-submersible or glass bottom boat. The guided Island Discovery walk is a must. Join our marine naturalists for an informative and fascinating exploration of the island's coral cay forest, sandy beaches and the reef's nursery -the rock pools- full of star fish and marine life up close.

Departs daily from Cairns at 07:45 and returns at approx 17:15.

Includes:

- Snorkeling Equipment and Lycra Suits
- Guided Snorkelling Tour
- Semi-submersible or Glass Bottom Boat
- Return river and island cruise
- Tropical Buffet Lunch
- Morning and afternoon tea
- Island Discovery Walk

Optional extras:

- SeaDoo
- Stand-up Paddle Board
- Sea Kayak
- Introductory and Certified Dives



11th May (Day 7) - Day Tour, Skyrail over the Tropical Rainforest - Half Day



Skyrail Rainforest Cableway, is a world first in environmental tourism taking you on an amazing experience over Australia's World Heritage listed Tropical Rainforest canopy and deep into the forest.



The Skyrail Rainforest Cableway experience spans 7.5kms over Australia's pristine tropical rainforests. You'll glide just metres above the rainforest canopy before descending through the canopy layers and deep into the heart of the forest at Skyrail's two rainforest mid-stations for the ultimate tropical rainforest experience. Arrive in Kuranda the "Village in the Rainforest" where you can meander through the shops and markets.

You may decide to visit one of the local wildlife parks (own expense) to cuddle a koala and feed a kangaroo. A Skyrail Experience will take approximately 2-2½ hours return from Smithfield (15 mins from Cairns).



11th May (Day 7) - Evening Event, Tjapukai Night Fire



More than just a dinner and show; Tjapukai Night Fire takes you on a magical adventure into the legends of Australia's dreamtime.



Here you will enter another world as Australia's Aboriginal culture is brought to life through a series of award winning performances as you feast on modern cuisine from the Far North. Settle in for a magical night of entertainment as you journey into a Dreamtime legend to discover the magic of Australia's ancient Aboriginal culture. Enjoy a welcome drink on arrival before the performers lead a didgeridoo blessing ceremony followed by a spectacular fire performance and cultural dance celebration.

If you're keen, you can even take to the stage to learn a traditional dance yourself! This evening of entertainment is complemented by a delicious dinner, photo opportunity with the Tjapukai warriors & even time to shop in the retail gallery full of authentic souvenirs.



12th May (Day 8) - Shuttle Transfer, Cairns Accommodation to Airport



Travel by shuttle from your Cairns vacation accommodation to the Airport in Cairns, Australia.

Luggage restrictions apply as per standard economy Australian domestic flights of 2 standard bags under 30kg (66 lbs) per passenger. Excess baggage is AUD\$5.00 per bag payable on board. If traveling with excess baggage please advise the shuttle company upon reservation confirmation so appropriate trailer size is available.

12th May (Day 8) - Australian Domestic Flight, Cairns to Melbourne



Travel within Australia by domestic air from Cairns to Melbourne.

12th May (Day 8) - Shuttle Transfer, Melbourne Airport to Accommodation



Travel by shuttle from the Airport to your vacation accommodation in Melbourne, Australia.

12th - 15th May (Days 8 to 11) - 3 Nights Accommodation in Melbourne



Travel to your accommodation in Melbourne, Australia, where you will be staying whilst on vacation for 3 nights.

Enjoy the comforts of home in your Melbourne apartment-style accommodation located in the heart of Melbourne with easy access to renowned attractions! Each modern apartment is self-contained featuring large floor to ceiling windows, a private balcony and clearly defined living and dining areas. Equipped kitchens have stone bench tops, modern stainless steel appliances and a wide variety of cookware. Tiled bathrooms are equipped with a combo washing machine and dryer. Comfortable lounge areas include a 40" Smart TV and BluRay/DVD player. Every apartment has individually controlled heating and air conditioning. You'll also enjoy on-site reception, luggage storage, heated indoor pool, gym, BBQ Terrace and free high speed internet.

You'll be just a short walk from Spence Street Outlet, Southern Cross Station, Flagstaff Gardens & Train Station, Rialto Towers, Etihad Stadium, Hardware Lane, Melbourne Aquarium, Queen Victoria Market, Royal Arcade, Bourke Street Mall, Melbourne Central Shopping, Crown Melbourne, Harbour Esplanade & Federation Square.

The apartment is serviced once per week, but can be serviced daily for an extra fee.



12th May (Day 8) - Day Tour, Melbourne Star Sparkling Flight (30 min)



Experience unparalleled panoramic views of Melbourne on the Southern Hemisphere's only Giant Observation Wheel.

With its striking scale and innovative design, the Melbourne Star is an iconic feature of Melbourne's waterfront precinct, Docklands.

Your 30-minute "Sparkling Flight" includes a glass of beer, wine or cider that you can enjoy before you take off in the Departure Lounge or during your flight. Enjoy the sights from 120 meters above the city streets below.

Walk around and take in the sights from all angles, while our audio commentary gives you a brief introduction to the history and significance of the landmarks below.

Operates daily, 1pm-6pm (30 minute flight)

13th May (Day 9) - Day Tour, Phillip Island & Penguin Parade with Exclusive Viewing Area - Full Day



Get up close with the remarkable penguins and wildlife of Phillip Island.

Get up close and personal with the friendly residents of Moonlit Sanctuary Wildlife Conservation Park, where you learn about the conservation of these loveable native animals. The eco certified sanctuary also showcases some lesser known but equally adorable endangered species including the Southern Bettong, Eastern Quolls and rare Fluffy Gliders. We visit historic Churchill Island and see sheep shearing in action and have some time to explore the historic buildings. Next up is the Koala Conservation Centre where we see koalas in their natural environment. We also take a stroll along the boardwalks at the Nobbies & Seal Rock Centre, before arriving at Summerland beach for the nightly penguin parade. Home to Victoria's largest colony of little penguins, Summerland beach provides a spectacular backdrop to the world famous penguin parade. Watch as hundreds of little penguins make their way across the beach and go home for the night. Tour conclusion depends on time of year and ranges from 10pm during the winter months to midnight during summer as the penguins arrive at sunset.

Enjoy an exclusive viewing area and private boardwalk situated next to the main path of penguins and limited visitor numbers, offering fantastic close viewing of penguins with rangers on hand to answer questions.

Operates Daily



14th May (Day 10) - Free Day to Explore Melbourne



Today you'll have the day free to Explore Melbourne City's vast shopping centres, markets and boutiques, maybe do some souvenir shopping.

Melbourne is a Multicultural City boasting many boutique cafes, wineries and extensive shopping. You'll also find it very easy to get around on the trains and trams, especially within the inners of Melbourne.

Photo Credit: Tourism Victoria



Optional Day Tour (Not Included) - The Classic Great Ocean Road with Lunch



The spectacular Great Ocean Road is one of the world's most beautiful and naturally maintained secrets! Experience and enjoy the breathtaking coastline. Every twist and turn exposes you to stretches of broad, uninterrupted beaches, dramatic coastlines and the lush

rainforests of the Otway Ranges – all of which provides an amazing postcard backdrop for all your memories! This is a day you will always remember!

The highlights of your Great Ocean Road adventure include a visit to Bells Beach where you'll see one of Australia's famous surfing beaches, world renowned for the Rip Curl Surfing Pro. Enjoy the breathtaking view from iconic Cape Otway Lighthouse and learn about the fascinating history of the aboriginal owners of the Gadabanud peoples' cultural centre. You will be afforded stops where you'll see wildlife like Eastern grey kangaroos, koalas and native birds in the wild. Pass through coastal towns of Lorne, Apollo Bay and Port Campbell. An authentic Aussie BBQ lunch is included in your tour. Enjoy a rainforest experience in the lush surroundings of the Otway rainforest and marvel at some of the tallest eucalyptus trees in Australia.

You'll be able to step down to the beach at Gibson Steps, gateway to the 12 Apostles, where you will be dwarfed by the high cliff line and these enormous offshore stacks. Visit Loch Ard Gorge where you'll discover the history of the Shipwreck Coast with a stroll along this historic beach.

Departs Melbourne at 7:15am

Photo Credit: Tourism Victoria



Insider's Tip: Melbourne City Circle Tram



The Melbourne City Circle Tram travels a rectangular route along Flinders, Spring, LaTrobe and Spencer Streets right around the Melbourne city centre.

Not only is travel completely free on the City Circle Tram but you get a running commentary on the places of interest along its route. You can get off the tram at any of its stops, so you can visit particular attractions at close hand, and catch the next one.

Trams run in both directions every 12 minutes, seven days a week between 10am and 6pm (except Christmas Day and Good Friday), and during daylight-saving extended hours, 10am to 9pm every Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Alternatively, there is a Free Tram Zone for all trams operating in Melbourne's CBD. These free trams do not offer on-board commentary but are a convenient way to get around the city.



15th May (Day 11) - Shuttle Transfer, Melbourne Accommodation to Airport



Travel by shuttle from your vacation accommodation to the Airport in Melbourne, Australia.

15th May (Day 11) - International Flight, Melbourne to Los Angeles



Your International Flight arrives in Los Angeles on the same day of departure from Australia, due to your crossing of the International Dateline.

15th May (Day 11) - US Domestic Flight, Los Angeles to Dulles



The connection flight to your Home City from Los Angeles will be selected to suit the International Arrival flight from Australia.

Please allow 3 hours between arrival of International flight before departure of your US domestic flight.